

# Demography of the Tribal Groups of Rajasthan: 1. Population Structure

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**ABSTRACT** This paper presents the population composition and details of the economic, socio-cultural, physical environmental attributes of the households of the major Scheduled Tribes of Rajasthan, namely, Sahariya, Mina, Bhil, Kathodi, Damor and Garasia belonging to five districts, namely, Baran, Sawai Madhopur, Udaipur, Dungarpur and Sirohi in Rajasthan. All the measures of population composition indicate the demographic backwardness of the Scheduled Tribes, in general. Individually speaking, however, the position of Minas, a land owning economically well-off Scheduled Tribe, appears relatively better. The paper also includes some comparisons of the findings with the estimates of the 1991 census.

## INTRODUCTION

The study of population dynamics involves understanding of dynamics of population structure and demographic forces like fertility, mortality and morbidity. This knowledge is utilized to design policies, initiatives, programmes that would improve health and well-being of a community leading to socio-economic development. Health is not a set point but a continuum. It varies between regions, individuals, and time periods. Variations between individuals are not entirely genetic; in part it is genetic and in part it is interaction between the individual and the environment in which an individual is brought up. According to WHO definition - "health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity" (WHO, 1946).

During the last few decades, due to dramatic decline in mortality levels and absence of equivalent downward trend in fertility, the world is facing demographic polarization as well as social and economic disequilibria, which are draining resources and efforts towards achieving the goals of overall development and well-being. This diversity is largely a consequence of the interplay of economic, socio-cultural, behavioural, physical environmental, historical, political, biological determinants operating at the micro-level. The situation is more critical in the developing countries like India. Within the country,

tremendous demographic diversity has resulted in regional disparities in the realm of development and well-being. According to Bose (1991), the tremendous regional diversity across the Indian states is not only on the basis of demographic indicators, but also on broad geographical, social, economic and political indicators with Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Assam and West Bengal forming the major group of demographically vulnerable states with respect to the vital rates, infant mortality rates, ages at marriage, literacy rates, per capita incomes, proportion below poverty line, structure of work force, family planning performance, etc. On the other hand, the southern states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and such other states as, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh together constitute demographically progressive states with respect to the mentioned indicators.

It is also generally known for long that the dynamics of population components as well as population growth differs not only across geographical/ecological regions but across communities as well (Pearl, 1939; Lorimer, et al., 1954; Bogue, 1969; UN, 1973, Bhasin, V., 1990; Chachra Paul and Bhasin, M.K., 1998; Bhasin, M.K. and Nag, 2002, 2005, among others). India, with its immense heterogeneity with respect to ethnic groups, religions, languages, and traditions shows disparities in demographic indicators as well. The Scheduled Castes, who are at the lowest tier in the Hindu Caste System – one of the unique characteristic of the Indian Society; and the Scheduled Tribes, who are distinct from the Hindu caste society and who have lived mostly

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in forest are and forest fringed areas with their own languages and customs for years are demographically backward as compared to other groups due to inadequate access to basic infrastructure including health services, economic position and various typical socio-cultural and behavioural factors. It is increasingly felt that demographic profiles of these marginalized groups require immediate rectification to improve the country scenario.

Keeping this background in mind, a series of papers focusing on the population structure and demographic processes vis-à-vis physical environmental, economic, bio-social and cultural context of major Scheduled Tribes of demographically backward state of Rajasthan, namely, Sahariya, Mina, Bhil, Kathodi, Damor and Garasia belonging to the districts of Baran, Sawai Madhopur, Udaipur, Dungarpur and Sirohi have been attempted. The paper also presents general ethnographic accounts of these Scheduled Tribes.

The main purpose of the study has been to obtain an integrated picture of the population dynamics, health and sickness, socio-economic conditions, settlement and environmental conditions, to discover the necessary measures for bringing about improvement in the demographic scenario and eventually health and well-being. The details are as follows:

- (i) To study the basic demographic profile:
  - measures of population composition (sex ratio, age-sex distribution, dependency ratios, index of aging), economic characteristics (crude activity rate) and educational characteristics (literacy rate);
  - measures of fertility (crude birth rate, general fertility rate, age specific rate, total fertility rate, gross reproduction rate, general marital fertility rate, age specific marital fertility rate, total marital fertility rate, child-woman ratio);
  - measures of mortality (crude death rate, age specific death rate, infant mortality rate, neonatal mortality rate, post-neonatal mortality rate, child mortality rate, perinatal mortality rate);
- (ii) To study the Background Characteristics of Respondents (independent determinants) for Exploratory Fertility, Child Mortality and Family Planning Methods Usage Analyses:
  - economic, socio-cultural determinants - economic characteristics/occupation,

(household) income, (household) cultivable landholding, educational characteristics, age at marriage, family structure;

- biological determinants – ages at menarche and menopause;
  - physical environmental determinants – place of residence, type of educational, communication and medical facilities available, type of medical care availed, housing condition and attributes.
- (iii) To attempt Exploratory Fertility Analysis: to study the interplay between number of children ever born and independent determinants.
  - (iv) To attempt Exploratory Child Mortality Analysis: to study the interplay between child survival and independent determinants.
  - (v) To study the incidence of diseases among the major Scheduled Tribes of Rajasthan.
  - (vi) To study the dynamics of family planning methods usage:
    - Knowledge, attitude and practice of family planning methods;
    - To study the interplay between family planning methods usage and independent determinants.

## AREA AND PEOPLE

The state of Rajasthan is situated in the northwestern part of the Indian Union (23° 30' and 30° 11' North latitude and 60° 29' and 78° 17' East longitude) and is the second largest state in terms of area (3,42,239 sq. km). It shares its geographical boundaries with the states of Punjab (in the north), Haryana (in the north-east), Uttar Pradesh (in the east), Madhya Pradesh (in the south-east) and Gujarat (in the south-west). It also has a long international border with Pakistan in the west and northwest (Fig. 1).

It is a diverse state. The region to the west and north-west comprising of eleven districts spreading in 61.11 percent of the total area is either desert or semi-desert which forms the Great Indian 'Thar' Desert. The Aravalli range of Hills runs through the heart of the state, dividing it into two portions. The southeastern region has a varied terrain of extensive hill ranges, fertile tableland and dense forest.

The state is rich in mineral resources. Over 30 important minerals, both metallic and industrial and a large variety of the building stones are found here.



Fig. 1. Rajasthan – Administrative Divisions

The arid region of Rajasthan is primarily a catchments area of Luni river and a large number of its tributaries. The Mahi and Sabi river systems have dissected the southern region into a maze of immunerable valleys. In the southeast of Aravallis, the drainage of the lower area is through various rivers and rivulets. There are swell basins of interior drainage, the most important being Sambar Lake. The resources of surface water are scarce as there are no perennial rivers in Rajasthan, except Chambal and Mahi traversing part of south-eastern region. Western Rajasthan has some temporary depression of water called Playa lakes. However, artificial lakes and reservoirs have also been built. Some of the important fresh-water lakes are, Pushkar, Ramgarh, Jaisamand, Fatehgarh, Udaigarh and Pichola. There are four major sources of irrigation in the state, viz., canals, tanks, wells and tube wells.

Great extremes of temperature characterise the climate of Rajasthan. The climate can be divided into four different seasons: pre-monsoon, monsoon, post-monsoon and winter. Pre-monsoon, extending from April to June, is the hottest with temperatures ranging from 32<sup>o</sup> C to 46<sup>o</sup> C. Preceded by dust and thunderstorms, monsoon starts by the end of June or mid-July. Post-monsoon is the second hottest season with the average maximum temperature varying between 33<sup>o</sup> C to 38<sup>o</sup> C and the minimum between 18<sup>o</sup> C and 20<sup>o</sup> C. The winter lasts from December to February. During this period the mean temperature ranges from minimum of 3<sup>o</sup> C to 25<sup>o</sup> C, depending upon the nature of region.

The normal rainfall in Rajasthan varies from 253 mm to 1000mm. About 90 percent of the rainfall occurs during the monsoon period – from June to September. Monsoon is usually erratic and uncertain, because of which Rajasthan has been subjected to famines and scarcity from the earliest times. Rainfall is not uniform in the entire state; it is scanty (being about 305 mm annually) in west and from southwest to northeast, its variability increases. Relative humidity is high from July to September.

Rajasthan is the second biggest state in the country but its forest area is only 9 percent of the total area. The total forest area in the state is 31.90 lakh hectares. Out of this, 12.30 lakh hectares fall under Reserve Forest, 10.06 lakh under protected forest and 3.54 lakh under classified forest area. The forests of Rajasthan have been classified into the following categories, which are : (1) Ever Green forests; (2)

Dry Tropical forests; (3) Dry Forests with Teak; (4) Tropical Dry Forests; and (5) Tropical Dry and Dry mixed Deciduous.

Administratively, the state consists of 32 districts, which are further divided into sub-divisions and tehsils. The salient features of Rajasthan are given in Table 1.

Out of the total 32, the districts of Udaipur, Dungarpur, Sirohi, Sawai Madhopur and Baran were selected for the study, since the bulk of the six tribal groups under study (namely, Bhils, Minas, Sahariyas, Garasias, Damors and Kathodis) inhabit these areas (For details see Bhasin and Bhasin, 1999) (Fig. 2).

**Table 1: The salient features of Rajasthan**

S.No.	Particulars	Year	No.	Unit
1.	Area	1991	3.42	lakh square kms
2.	Districts	1997	32	(number)
3.	Sub-divisions	1996	100	(number)
4.	Tehsils	1996	229	(number)
5.	Municipalities	1996	182	(number)
6.	Panchayat Samities	1996	237	(number)
7.	Village Panchayats	1996	9185	(number)
8.	Total villages	1991	39810	(number)
9.	Inhabited villages	1991	37889	(number)
10.	Cities and Towns	1991	222	(number)

## AMENITIES AVAILABLE

**Educational Facilities:** At the time of the formation of Rajasthan, educational facilities were meagre. The scene has changed considerably. Educational institutions, which were limited to major towns, have now reached many villages. Continuous efforts are going on for the development of education in Rajasthan. Universal primary education, expansion of educational facilities with great stress on girls' and adult education has been given priority. Free education up to college level is being provided to girls in the state. The category wise break-up of the schools functioning in the

**Table 2: Schools functioning in Rajasthan**

Schools	Year	No.
Schools Total	(Boys) Sept. 1997	46363
	(Girls) Sept. 1997	4382
Primary	(Boys) Sept. 1997	31479
	(Girls) Sept. 1997	2279
Upper Primary	(Boys) Sept. 1997	10891
	(Girls) Sept. 1997	1385
Secondary	(Boys) Sept. 1997	2937
	(Girls) Sept. 1997	439
Sr. Hr. Secondary	(Boys) Sept. 1997	1056
	(Girls) Sept. 1997	289

Source: Economic Review, 1997-98

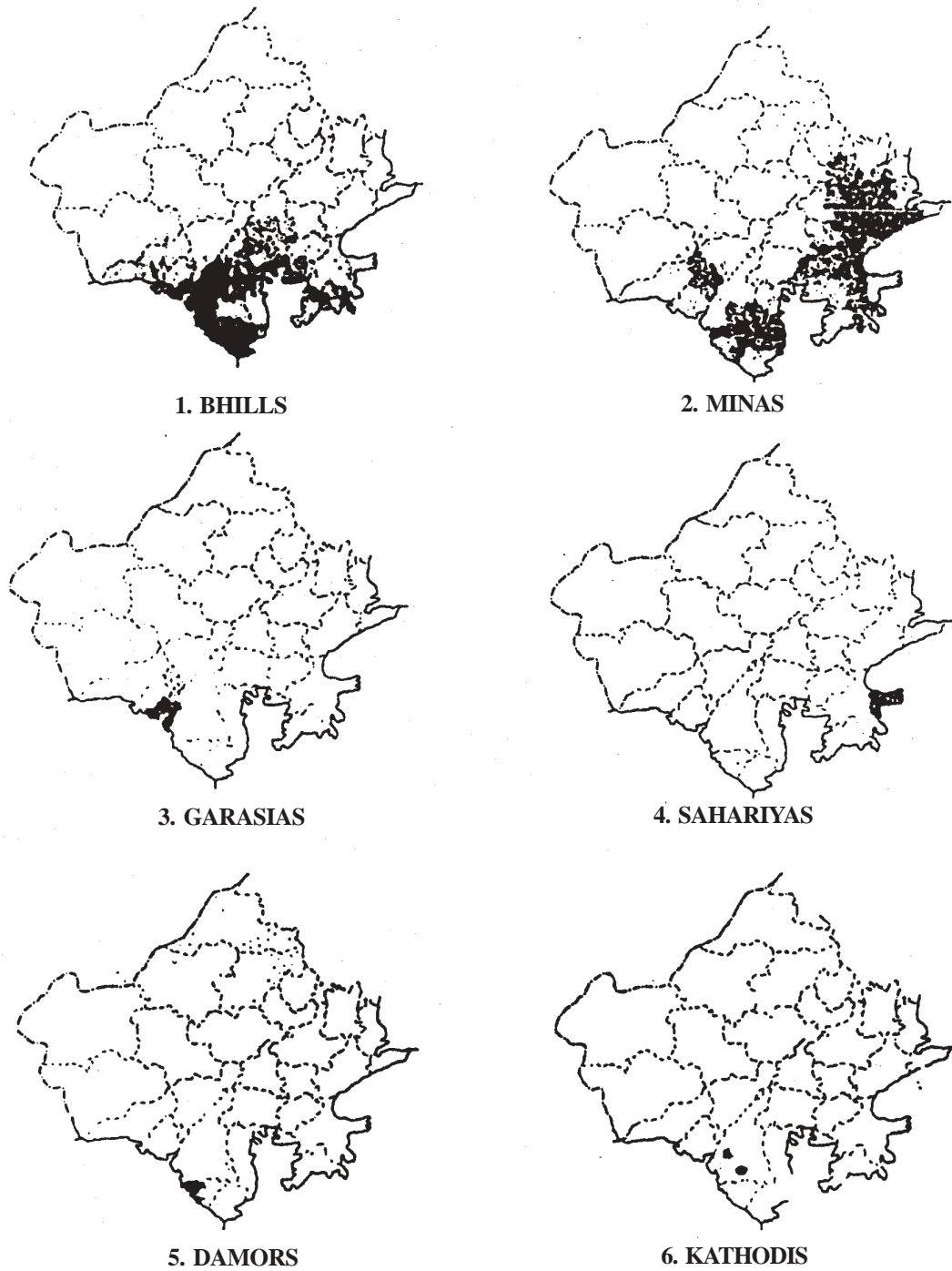


Fig. 2. Dispersal of Scheduled Tribes in Rural Areas of Rajasthan State

State during the year 1997-98 is given in the Table 2. In addition, the enrolment number in primary and secondary schools up to September 1995 are given in the Table 3.

Different schemes and projects have been launched for the development of education in Rajasthan. Distribution of books for girl students from class I to VIII is one of these. The *Lok Jumbish*, *Shiksha Karmi* Project and *Guru Mitra Jojna*, are being implemented in the state with a view to attain proper co-ordination between formal and non-formal education. For encouraging girl's education, *Saraswati Jojna* is being implemented with the help of educated women in the villages. The Directorate of Literacy and Continuing Education is also conducting Non-formal Education (NFE) Programmes along with literacy programmes in the chain of universal elementary education.

By the end of December 1997, 4.48 lakh children have been enrolled against the annual target of 5.70 lakhs, out of which 2.03 lakh are boys and 2.80 lakhs are girls. 1.19 lakhs children

of Scheduled Castes and 1.00 lakh children of Scheduled Tribes have been enrolled by the end of December 1997 (Source: Economic Review, 1997-98). For imparting higher education, six universities including agricultural university, four university-level institutions, 222 college/research institutions are functioning in the State.

**Medical Facilities:** Towards the objectives of 'Health for all', considerable efforts have been made through strengthening and expanding the health care system, especially in rural areas, which had, largely, remained neglected. Allopathic, Ayurvedic and Unani medical systems are avocated in Rajasthan, as can be seen in the Table 4.

As a result of the above-mentioned efforts, the life expectancy has increased from 46.8 years in 1961 to about 61 years in 1991-96. Death and birth rates have also declined. Smallpox has been completely eradicated. Other epidemic and communicable diseases have also been controlled to a great extent. Medical institutions functioning in the State are given in Table 5.

**Table 3: Enrolment Number in Schools in Rajasthan**

Particulars	Unit	Year	Total		
Enrolment	Total	(Boys)	No.	Sept. 1995	5768788
		(Girls)	No.	Sept. 1995	2925510
	Primary	(Boys)	No.	Sept. 1995	2284362
		(Girls)	No.	Sept. 1995	1329375
	Upper Primary	(Boys)	No.	Sept. 1995	2007238
		(Girls)	No.	Sept. 1995	1003932
	Secondary	(Boys)	No.	Sept. 1995	751170
		(Girls)	No.	Sept. 1995	288738
	Sr. Hr. Secondary	(Boys)	No.	Sept. 1995	726108
		(Girls)	No.	Sept. 1995	303465
Literacy (Population aged 7 years and above)	Total	Total	No.	Sept. 1991	38.55
		Male	No.	Sept. 1991	54.99
		Female	No.	Sept. 1991	20.44

Source: Economic Review, 1997-98

**Table 4: Medical institutions in Rajasthan**

Medical and Health	Unit	Year	No.
Allopathic Institutions	No.	1995-96	2224
Ayurvedic and Unani Institutions	No.	1995-96	3705
Beds in Allopathic Institutions	No.	1995-96	36712
Beds in Ayurvedic and Unani Institutions	No.	1995-96	986
Family Welfare Centres	No.	1995-96	8700

Source: Census of India, Rajasthan, 1991

**Table 5: Medical institutions functioning in Rajasthan**

S.No.	Institutions	Number
1.	Hospital	219
2.	Dispensaries	268
3.	Primary Health Centres	1636
4.	Community Health Centres	261
5.	Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	118
6.	Aid Posts (Urban)	13
7.	Sub-Centres	9650
8.	In-patient Beds	37386

Source: Census of India, Rajasthan, 1991.

**Other Amenities:** The availability of power in the state has now escalated to over 1800 mw, unlike the earlier situation when total power generation was only 8 mw. In total, 33,837 villages in Rajasthan have been electrified which help in energising 5,023,10 wells, which has helped in the increase of agricultural production of the state. Safe drinking water is being supplied to 37,274 villages. The road network throughout the state is extensive and in parts extremely good. 70,229 kilometres of road length network has materialised in the state till 1995-96. Postal services in the state are good which has been made possible by establishment of 10,289 post offices and 2,282 telegraph offices (Table 6).

**Table 6: Amenities available in Rajasthan**

Amenities available	Year	No.
<i>Electricity and Water Supply</i>		
Villages electrified	1995-96	33827
Wells energised	1995-96	502310
Villages provided with safe drinking water supply	1994-95	37274
<i>Transport and Communication</i>		
Road length	1995-96	70229
Motor vehicles registered	1995-96	1768709
Post offices	1995-96	10289
Telegraph offices	1995-96	2280

## POPULATION

According to the 1991 Census, Rajasthan had a population of 44,005,990 persons, whereas in India, the figure stood at 844,324,222 persons (Table 7). [According to the latest estimate by the United Nations, 2001, the population of India in the year 2000 has been estimated as 1,025,096 (in thousands)]. The population of Rajasthan, therefore, constituted about 4 percent of the total population of the country. Table 7 also illustrates that the population of Rajasthan has more than doubled in the past thirty years. In 1991, total population of demographically advanced state of Kerala stood at 29,032,838 persons. In terms of the size of population, Rajasthan ranks ninth among the major Indian states. The most populous district in the state is Jaipur, with 4,722,551 persons. The district of Jaisalmer, inhabited by only 344,517 persons, is the least populous district.

**Population Density:** The population density (per sq.km.) for the year 1991 was 128 for Rajasthan, compared to 267 for India [according to the UN, 2001, the population density for India,

2000 has been estimated as 312 persons per sq. km.] and 746 for Kerala. Within the state, the population density is very high in the eastern and central districts, and very low in the desert districts in the western parts of the state (Table 7). The district of Jaipur has recorded the highest density of population in 1991, at 336 persons sq. km., while the district of Jaisalmar has shown the lowest figure, at 9. It may also be noted that the density of population in Rajasthan is steadily increasing from 59 persons per sq. km in 1961 to 128 in 1991.

**Urban-Rural Distribution:** In Rajasthan, the rural sector has 33,938,877 persons, whereas, 10,067,113 persons have been recorded in the urban areas. In other words, seventy-seven percent of the total population lives in rural areas, as compared to 74 percent in India [Percent Urban in the year 2000 stood at 29 (UN, 2001)] and 73.6 percent in Kerala (Table 8). The districts in which over 90 percent of the population are residing in rural areas are – Dungarpur, Jalor and Banswara. On the other hand, the districts of Jaipur, Bikaner and Ajmer have highest percentage (40 percent) of urban population. The urban population increased from 1961 to 1991 (16.22 to 22.8 percent), resulting in a consequent decrease of rural population, which was 83.72 percent in 1961 and came down to 72.12 percent in 1991. This shows the migration of rural people to urban areas in search of work.

**Decadal Population Growth:** The decadal population growth rate in the state during 1981-91 (28.4 percent) was higher than that for the country as a whole (23.9 percent) [Table 9]. In Kerala, the decadal growth rate during this period stood at only 14.3 percent. The percentage of decadal variation of population in Rajasthan varied from a low of 6.7 percent during 1901-1911 to 26.2 during 1951-61 to a high of 33.0 during 1971-81. However, in 1981-1991, the figure seemed to have declined slightly to 28.4 percent. Among the districts, the decadal population growth rate during 1981-91 varied from above 40 percent in Bikaner and Jaisalmer to 16.6 percent in Pali.

The percentage of population variation during the 1901-1991 period in the state of Rajasthan is 327.5 percent (288.2 percent in rural and 549.2 percent in urban areas). The maximum variation has been returned by the district of Ganganagar (1728.5 percent) during this period, while the minimum one has been registered by the district of Dhaulpur (151.0 percent).

Table 7: Distribution of population and population density (persons per sq. km) in Rajasthan and India (1961-1991)

S. No.	Country/State/ District	Area in sq. km	Population Distribution				Population Density			
			1961	1971	1981	1991	1961	1971	1981	1991
I.	India (Total)	3,287,263	439,234,771	548,159,149	685,184,692	844,324,222	134	167	216	267
II.	Rajasthan (Total)	342,239	20,155,602	25,765,806	34,261,862	44,005,990	59	75	100	128
<i>Districts of Rajasthan</i>										
1.	Ganganagar	20,634	1,037,423	1,394,011	2,029,968	2,622,777	50	68	98	127
2.	Bikaner	27,244	444,515	573,149	848,749	1,211,140	16	21	31	44
3.	Churu	16,830	659,011	874,439	1,179,466	1,543,211	39	52	70	92
4.	Jhunjhunun	5,928	719,650	929,230	1,211,503	1,582,421	121	157	204	267
5.	Alwar	8,380	1,090,026	1,403,787	1,771,173	2,296,580	127	166	211	274
6.	Bharatpur	8,100	1,149,883	1,490,206	1,884,132	1,651,584	142	184	233	204
7.	Dhaulpur	-	-	-	-	749,479	-	-	-	-
8.	Sawai Madhopur	10,527	943,574	1,193,528	1,535,870	1,963,246	90	113	146	186
9.	Jaipur	14,068	1,901,756	2,469,760	3,420,574	4,722,551	136	177	243	336
10.	Sikar	7,732	820,286	1,042,648	1,377,245	1,842,914	106	135	178	238
11.	Ajmer	8,481	976,547	1,147,729	1,440,366	1,729,207	117	135	170	204
12.	Tonk	7,194	497,729	625,830	783,635	975,006	69	87	109	136
13.	Jaisalmer	38,401	140,338	167,824	243,082	344,517	3	4	6	9
14.	Jodhpur	22,850	885,663	1,151,649	1,667,791	2,153,483	39	50	73	94
15.	Nagaur	17,718	934,948	1,262,157	1,628,669	2,144,810	53	71	92	121
16.	Pali	12,387	805,682	970,002	1,274,504	1,486,432	66	78	103	120
17.	Barmer	28,387	649,794	774,805	1,118,892	1,435,222	23	27	39	51
18.	Jalor	10,640	547,072	667,950	903,073	1,142,563	52	63	85	107
19.	Sirohi	5,136	352,303	423,815	542,049	654,029	68	83	106	127
20.	Bhilwara	10,455	865,797	1,054,890	1,310,379	1,593,128	83	101	125	152
21.	Udaipur	17,279	1,464,276	1,803,542	2,356,959	2,889,301	83	104	136	167
22.	Chittaurgarh	10,856	7,101,132	995,119	1,232,494	1,484,190	71	87	114	137
23.	Dungarpur	3,770	406,944	530,258	682,845	874,549	108	141	181	232
24.	Banswara	5,037	475,245	654,586	886,600	1,155,600	94	130	176	229
25.	Bundi	5,550	338,010	449,021	586,982	770,248	60	81	106	139
26.	Kota	12,436	848,389	1,142,108	1,559,784	2,030,831	68	92	125	163
27.	Jhalawar	6,219	490,609	623,763	784,998	956,971	80	100	126	154

**Table 8: Per cent distribution of urban/rural population in Rajasthan and India, 1961-1991**

S. No.	Country/State/ District	1961		1971		1981		1991	
		Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
I.	India (Total)	12.0	82.0	19.9	80.1	23.3	76.7	25.73	74.27
II.	Rajasthan (Total)	16.28	83.72	17.6	82.4	21.05	78.95	22.88	77.12
	<i>Districts of Rajasthan</i>								
1.	Ganganagar	14.45	85.55	16.5	83.5	20.61	79.39	21.05	78.95
2.	Bikaner	42.30	57.70	41.4	58.6	39.48	60.52	39.73	60.27
3.	Churu	31.57	68.43	29.6	70.4	29.22	70.78	28.90	71.10
4.	Jhunjhunun	17.69	82.31	17.4	82.6	20.74	79.26	20.54	79.46
5.	Alwar	8.06	91.94	9.1	90.9	11.08	88.92	13.94	86.06
6.	Bharatpur	13.65	86.35	13.8	86.2	17.07	82.93	19.42	80.58
7.	Dhaulpur	-	-	-	-	-	-	17.19	82.81
8.	Sawai Madhopur	10.19	89.81	11.9	88.1	13.42	86.58	14.84	85.16
9.	Jaipur	26.26	73.74	30.0	70.0	36.56	63.44	39.58	60.42
10.	Sikar	17.52	82.48	17.0	83.0	20.25	79.75	21.03	78.97
11.	Ajmer	37.44	62.56	37.6	62.4	42.61	57.39	40.69	59.31
12.	Tonk	14.74	85.26	17.4	82.6	18.36	81.64	19.53	80.47
13.	Jaisalmer	9.72	90.28	14.6	85.4	13.55	86.45	15.56	84.44
14.	Jodhpur	29.94	70.06	31.9	68.1	34.77	65.23	35.50	64.50
15.	Nagaur	12.91	87.09	12.3	87.7	14.56	85.44	15.98	84.02
16.	Pali	9.52	90.48	11.2	88.8	18.42	81.58	21.75	78.25
17.	Barmer	6.11	93.89	7.3	92.7	8.78	91.22	10.04	89.96
18.	Jalor	4.52	95.48	4.4	95.6	8.06	91.94	7.28	92.72
19.	Sirohi	16.39	83.61	17.9	82.1	17.90	82.10	19.51	80.49
20.	Bhilwara	7.33	92.67	11.0	89.0	14.39	85.61	19.53	80.47
21.	Udaipur	10.93	89.07	12.3	87.7	15.07	84.93	17.10	82.90
22.	Chittaurgarh	9.53	90.47	10.4	89.6	13.18	86.82	15.61	84.39
23.	Dungarpur	5.26	94.74	5.9	94.1	6.46	93.54	7.30	92.70
24.	Banswara	5.22	94.78	5.1	94.9	6.23	93.77	7.72	92.28
25.	Bundi	15.31	84.69	14.6	85.4	17.00	83.00	17.36	82.64
26.	Kota	18.87	81.13	24.0	76.0	31.93	68.07	36.43	63.57
27.	Jhalawar	7.65	92.35	9.5	90.5	11.66	88.34	15.78	84.22

**Sex Composition:** The sex ratio of the population (number of females per 1000 males) in 1991 for the state was 910 as compared to 929 for all India, and 1036 for the state of Kerala. The sex ratio in the state varies from 879 in urban areas to 919 in rural areas. The lower sex ratio in urban areas is largely attributed to the migration of males to urban centres for educational, employment purposes. It is also disconcerting to note that the sex ratio has declined considerably from 921 in 1951 to 910 in 1991 (Table 10). The main reasons for the sex imbalance seem to be relatively low status of women, preference for son etc. Among the districts, the highest and lowest sex ratios have been returned by Dungarpur (997) and Dhaulpur (796), respectively.

**Age Composition:** The percentage of child population (0-14 years) to the total population in the Rajasthan state (38.3 percent) is higher than in India and Kerala (36.1 and 29.3 percent respectively) [SRS, 1992]. However, in 1992, 5 percent of the population in the Rajasthan state and 6 percent in the country and 8 percent in Kerala were 60 years and above. [According to

the UN, 2001, the percentages aged 0-14 years and 65+ years in India in the year 2000 have been 33 and 5 percent, respectively].

**Work-Force Participation:** The percentage of main workers in the Rajasthan state in 1991, stood at 31.6 percent, whereas the percentage of non-workers was quite high at 61.1 percent. About 7 percent of the total population were marginal workers. There is a wide gender difference in the work force participation, as the percentage of female main workers was only 13.1 percent as against 48.5 percent of male main workers. Table also shows that the bulk of the workers are engaged in cultivation (58.8 percent). However, variation is evident when the place of residence is taken into consideration. That is, whereas in rural areas of Rajasthan, the majority are engaged in cultivation (71.0 percent), in urban areas, the single largest section of workers seems to be engaged in other services (26.7 percent).

**Literacy Rate:** The state of Rajasthan is educationally one of the most backward states in India. Only 39 percent of the population (age 7 years and above) were found literate in the

**Table 9: Percentage of Decadal Variation in Population of Rajasthan and India since 1951**

S. No.	Country/ State/ District	1951-1961			1961-1971			1971-1981			1981-1991		
		Com- bined	Rural	Urban	Com- bined	Rural	Urban	Com- bined	Rural	Urban	Com- bined	Rural	Urban
I.	India (Total)	21.5	20.7	26.4	24.8	21.9	38.2	25.0	19.7	46.4	23.9	20.0	36.5
II.	Rajasthan (Total)	26.2	26.1	26.6	27.8	25.8	38.5	33.0	27.5	58.7	28.4	25.5	39.6
	Districts of Rajasthan												
	1. Ganganagar	64.6	64.1	67.9	34.4	31.2	53.2	45.6	38.4	82.1	29.2	42.1	32.0
	2. Bikaner	29.6	36.5	60.9	28.9	44.9	26.1	48.1	52.9	41.3	42.7	31.4	43.6
	3. Churu	25.9	36.3	44.8	32.7	36.7	24.3	34.9	35.5	33.3	30.8	30.9	29.4
	4. Jhunjhunun	22.2	33.7	40.2	29.1	29.5	27.3	30.4	25.2	55.1	30.6	-47.8	29.4
	5. Alwar	26.5	33.2	34.5	27.6	26.2	44.4	26.2	24.6	54.6	29.7	-14.8	-91.9
	6. Bharatpur	26.7	32.1	36.8	29.6	29.4	30.7	26.4	21.6	56.9	12.3	25.7	-0.3
	7. Dhaulpur	20.4	23.8	3.4	26.4	26.9	23.1	27.3	25.4	39.1	28.1	25.2	44.5
	8. Sawai Madhopur	23.3	32.0	34.0	26.5	24.1	47.8	28.7	26.5	45.0	27.8	31.6	41.3
	9. Jaipur	24.8	30.7	32.0	30.5	23.8	49.4	38.5	25.0	67.7	38.0	32.5	49.3
	10. Sikar	21.3	28.9	31.0	27.1	27.9	23.6	32.1	26.9	57.1	33.8	24.5	38.9
	11. Ajmer	19.1	26.7	30.4	17.5	17.1	18.1	25.5	15.1	42.7	20.0	22.6	14.1
	12. Tonk	22.3	26.1	29.9	25.7	21.7	48.8	25.2	23.8	31.7	24.4	38.4	32.4
	13. Jaisalmer	28.6	24.5	28.6	18.8	12.4	78.4	44.8	47.6	35.2	41.7	38.4	62.8
	14. Jodhpur	31.7	24.3	28.0	30.2	26.4	38.8	44.8	38.7	57.5	29.1	27.7	31.9
	15. Nagaur	22.4	23.2	26.1	35.0	36.0	28.4	29.0	25.7	53.0	31.7	29.5	44.5
	16. Pali	21.9	22.7	25.5	20.4	18.2	41.3	31.4	20.7	116.5	16.6	11.9	37.8
	17. Barmer	36.1	22.3	23.5	19.2	17.8	41.6	44.4	42.0	74.7	28.3	26.5	46.8
	18. Jalor	29.2	22.0	22.5	22.1	22.2	19.5	35.2	30.1	146.5	26.5	27.6	14.3
	19. Sirohi	21.6	20.6	22.0	20.3	18.2	31.1	27.9	27.9	28.1	20.7	18.3	31.5
	20. Bhilwara	18.8	21.6	17.2	21.8	17.0	83.4	24.2	19.5	62.1	21.6	14.3	65.0
	21. Udaipur	22.7	21.5	15.2	26.4	21.3	38.7	30.7	26.6	60.0	22.6	19.7	39.1
	22. Chittaurgarh	21.7	21.3	14.9	26.4	31.9	44.6	23.9	26.3	65.9	20.4	17.0	42.6
	23. Dungarpur	32.0	21.3	12.8	30.3	29.4	46.0	28.8	28.0	41.2	28.1	26.9	44.6
	24. Banswara	33.3	21.5	12.7	37.7	44.6	33.7	35.4	27.6	66.2	30.3	28.3	61.6
	25. Bundi	20.9	21.0	12.3	32.4	34.0	26.7	30.8	27.0	522.3	25.8	30.7	52.3
	26. Kota	26.6	18.5	12.0	34.8	26.2	71.8	36.6	22.2	81.1	30.2	21.6	-92.9
	27. Jhalawar	21.4	17.6	3.8	26.8	24.3	56.6	25.9	23.1	55.6	21.9	16.2	64.9

Census, 1991, as compared to 52 percent in the whole country, and 90 percent in the state of Kerala. However, some progress may have been made over the years, as the percent literate in 1961, was only 18 percent. There also seems to be a wide gender gap in literacy, with only 20 percent of females as against 55 percent of males being literate in 1991. In almost all the districts of Rajasthan, the literacy rate is below 40 percent, except Ajmer, where it is 42.7 percent (Table 12). The literacy rates seem to be the lowest in the districts of Barmer (18.3 percent) and Jalor (18.8 percent). The percentage of literate females is also the highest in Ajmer (28.1 percent), followed by the district of Kota (23.5 percent). The districts - Barmer and Jalor also have the lowest percentage of literate females (only 6 percent, in each).

### Measures of Fertility

**Crude Birth Rate:** The crude birth rate in SRS, 1992 in India was 29.2 per thousand

population and varied from 30.9 in rural areas to 23.1 in urban areas. [According to the UN, 2001, the crude birth rate for India in the year 2000 was 24.5 per thousand population]. The crude birth rate in the state of Rajasthan in 1992 was 34.9 per thousand population. And, whereas the rural sector recorded a high birth rate of 36.4, in the urban sector, the birth rate seemed comparatively low at 27.7. It is also to be noted that Kerala is the only major state having birth rate below 20 both in rural and urban areas (Table 13). Other measures of fertility for the Rajasthan State and India, 1992, by place of residence have also been displayed in Table 13.

### Measures of Mortality

**Crude Death Rate:** For India, in 1992, the crude death rate was 10.1 per thousand population and for Kerala, it was estimated as 6.3. In the state of Rajasthan, the death rate varied from 11.1 in rural to 7.5 in urban areas (Table 14). [According to the UN, 2001, the crude

**Table 10: Sex ratio in Rajasthan and India 1961-1991**

S. No.	Country/ State/ District	1951-1961			1961-1971			1971-1981			1981-1991		
		Com- bined	Rural	Urban	Com- bined	Rural	Urban	Com- bined	Rural	Urban	Com- bined	Rural	Urban
I.	India (Total)	941	963	845	930	949	858	933	951	878	929	939	894
II.	Rajasthan (Total)	908	913	882	911	919	875	919	930	877	910	919	879
	<i>Districts of Rajasthan</i>												
1.	Ganganagar	842	848	800	874	886	817	874	888	821	878	884	855
2.	Bikaner	910	903	1018	901	908	892	891	906	869	887	895	871
3.	Churu	938	920	1003	946	935	973	954	959	948	940	942	925
4.	Jhunjhunun	943	939	888	928	934	903	956	969	910	949	943	889
5.	Alwar	892	894	823	887	892	835	892	900	834	889	889	831
6.	Bharatpur	859	843	744	840	840	837	831	828	847	885	826	857
7.	Dhaulpur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	796	786	842
8.	Sawai Madhopur	870	875	855	864	866	852	867	867	862	867	852	867
9.	Jaipur	890	899	870	890	903	860	894	910	865	894	903	874
10.	Sikar	964	953	990	961	960	966	963	965	952	952	952	924
11.	Ajmer	913	933	869	910	931	877	922	948	888	924	935	895
12.	Tonk	910	912	881	909	911	901	958	928	905	949	926	853
13.	Jaisalmer	802	787	882	810	823	739	811	822	745	810	815	764
14.	Jodhpur	888	897	941	942	916	865	958	928	875	949	914	853
15.	Nagaur	945	936	920	900	948	899	909	965	913	904	950	902
16.	Pali	943	938	891	950	959	881	946	961	886	957	972	903
17.	Barmer	868	866	872	887	892	817	904	911	830	891	896	847
18.	Jalor	919	924	870	932	934	878	942	948	879	942	947	882
19.	Sirohi	948	960	889	950	968	909	963	931	881	950	965	888
20.	Bhilwara	906	911	901	910	915	870	942	948	905	946	957	897
21.	Udaipur	939	944	909	957	970	871	977	995	886	966	982	891
22.	Chittaurgarh	935	938	768	930	935	889	951	961	889	950	960	899
23.	Dungarpur	991	1002	943	1015	1021	931	945	1056	900	997	1003	897
24.	Banswara	971	973	929	978	980	937	984	992	879	969	974	918
25.	Bundi	897	897	881	885	884	891	887	886	891	891	887	897
26.	Kota	897	911	879	884	902	830	888	905	852	888	896	873
27.	Jhalawar	928	931	843	919	922	894	926	930	901	918	921	904

**Table 11: Per cent distribution of workers by industrial categories, sex and place of residence in Rajasthan, 1991**

S. No.	Industrial Categories	Total			Rural			Urban		
		Com- bined	Male	Fe- male	Com- bined	Male	Fe- male	Com- bined	Male	Fe- male
1.	Main workers	31.6	48.5	13.1	32.9	49.1	15.3	27.2	46.4	5.3
2.	Marginal workers	7.2	0.8	14.3	9.1	0.9	17.9	1.0	0.2	1.8
3.	Non-workers	61.1	50.6	7.5	57.9	49.9	66.7	71.8	53.4	92.7
4.	Cultivators	58.8	56.2	69.3	71.0	70.0	74.5	8.8	7.8	18.4
5.	Agricultural labourers	10.0	7.9	18.2	11.5	9.3	19.2	3.7	3.2	8.0
6.	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantations, Orchards and allied activities	1.8	1.9	1.3	1.8	2.0	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.1
7.	Mining and Quarrying	1.1	1.1	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.5	1.3	1.3	1.2
8.	Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs in household industry	2.0	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.1	3.5	3.1	7.0
9.	Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs in other than household industry	5.4	6.3	1.6	2.3	2.8	0.6	18.1	18.8	11.6
10.	Construction	2.4	2.8	0.6	1.3	1.6	0.3	6.9	7.2	3.6
11.	Trade and commerce	6.4	7.7	0.8	3.4	3.3	0.3	21.5	23.1	5.7
12.	Transport, storage and communication	2.3	2.9	0.1	1.0	1.4	0.0	7.6	8.3	11.1
13.	Other Services	9.6	10.6	5.5	5.5	6.5	1.8	26.7	25.2	41.8

**Table 12: Percent distribution of literates in Rajasthan and India, 1961-1991**

S. No.	Country/ State/ District	1961			1971			1981			1991		
		Com- bined	Male	Female	Com- bined	Male	Female	Com- bined	Male	Female	Com- bined	Male	Female
I.	India (Total)				34.46	46.01	21.95	45.56	56.37	29.75	52.21	64.13	39.29
II.	Rajasthan (Total)	18.12	28.08	7.01	22.58	33.88	10.06	30.09	44.76	13.99	38.55	54.99	20.44
	<i>Districts of Rajasthan</i>												
1.	Ganganagar	20.42	30.42	8.19	20.19	29.07	10.03	30.46	42.27	16.72	33.64	44.57	21.17
2.	Bikaner	27.83	39.30	15.08	25.82	35.00	15.63	33.15	44.04	20.78	33.35	62.86	21.50
3.	Churu	21.75	32.83	9.86	18.95	28.74	8.62	25.59	39.01	11.50	27.29	40.07	13.66
4.	Jhunjhunun	22.45	37.28	6.63	23.25	37.25	8.17	33.42	52.74	13.29	37.7	53.97	20.35
5.	Alwar	18.27	29.10	5.89	19.73	30.28	7.83	30.87	46.29	13.35	33.91	49.04	17.64
6.	Bharatpur	18.02	28.48	5.29	19.01	29.28	6.79	30.40	45.51	11.88	33.70	49.06	15.24
7.	Dhaulpur												
8.	Sawai Madhopur	15.01	24.69	3.65	16.29	25.89	5.18	26.98	41.79	9.57	28.65	43.30	11.51
9.	Jaipur	21.85	32.28	9.96	23.73	33.82	12.40	36.35	50.63	20.07	38.25	52.02	22.20
10.	Sikar	18.72	31.38	5.62	19.61	32.15	6.57	25.68	48.00	10.61	33.12	49.69	15.60
11.	Ajmer	30.14	42.67	16.28	30.30	41.29	18.23	24.29	54.18	25.11	42.67	56.01	28.14
12.	Tonk	13.49	21.46	4.62	15.36	23.84	6.02	23.78	36.75	9.63	27.01	40.68	12.21
13.	Jaisalmer	9.56	15.23	2.34	13.41	21.07	3.94	18.51	28.23	6.23	24.02	36.18	8.94
14.	Jodhpur	22.11	31.85	10.96	21.38	30.49	11.26	31.01	43.63	16.95	32.67	45.68	18.07
15.	Nagaur	15.69	24.97	5.84	15.09	23.89	5.76	22.49	36.12	8.25	25.27	39.10	10.59
16.	Pali	16.39	26.23	5.92	17.20	26.91	6.97	25.53	39.88	10.32	28.90	43.39	13.74
17.	Barmer	8.86	14.75	1.95	10.58	16.95	3.40	14.52	23.58	4.41	18.32	29.20	6.11
18.	Jalor	9.57	16.25	2.22	10.13	16.52	3.27	16.28	26.53	5.29	18.76	30.63	6.10
19.	Sirohi	16.53	25.02	7.44	16.78	25.08	8.12	23.24	35.03	11.63	25.59	36.90	13.67
20.	Bhilwara	13.11	21.13	4.17	15.10	23.17	6.23	22.61	34.11	10.30	25.83	37.59	13.45
21.	Udaipur	16.10	25.31	6.18	17.41	26.54	7.86	25.56	34.77	12.54	27.98	40.05	15.48
22.	Chittaurgarh	14.93	24.59	4.52	17.52	27.68	6.58	25.30	38.17	10.84	28.80	41.42	14.05
23.	Dungarpur	12.72	20.99	4.30	14.31	23.03	5.72	21.76	38.93	9.35	24.51	36.57	12.38
24.	Banswara	10.75	17.05	4.18	12.42	19.58	5.11	19.83	30.49	8.88	20.51	36.57	10.57
25.	Bundi	14.18	22.55	4.72	16.01	24.48	6.44	23.40	34.80	10.42	26.04	37.83	12.77
26.	Kota	22.68	34.48	9.36	25.28	36.76	12.30	37.84	53.18	20.38	38.25	51.38	23.45
27.	Jhalawar	16.12	25.86	5.55	17.56	27.08	7.20	28.64	39.19	10.82	26.56	39.01	13.00

**Table 13: Measures of fertility for Rajasthan, India, 1992; by place of residence**

Country/ State	Place of residence	Measures of fertility			
		Crude birth rate	General fertility rate	Total fertility rate	Gross repro- duction rate
India	Rural	30.9	127.6	3.9	1.8
	Urban	23.1	89.1	2.6	1.2
	Combined	29.2	118.6	3.6	1.7
Rajasthan	Rural	36.4	156.0	5.6	2.2
	Urban	27.7	112.0	3.8	1.5
	Combined	34.9	147.9	5.2	2.0

death rate for India in the year 2000 was 8.6 per thousand population].

**Infant Mortality Rate:** For India, the infant mortality rate in SRS, 1992 was 80 per thousand live births and varied from 87 in rural areas to 53 in urban areas. [According to the UN, 2001, the infant mortality rate for India in the year 2000 was 67 per thousand live births]. The state of Rajasthan has also returned a relatively high infant mortality rate of 90 per thousand live

births. According to NFHS, 1992-93 too, the infant mortality is higher in rural areas of Rajasthan (78.5) than in urban ones (65.6), as noticed earlier in case of fertility as well. Other measures of mortality for Rajasthan State and India, 1992, by place of residence have been given in Table 14.

### Causes of Deaths

It is evident from Table 15 that more than 40 percent deaths of infants belong to 'Causes peculiar to infancy'. 'Coughs' (Disorders of respiratory system) form the next major cause – group for infant deaths in the states of Rajasthan, Kerala as well as in India as a whole.

### Composition of Population

Eighty-nine percent of the state's population comprises Hindus. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes form 17.29 percent and 12.44 percent, respectively, of the total population. About 8 percent of population is Muslim, most

**Table 14: Measures of mortality for Rajasthan, India, 1992, by place of residence**

Country/ State	Place of residence	Measures of Mortality				
		Crude death rate	Neonatal mortality rate	Post-neonatal mortality rate	Infant mortality rate	Perinatal mortality rate
India	Rural	10.9	53.6	31.4	85	50.3
	Urban	7.0	33.0	20.0	53	34.0
	Combined	10.1	50.0	29.0	79	47.5
Rajasthan	Rural	11.1	58.3	35.7	94	57.2
	Urban	7.5	39.2	25.8	65	36.0
	Combined	10.5	55.7	34.3	90	48.2

**Table 15: Percentage distribution of infant deaths under major causes in Rajasthan, India (rural), 1992**

Country/ State	Major Causes of Deaths							
	Causes peculiar to infancy	Coughs	Fever	Digestive disorders	Diseases of circulatory system	Other clear symptoms	Disorders of central nervous system	Accidents and injuries
India	62.2	16.4	6.8	4.9	3.9	3.1	1.7	1.1
Rajasthan	42.6	32.3	11.5	7.5	2.5	4.0	0.5	1.0

Source: Vital Statistics Division, Office of the Registrar General, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi, 1994.

of whom are Sunnis. There is a small affluent community of Shia Muslims in southeastern Rajasthan, known as Bohras.

Caste system integral to Hinduism, dominates Rajasthan, as it does in other parts of India. However, there are some local variations of the caste system. Instead of the Brahmins, the Rajputs are at the top of the social hierarchy. The Rajputs comprise various clans (or Khamps) according to their dynastic families. Due to the integration of the princely kingdoms into the state of Rajasthan and the abolition of the system of *Jagirdari*, the Rajputs were nudged from their positions of power by the Brahmins and other castes. In Rajasthan, the Brahmins are subdivided into two groups – Channatiyas and non-Channatiyas – and intermarriage between them is traditionally forbidden.

Below the Rajputs are the Vaisyas, who are divided into two groups: those who profess Jainism, and those professing Vaishnavism. Below the Vaishyas are Scheduled Castes who are scattered throughout the state. Apart from them, the communities of Jats and Gujjars are traditionally engaged in farming and animal husbandry.

**Scheduled Castes:** In 1991, Scheduled Castes comprised 17.3 percent of the population of Rajasthan compared to 16.5 percent in the whole country (Table 16). The highest percentage of Scheduled Castes to total population in 1991 has been noticed in the district of Ganganagar (29.0 percent), whereas the lowest percentage has

been recorded by Dungarpur and Banswara (about 5 percent by each).

The Scheduled Castes in the state are: Chamar (leather workers), Meghwal, Balai, Khatik, Bola, Bairwa, Dhed, Jingar, Dabgar and Pasi. In addition, there are castes traditionally associated with scavenging: Bhangi, Mehtar, Valmiki and Chura. In addition, the artisan castes, like Koli (Kori or Koria), Sargara, Mahar or Mohar, Gavaria, Salvi, Gancha (Garancha Mehtars), Tirgar (Kamangers) and Koochband (Kuchband) inhabit different parts of the State. The castes associated with music and entertainment are, Dom (Dome), Kalbelia (Sapera), Nat (Nut), Dholi, Bhand, Kamad (Kamadia), Badi, Bazigar (Madari), and Bansphor. Moreover, there are castes traditionally associated with criminal activities, such as, Bawaria or Baori or Moghias, Bagri, Sansi (including Kapadia Sansi), Kanjar (Kunjar) and Bedia (Beria). Other miscellaneous castes inhabiting the state of Rajasthan are : Dhanak (Dhankia), Garuda/Garada, Dhobi (washerman), Aheri (hunter), Santia, Chandal, Singiwala, Sarbhangi (Aghoris), Thori, Majhabi, etc. Apart from these, there are those who are not associated with traditional occupations but have separate names. These are Birgis/Vargi/Bargi, Bajigar, Adi Dhasni, Bidakias, Godhi, Khangar and Marg-Gradi.

### Scheduled Tribes

According to 1991 Census (Rajasthan), the

**Table 16: Per cent distribution of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to the Total Population in Rajasthan and India, 1961-1991**

S. No.	Country/State/ District	Scheduled Caste				Scheduled Tribe			
		1961	1971	1981	1991	1961	1971	1981	1991
I.	India (Total)	14.7	14.6	15.8	16.5	6.9	6.9	7.8	8.1
II.	Rajasthan (Total)	16.7	15.8	17.0	17.3	11.7	12.1	12.2	12.4
	<i>Districts of Rajasthan</i>								
1.	Ganganagar	28.7	24.0	29.0	29.6	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3
2.	Bikaner	14.8	15.5	18.4	18.6	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3
3.	Churu	18.1	17.4	19.5	20.1	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
4.	Jhunjhunun	13.8	14.0	14.9	15.3	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.9
5.	Alwar	17.8	17.3	17.6	17.7	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.0
6.	Bharatpur	21.4	20.9	21.3	21.1	2.8	3.0	3.0	2.3
7.	Dhaulpur	—	—	—	20.2	—	—	—	4.5
8.	Sawai Madhopur	22.4	21.2	21.4	21.8	22.3	22.7	22.7	22.6
9.	Jaipur	17.0	16.1	16.3	16.2	11.5	11.1	11.1	11.3
10.	Sikar	14.0	13.0	13.8	14.0	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.6
11.	Ajmer	17.9	17.3	18.4	18.5	1.5	1.3	2.2	2.2
12.	Tonk	21.3	19.7	20.6	20.1	11.6	11.4	11.8	11.9
13.	Jaisalmer	13.5	13.6	14.5	14.5	3.3	4.1	4.4	4.8
14.	Jodhpur	14.2	13.4	15.5	15.27	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.8
15.	Nagaur	17.5	17.5	19.2	19.73	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
16.	Pali	17.9	15.0	17.7	18.1	4.7	4.7	5.5	5.3
17.	Barmer	13.9	14.4	15.6	15.7	5.4	5.7	5.1	5.9
18.	Jalor	16.6	16.3	17.0	17.8	8.1	7.8	8.0	8.4
19.	Sirohi	19.1	16.7	18.7	19.2	21.0	21.5	23.1	23.4
20.	Bhilwara	16.2	15.8	17.0	17.1	9.3	9.4	9.3	9.0
21.	Udaipur	8.7	7.8	8.2	8.3	30.2	33.7	34.3	36.8
22.	Chittaurgarh	14.4	13.6	14.5	14.6	18.3	19.6	18.2	20.3
23.	Dungarpur	4.6	4.0	4.5	4.6	60.2	63.6	64.4	65.8
24.	Banswara	4.6	3.8	4.7	5.0	71.5	72.9	72.6	73.5
25.	Bundi	18.3	18.6	18.9	18.8	17.7	19.3	20.1	20.8
26.	Kota	18.1	18.1	8.8	19.7	14.7	14.5	14.8	14.2
27.	Jhalawar	16.9	16.4	17.1	17.2	10.5	10.3	11.7	4.5

highest concentration of Scheduled tribes is noted in Banswara and Dungarpur districts, where their proportion to the total population of the district is 72.63 percent and 64.44 percent, respectively. Other districts with higher proportions are Udaipur (36.8 percent), Sirohi (23.4 percent), Sawai Madhopur (22.6 percent), Bundi (20.8 percent), Chittorgarh (20.3 percent), and Kota (14.2 percent). On the other hand, the districts – Ganganagar, Bikaner, Churu and Nagaur have less than 1 percent of Scheduled Tribes (Table 17). According to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976, the Scheduled Tribes of the State are given in Table 17.

Of the twelve Scheduled Tribes, the Minas and the Bhils, along with their sub-groups, Damor, Garasia, and Saharia, constitute the major tribal groups of the state. These population groups have been considered for studying in detail in the present paper along with Kathodis. Based on the recorded history as well as the current socio-economic status, the Minas, who

constitute a sizeable population amongst the tribes, do not qualify to be ‘scheduled’ as a community for compensatory discrimination. The Minas are the descendants of tribes, which ruled over most of the later princely state of Jaipur before the Kachachwahis established their rule nearly a thousand years ago. A Mina chief was always associated with the coronation ceremonies of Kachachwaha rulers. A significant percentage of Minas were employed as watch and ward staff by the Jaipur durbar and his Jagirdars. Another group of Minas became skilled agriculturists, cultivating substantial landholdings, thus making the entire Mina community well off. Today, they are availing of the special facilities available to Scheduled Tribes to improve their condition still further.

By contrast to the Minas are the Bhils, the largest Scheduled Tribe, who live in the hilly forests of southwestern Rajasthan. Despite their high socio-political status on account of the military support they gave to the Sisodia rulers of Mewar in general and Maharana Pratap in

**Table 17: Tribal groups of Rajasthan**

S. No.	Name of the Tribal/ Sub-tribal group	Population	Percentage to total population
1.	Bhil, Bhil Garasia, Dholi Bhil, Dungri Bhil, Dungri Garasia, Manasi Bhil, Rawal Bhil, Tadvi Bhil, Bhagalia, Bhilala, Pavira, Vasava, Vassava	18,61,502	44.500
2.	Bhil Mina	18,687	0.446
3.	Damor, Damari	30,603	0.732
4.	Dhanka, Tadvi, Teleria, Valvi	16,238	0.388
5.	Garasia (exclude Rajput Garasia)	1,21,939	2.915
6.	Kathodi, Kattcari, Dhar Kattkari, Dhar Kattari, Son Kathadi, Son Kattkari	2,541	0.061
7.	Konka, Kokai, Kukna	165	0.004
8.	Koli, Dhan, Tokre Koli, Kolcha, Kolgha	1,881	0.045
9.	Mina	20,69,456	49.471
10.	Naikda, Nayaka, Choli vale Kapadia, Nayaka, Mota Nayaka, Nana Nayaka	10,287	0.246
11.	Patelia	1,724	0.041
12.	Saharia, Seharia, Sahariya	41,487	0.990
13.	Others (unspecified)	1,674	0.161
	Total	41,83,124	100.00

Source: Census of India, 1991, Rajasthan

particular, they lead a miserable existence, mostly devoid of the amenities of education, communication, transport and other benefits of modernization.

The Bhils and Minas account for roughly 50 and 44 percent of the tribal population of Rajasthan (Table 18). Of the rest, Garasias and Sahariyas constitute roughly three and one percent, respectively. The southern districts of Rajasthan - Banswara, Dungarpur, Udaipur, and Chittorgarh have concentration of tribal groups of Bhils and Damors, while Garasias are mainly concentrated in Sirohi and Pali. Minas inhabit Jaipur, Sikar and Alwar, whereas Tonk, Bundi, Kota and Jhalawar have both Bhils and Minas. Sahariyas inhabit the tehsils of Kishanganj and Shahbad of Baran (erstwhile Kota) district.

Apart from the Scheduled Tribes, there are some other tribal communities inhabiting different parts of the state. They are broadly classified as Denotified Tribes and include Baori, Kanjar, Sansi, Bogri, Nat, Bhat, etc.; and Nomadic Tribes, which include Banjara, Gadulia Lohar, Kalbelia, Shikkaligar and few other groups; and Semi-nomadic tribes comprising Rabari, Jogi, Masani and others.

The Gujjars, who profess Hinduism, dwell in eastern Rajasthan, including Jaipur, Udaipur, Alwar, Kota and Bharatpur. They are divided

**Table 18: Tribal population of Rajasthan according to Census, 1981**

Tribal groups	Population	Percentage to total Tribal population
Mina	2,969,456	49.47
Bhil	1,861,502	44.50
Garasia	121,939	2.91
Saharia	41,427	0.91
Damor	30,603	0.73
Others (Unspecified)	58,197	1.40

into two groups: the Lour and the Khari. The nomadic Rabari or Raika are also Hindu. They are divided into two groups, the Marus, who breed camels, and the Chalkias, who breed sheep and goat.

The affluent Oswals hail from Osian near Jodhpur, and are successful in trade and commerce. They are predominantly Jains, although a few profess Vaishnavism. Oswal women observe strict purdah or seclusion. Another community of Rajasthan, which deserves a special mention because of its currently relevant tradition, is Bishnois. They are famous because of their conservationist religious beliefs that restrict taking of animal and vegetable life. The environment protectionist beliefs of Bishnois are rooted in the religious teaching of their spiritual mentor, Jambhoji. Today, the Bishnois are a wealthy farming

community of pure vegetarians, who are very orthodox about observing the twenty-nine (bishnao in Hindi) principles laid down by their guru Jambho-ji Maharaj.

**Sahariyas:** They are the most backward of all the Scheduled Tribes of Rajasthan. They are also considered as a primitive Tribe. Their customs and manner bear great resemblance with caste Hindus with whom they live in their present habitat (mostly known as 'sehranas' at the periphery of the main villages), but who consider them untouchables. There are 41,427 Sahariyas residing in Rajasthan forming 0.91 percent of the total Scheduled Tribe population. They cultivate land and work as agricultural/casual labourers and raise livestock. They reside in district of Baran (erstwhile Kota District), Jhalawar, Udaipur, Dungarpur, Jaipur, Sawai Madhopur and Churu with their main concentration (99.2 percent) in Baran. They do not have their own language; around 61 percent of them speak *Khariboli*, 23 percent *Brijbhasha* and 15 percent speak *Hadoti*, while others have taken to local dialects.

**Minas:** They held power over a large part of Rajasthan before the advent of the Rajputs. Those loyal to the new rulers were granted land and other sources of production. Those who could not reconcile to their defeat formed organised bands and adopted the path of resistance, crime and violence. Attempts were made to rehabilitate them by offering the job of village watchman. That is why there are two divisions – the Zamindars and the Chowkidars, – which continue till date. There are around 2,969,456 (Census of India, 1981) Minas in Rajasthan who constitute the largest part (49.47 percent) of the total Scheduled Tribe population of the State. They are spread over the whole state, but are mainly concentrated in Jaipur, Sawai Madhopur and Udaipur where over 51 percent of their population reside. They cultivate land, and both men and women participate in agricultural activities. They are Hindus but have faith in certain animistic traits as well. The Minas are not a Scheduled Tribe in Ajmer.

**Bhils:** They derive their name from the Dravidian word, Billu, meaning a bow. They live in scattered hutments separated widely, or perched on hilltops, depending upon the topography. There are 1,861,502 Bhils (Census of India, 1981) in Rajasthan; they constitute 44.50 percent of the total population of Scheduled Tribes. They inhabit the villages of the state where they prac-

tise agriculture, wherein both men and women participate. They are spread all over the state but are mainly concentrated in the districts of Udaipur, Banswara and Dungarpur. About 40 percent of them speak *Bhilli* and its allied dialect called *Wagdi*, which is spoken in Banswara and Dungarpur. Bhils living in other parts have adopted local dialects.

**Damors (Damaris):** Believed to have migrated from Gujarat with which they continue to have social contacts, the Damors are a small community of 30,603 people constituting 0.71 percent of the total Scheduled Tribe population of Rajasthan. They are divided into two subdivisions, one claiming a higher descent and on that account a higher social status than the other. They reside exclusively in rural areas where they cultivate land. Their womenfolk also participate in cultivation but do not work as agricultural labourers. Because of their location on the Gujarat border and their traditional cultural affinity with Gujarat, many of them speak Gujarati. Majority of them also speak *Wagdi*, which is a local dialect in Dungarpur.

**Kathodis:** Kathodis are a small, primitive and isolated community inhabiting Jhadol and Kotra tehsils in Udaipur district and Abu Road tehsil in Sirohi district of Rajasthan. Numerically insignificant (2,533 according to 1981 Census – Kathodis and other sub-groups), they have received special and concerted attention of the Rajasthan Government, owing to their miserable plight. The Kathodis are the people of the hills and live in forests. They speak their own dialect, which is a mixture of *Wagdi* and *Marathi*. They do not originally belong to Rajasthan. Some 80 years ago, Bohras, a noted business community, impressed with Kathodis' skill at *Katha* – making persuaded about 250 families to part with their parent stock of Bhils in West Khandesh district of Bombay state in search of new fortunes in the forests of Rajasthan. They were employed in remote interior forests abounding in *Khair* trees, the raw material for manufacturing *Katha* and thus they came to be known as Kathodis or Kathodias. Presently, they are mostly engaged as labourers, as they own no or little land, and often migrate to different parts of the state and even in neighbouring Gujarat.

**Garasias:** The Garasias derive their name from the Sanskrit word 'gras' that means a morsel or subsistence. According to their tradition, over six hundred years ago the Chauhan Rajputs of

Jalor, when defeated, fled to the hills where subsequently they settled on the grant subsistence. They overpowered the Bhils, the inhabitants of the region, and to pacify them also parted with some subsistence in their favour. These Bhil grant-holders came to be known as Garasias. Their settlement pattern, use of bow and arrow and the general way of life are similar to those of Bhils. Rajasthan has 121,939 Garasias who constitute 2.91 percent of the total Scheduled Tribe population. Most marriages are contracted by way of elopement, which is an accepted practise among the Garasias. Agriculture and allied occupations are their means of subsistence. They are located mostly in Sirohi, Udaipur and Pali districts.

### Language

Avanti is the parent language of Rajasthan. Rajasthani (Khadi-boli) is the lingua franca in Rajasthan. It is the collective name of various dialects: Marwari, Mewari, Dhundhari, Mewati and Hadoti. Marwari is spoken by 15.27 percent of the population. Bhili, Bagri and Pachwari dialects are offshoots of the Rajasthan's Khadi-boli, which are spoken by tribals. There are regional variations in dialects. Hindi is the major language of the state, spoken by 93 percent of the population. It is the official language of the state. Other languages spoken in the state include, Punjabi (spoken by 1.54 percent of the population), Urdu (0.77 percent), Sindhi (0.34 percent) and Gujarati (0.08 percent). People of tourism industry and the western – educated people use English.

### Economy

Rajasthan is predominantly an agricultural state with a little more than 77 percent of its population living in rural areas. Agriculture is the single largest sector of the economy, employing about 60 percent of labour force (Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, 1991).

The average annual per capita income of the state from 1982-83 to 1984-85 was Rs. 1,818 (Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, 1991). During 1987-88, 26 percent of the rural population and 19 percent of the urban population were estimated to be below the poverty line (Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, 1991).

### Agriculture

Agriculture and animal husbandry form the mainstay of the state's economy, representing 44.79 percent of the state's revenue in 1994-95, as against only 31.74 percent of the country as a whole. There are two agricultural seasons – Kharif and Rabi, of which Kharif season particularly depend on the quantum of rain as well as its proper distribution over a reasonable time span and its intensity. Similarly, Rabi crop is adversely affected if the skies are overcast continuously in the winter season. Cereals, pulses, food grains, oil seeds, chillies, tobacco, sugarcane and cotton, are grown during the two agricultural seasons. The state ranks sixth in India in terms of the per capita production of food grains and tenth in the growth rate of the production of food grains. The average annual per capita food grain production of the state from 1987-90 was 188 kilograms (Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, 1991).

Irrigation is an essential input for agricultural production in the state. Surface water resources are scarce as there are no perennial rivers traversing the southeastern region of the state. Therefore, to a great extent agriculture is dependent upon the vagaries of monsoon. There are four major sources of irrigation, viz., canals, tanks, wells and tube-wells. Out of the total area cultivated in the State, during 1995-96, only 32.33 percent area (on an average) was under irrigation (Table 19). Out of the total irrigated area, 62.76 percent was covered by wells and tube wells, 33.24 percent by canals and 4.00 percent by other sources during 1995-96 (Economic Review, 1997-98). The recharge and sustainability of wells and tube wells depend primarily on rainfall, so the whole area barring the 33 percent that is canal irrigated, depends on rainfall. Irrigation facilities are available for an area of over 9.88 million acres (4 million hectares). Agricultural production is

**Table 19: Land use in Rajasthan**

<i>Land</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Area</i>
<i>Agriculture</i>		
Total geographical area	1995-96	34242613
Total cropped area	1995-96	19672913
Net area sown	1995-96	16575351
Area sown more than once	1995-96	3097562
Average size of holdings	1990-91	4.11
<i>Irrigation</i>		
Net area irrigated	1995-96	5232425
Gross area irrigated	1995-96	6361214

Source: Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, 1991

inadequate to meet local needs, in three out of five years due to insufficient or untimely rainfall. Consequently, there is a severe shortage of food, fodder, fuel and drinking water. Frequent droughts lead to temporary out migration of human and cattle population.

### Animal Husbandry

Despite ecological limitations, agriculture and animal husbandry constitute the primary occupation in Rajasthan, with livestock management having been refined into a productive art to suit the arid and semiarid lands. The minimal vegetation found in the region has been skilfully exploited to sustain large herds of sheep, goats and camels. In conditions of low rainfall and high levels of evaporation and transpiration of moisture, the people of Rajasthan have evolved varieties of cattle, which are amongst the best in the country. Today, well-adapted packages of agriculture and animal husbandry are being threatened by new policies of agricultural development, which have little relevance to the ecological specialities of Rajasthan. The traditional ecology-specific life style of people is being modified without taking into account the possible long-term impact of current changes. These eco-developmental considerations are crucial to the understanding of the transhumant way of life of pastoral people of Rajasthan who lead a nomadic or semi-nomadic existence. The settled livestock farmers produce a great quantity of milk, which is collected by public sector dairies for pasteurisation and consumption.

A large number of small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and other local poor depend upon livestock for gainful employment. There were 484.46 lakh livestock and 30.13 lakh poultry in the State (1992 Livestock Census, Table 20). Under the Integrated Dairy Development Programme, 16 milk producers Co-operative unions are operational in all the districts of the State. Sheep husbandry is popular and it provides employment opportunities to weaker

**Table 20: Livestock and poultry population of Rajasthan**

<i>Live Stock and Poultry</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>No.</i>
Total Livestock	1992	48445590
Total Poultry	1992	3012967

Source: Livestock Census, 1992

sections. According to Livestock Census of 1992, there were 124.91 lakh sheep in the State, which is 25 percent of the country's sheep population. 170-lakh kg wool is produced in the state, which is nearly 40 percent of the country's wool production.

### Industry

During the last 35 years, Rajasthan has become a major producer of synthetic yarns, cement, zinc, copper, trucks, tractors, scooters, tyres, cords and cables, railway wagons, ball-bearings, water and power metres, automobiles parts, instrumentations, electrical equipments and electronic goods like, copper foils, copper clad laminator, television sets, picture tubes, milk testers, wireless equipments, sugar, marble, sandstone and a number of handicrafts. In 1992-93, there were 30 textile mills in the state, employing around 50,000 people. Almost half of the national output of polyester viscose yarn is produced here, contributing around Rs. 400 million to the national economy. The total number of Industries in Rajasthan till December 1996 are given in the Table 21. The other big industry of Rajasthan is the cement industry, employing about 15,000 people. The productions of sugar, as well as mining of marble and sandstone, also contribute to the state's economy.

**Table 21: Number of industries in Rajasthan**

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>No.</i>
Factories Registered	Dec. 1996	8558
Total workers employed daily	Dec. 1996	300150

### Handicrafts and Small Scale Industries

Handicrafts of Rajasthan are very popular and contribute to its economy. It is estimated that more than 600,000 people are employed in this sector. In 1994, there were 164,000 small scale industries, including cotton and wool spinning, carpet making, block printing, gem cutting and polishing, ivory carving, pottery and brassware production, leather goods production, marble carving and enamelling, among others. Rajasthan is also famous for its vibrantly coloured ethnic clothes with tying-dyeing, block printing and numerous forms of embroidery and appliqué. In the village of Kaithone, in Kota district, the most highly prized *Masuria* (woven from both cotton and silk) is made into beautiful sarees.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study was conducted among six major tribal groups, namely, Mina, Bhil, Garasia, Damor, Kathodi and Sahariya belonging to 46 villages in the districts of Baran, Sawai Madhopur, Udaipur, Dungarpur and Sirohi of Rajasthan during March to October, 1999 (Table 22). The selection of the study areas has been done following a detailed assessment of data including information on dispersal of the tribes from the preliminary investigation as well as secondary sources, Census of India publications and local feedback].

A preliminary investigation had been conducted at three levels, viz., district/tehsil/block level, village level, and household level:

1. to make contact with the local officials in order to apprise them about the project;
2. to explore the study areas and to obtain an overall understanding of the same; and
3. to understand the distribution of various population groups and to identify the villages for the intensive micro-level study.

Following the preliminary survey, the final study design was formulated after a detailed appraisal of the materials collected.

Whereas the data regarding the Scheduled Tribe Sahariya, have been collected from the villages in Tehsils Kishanganj and Shahbad of district Baran, those from the Scheduled Tribe Mina, have been collected from the villages belonging to Tehsils Sawai Madhopur and Khandar of district Sawai Madhopur. The data from the Scheduled Tribes, Bhil as well as Kathodi, have been collected from villages in the Tehsils of Jhadol, Kotra and Kherwara of district Udaipur. And, while data regarding the Tribe Damor, have been drawn from villages in Simalwara Tehsil of Dungarpur district, the Tribe Garasia, was covered from the villages in Abu Road Tehsil of district Sirohi, Rajasthan.

The study villages have been selected after detailed discussion with concerned district authorities, and appraisal of the preliminary survey data, keeping in mind the objectives of the study, the distribution of the Scheduled Tribes to be studied, certain practical considerations, such as, field circumstances, facilities available, involved time and cost and practicability of conducting field work.

The study data covering several aspects of study areas and populations were collected using

separate interview schedules as well as participant observation.

**I. Schedule No. 1 - General Schedule:** This Schedule was filled up at the district/tehsil/block headquarters, on the basis of records available and discussions with authorities. Information was collected regarding land utilization, irrigation facilities, average yield per acre of principal crops, details of loans, insect pests and plants diseases, forest administration and control measures, soil conservation, land development, livestock data, diseases from which livestock suffer, number of veterinary institutions and centres. Information was also collected regarding - (a) educational facilities in the area, number of schools, number of boys/girls attending the schools, facilities available in schools; (b) public health care and medical facilities, number of patients availing these facilities; (c) co-operative societies, type of societies functioning and number of members, loan advanced; (d) industries, source of raw materials and market facilities, industrial loan, production-cum-training centres; and (e) other activities under the Community Development Programme.

**II. Schedule No. 2 - Village Schedule:** This Schedule was filled at the village level for information regarding the village concerned on the basis of available records and discussion with Patwaris, Sarpanchs, Ward Panchas, Tribal Panchas and villagers. The village - level information collected in this schedule referred to the land utilization, irrigated area, cropping pattern and agricultural practices, wages paid to the agricultural labourers, landholding or ownership, horticulture, manures and fertilizers, pesticides / insecticides, agricultural institutions, irrigation works, livestock, industries, educational, medical, public health, transport and communication facilities available, prices of commodities in the village, food habits of the villagers, settlement patterns, housing condition, disease prevalence, social services, community life, culture and historical background, any developmental scheme etc. In respect of each selected village, a house list was also prepared. In case of occupied houses, further information was collected regarding the number of members, type of occupations/household industry they are engaged in. These house lists were then reviewed for the selection of households for the detailed micro-level study.

**III. Schedule No. 3 - Demography Schedule:**

**Table 22: List of field areas/tribal population surveyed in Rajasthan****RAJASTHAN**

Total Population : 44,005,990

Schedule Castes : 7,607,820

Scheduled Tribes : 5,47,481

<i>Districts</i>	<i>Tehsils</i>	<i>Villages Surveyed (Location Code No.)</i>	<i>Number and Name of Hamlets</i>	
<b>TRIBE : SAHARIYA</b> <b>A. BARAN</b> Total Population : 2,72,242 Scheduled Castes : 1,28,558 Scheduled Tribes : 80,938	<b>I. Kishanganj</b> Total Population : 1,08,345 Scheduled Castes : 13,981 (12.90%) Scheduled Tribes : 37,032 (34.18%)	1. Hirapura (21/26/5/109)	3 (Saharia Basti, Mohammedan Basti, Gujar Basti)	
		2. Mahrawta (21/26/5/106)	4 (Phatria, Baoripara, Mandipara, Denda)	
		3. Gordhanpura (21/26/5/159)	4 (Amapura, Haroti Basti, Bari Gawali, Mewati Pura)	
		4. Balapura (21/26/5/180)	2 (Tapria, Balapura)	
		<b>II. Shahbad</b> Total Population : 83,028 Scheduled Castes : 13,255 (15.96%) Scheduled Tribes : 28,829 (34.72%)	5. Barara (21/26/6/31)	3 (Pehlapura, Doosra, Sehrana)
			6. Birmani (21/26/6/24)	1 (Birmani)
			7. Unee (21/26/6/188)	5 (Ganeshpura, Talwala, Balar, Kalipura, Unee gaon)
			8. Samraniya (21/26/6/143)	6 (Banglawala Sehrana, Bada Sehrana, Colony, Tila Tapria, Bus stand Mohalla, Nichla Mohalla)
			9. Shahpur (21/26/6/47)	2 (Gangapur, Shahpur)
			10. Faredua Taleti (21/26/6/95)	2 (Faredua Taleti, Faredua Purana)
			11. Agar (21/26/6/233)	3 (Bus stand Mohalla, Solya, Tapria, Prennagar)
			12. Maheshpura (21/26/6/74)	2 (Maheshpur, Matia Khera)
			13. Khushalpura (21/26/6/23)	1 (Khushalpura)
			14. Shubhghara (21/26/6/22)	1 (Shubhghara)

**Table 22: Contd....**

Districts	Tehsils	Villages Surveyed (Location Code No.)	Number and Name of Hamlets
		Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :738 (98.27%) 15. Kushiyara (21/26/6/185) Total Population : 981 Scheduled Castes :39 (3.98%) Scheduled Tribes :414 (42.20%)	5 (Banjara Basti, Kirar Basti, Gaonwala Sehrana, Tapria, Doorwala Sehrana)
<b>TRIBE : MINA</b>			
<b>B. SAWAI MADHOPUR</b>	<b>I. Sawai Madhopur</b>	16. Khawa (21/8/10/124) Total Population : 429	3 (Khawa, Jagunpura, Malin Ki Tapra)
Total Population : 1,963,246	Total Population : 183,887		
Scheduled Castes :13,946 (21.87%) Scheduled Tribes :443,469 (22.59%)		Scheduled Castes :31,116 (16.92%) Scheduled Tribes :57,678 (31.37%) 17. Khandoj (21/8/10/121) Total Population : 133 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :71 (53.38%) 18. Gothra (21/8/10/114) Total Population : 586 Scheduled Castes :16 (2.73%) Scheduled Tribes :523 (89.25%) 19. Ramri (21/8/10/19) Total Population : 666 Scheduled Castes :25 (3.75%) Scheduled Tribes :58 (8.29%) 20. Hingoni (21/8/10/50) Total Population : 430 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :385 (89.53%) 21. Jeenapur (21/8/10/150) Total Population : 681 Scheduled Castes :7 (1.02%) Scheduled Tribes :589 (86.49%) 22. Atoon Khurd (21/8/10/136) Total Population : 470 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :429 (91.28%) 23. Koshali (21/8/10/66) Total Population : 496 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :485 (97.78%) 24. Menpura (21/8/10/65) Total Population : 1600 Scheduled Castes :47 (2.93%) Scheduled Tribes :1140 (71.25%) 25. Baso Kalan (21/8/11/1) Total Population : 548 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :380 (69.34%) 26. Meena Kheri (21/8/11/112) Total Population : 387 Scheduled Castes :128 (33.07%) Scheduled Tribes :207 (53.49%) 27. Kurana (21/8/11/47) Total Population : 536 Scheduled Castes :15 (2.80%) Scheduled Tribes :411 (76.68%)	Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :205 (47.79%) 2 (Khandoj, Gothra ki Tapra) 3 (Uparli, Bichli, Nichli) 3 (Badi Gowari, Naurra, Chota Gowari) 3 (Giyar Mohalla, Thera, Gaoh) 2 (Mandir Mohalla, Par Mohalla) 1 (Atoon Khurd) 3 (Chittar Mohala, Bhagat Pura, Burnasi) 5 (Sadak Mohalla, Fakir Mohalla, Khata para, Baranwala, Hathaiwata) 1 (Baso Kalan) 2 (Meenakheri, Dhani of Meera Kheri) 1 (Kurana)
	<b>II. Khandar</b>		
	Total Population : 119,379 Scheduled Castes :34,861 (29.20%) Scheduled Tribes :13,262 (11.11%)		
<b>TRIBE : KATHODI</b>			
<b>C. UDAIPUR</b>	<b>I. Jhadol</b>	28. Ogna (21/8/11/25) Total Population : 2,227	10 Kathodi Basti, Kumhai Basti, Rajput Basti, Kalal Basti, Brahmin Mohalla, Jain Mohalla,
Total Population : 2,889,301	Total Population : 147,044		

**Table 22: Contd....**

<i>Districts</i>	<i>Tehsils</i>	<i>Villages Surveyed (Location Code No.)</i>	<i>Number and Name of Hamlets</i>
<i>Scheduled Castes :240,264 (8.32%) Scheduled Tribes :1,063,071 (36.79%)</i>	29. Ambasa (21/21/11/229)	<i>Scheduled Castes :4,293 (2.92%) Scheduled Tribes :104,744 (71.23%) Total Population : 1955 Scheduled Castes :9 (0.46 %) Scheduled Tribes :1454 (74.37%) Mithibila, Jilgoti, Kachcha,</i>	Adivasi Basti, Mali Mohalla, Bus Stand/Bazaar Mohalla, Meghwal Basti <i>Scheduled Castes :342 (15.36%) Scheduled Tribes :264 (11.85%)</i>
		30. Ambavi (21/21/11/241) <i>Total Population : 517 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :364 (70.41%)</i>	Patbel Phala, Samiteku Phala, Nilgiri Kampa, Sarli, Kupra, Ambasa (Rebari Phala, Ratanpura, mbasa) 6 Boja Phala, Gomla Phala, Dama Phala, Maida Phala, Amliya Phala, Rebari Phala
		31. Badi (21/21/11/127) <i>Total Population : 301 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :297 (98.67%)</i>	3 (Machba Phala, Talab Phala, Badi)
		32. Jotana (21/21/11/126) <i>Total Population : 320 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :319 (99.69%)</i>	1 (Jotana)
		33. Dhudkiya (21/21/11/70) <i>Total Population : 256 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :127 (49.61%)</i>	2 (Padiyar Phala, Nichla Phala)
		34. Saldari (21/21/11/130) <i>Total Population : 481 Upli Saldari) Scheduled Tribes :42 (88.36%)</i>	3 (Nichli Gowari, Upli Gowari,
		35. Maseengpura (21/21/11/146) <i>Total Population : 332 Scheduled Castes :34 (10.24%) Scheduled Tribes :386 (86.14%)</i>	2 (Upla Phala, Nichla Phala)
		36. Dhartidevi (21/21/11/212) <i>Total Population : 407 Dhartidevi) Scheduled Tribes :407 (100 %)</i>	3 (Dadiavera, Umra Kar,
		37. Dheekliya (21/21/11/117) <i>Total Population : 570 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :535 (93.86%)</i>	5 (Kar, Tekra, Dawana Dheekliya, Banpar, Talab Phala)
		38. Bhula Ki Amlia (21/21/11/204) <i>Total Population : 421 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :420 (99.76%)</i>	2 (Mauri, Bhula Ki Amlia)
<b>II. Kotra</b> <i>Total Population : 130,449 Scheduled Castes :1,724 (1.32%) Scheduled Tribes :116,263 (89.12%)</i>	39. Mahula (21/21/10/159) <i>Total Population : 275 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :266 (96.72%)</i>	2 (Umbriyo Phala, Mahula)	
	40. Dhedmariya (21/21/10/241) <i>Total Population :776 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :773 (99.61%)</i>	7 (Dhedmariya, Magri Phala, Khakro Phala, Theka, Bolan Khadri Phala, Amlia Phala, Jair Phala)	
	41. Dooka (21/23/4/138) <i>Total Population : 2,942</i>	5 Dooka, Lalpura, Dhanmaliya, Izzatpura/Palampura	
<b>TRIBE : BHIL</b>			
<b>TRIBE : DAMOR /DAMARIA</b>			
<b>D. DUNGARPUR</b>	<b>I. Simalwara</b>		
<i>Total Population : 874,549</i>	<i>Total Population : 195,519</i>		

**Table 22: Contd....**

Districts	Tehsils	Villages Surveyed (Location Code No.)	Number and Name of Hamlets
Scheduled Castes :40,299 (4.61%) Scheduled Tribes :22,340 (65.84%)		Scheduled Castes :9,543 (4.88%) Scheduled Tribes :148,349 (75.8%) 42. Bhandari (21/23/4/97) Total Population : 757 Scheduled Castes :Nil Scheduled Tribes :757 (100%)	Scheduled Castes :208 (7.07%) Scheduled Tribes :2,390 (81.24%) 7 Talabari, Wao, Samitera, Damorphala, Holi, Bathore, Beechnla Phala
43. Takari (21/23/4/143) Total Population : 703 Scheduled Castes :49 (6.97%) Scheduled Tribes :654 (93.03%)		44. Jamboori (21/19/4/76) Total Population : 932	4 Jamoora phala, Mandli Phala, Jeha Phala, Gamer Phala
<b>TRIBE : GARASIA</b> <b>E. SIROHI</b> Total Population : 654,029			
<b>I. Abu road</b> Total Population : 81,431			
Scheduled Castes :125,863 (19.24%) Scheduled Tribes :153,005 (23.39%)		Scheduled Castes :4,904 (6.02%) Scheduled Tribes :54,885 (67.40%) 45. Soorpaga (21/19/4/68) Total Population : 1,565 Scheduled Castes :16 (1.02%) Scheduled Tribes :1269 (81.09%)	3 Gaon Phali, Nala Phali, Thala Phali Scheduled Castes :4 (0.43%) Scheduled Tribes :925 (99.25%) 5 Soorpaga/Soolia, Dobia Phala, Polapon Phala, Idarwal, Piparnal
		46. Teleti (21/19/4/81) Total Population : 1164 Scheduled Castes :6 (0.52%) Scheduled Tribes :1073 (92.18%)	5 Kookra Phali, Kyan Phali, Badwa Phali, Phali Dharti Phali, Thana Phali

This schedule was filled at the household level and 200 nuclear families of each of the three tribal groups, namely, Bhils, Minas and Sahariyas and 100 nuclear families each from the Schedule Tribes, Kathodi, Damor and Garasia, belonging to a total of 661 households were selected randomly from the study villages (details are presented in Table 22). Detailed information was collected regarding -

- (a) General background / Identification - Name, caste, tribe, income, type of family;
- (b) Living standard - Type of residence, environmental sanitation, water supply, disposal of refuse, facilities available and utilized, biological environment;
- (c) Composition of the household - Information regarding age, family type, economic and educational characteristics of each member of household;
- (d) Ages at various stage of life - Present age of husband and wife, ages at menarche, menopause (if applicable), ages at marriage/separation/divorce/widowhood/remarriage (if applicable) etc.;
- (e) Details of reproductive history - Number of children, born alive, dead; number of stillbirths, abortions, miscarriages, duration of breast feeding and post - partum amenorrhoea etc.;

- (f) Infant mortality, stillbirth - Order of birth, age and sex of the dead child, symptoms observed, cause suspected / diagnosed, treatment given;
- (g) Death in the family in the past five years - Name, age, and sex of the individual, year of death, cause of death, treatment given;
- (h) Family planning practices - Knowledge, attitude, practice of family planning methods, ideal number of children preferred;
- (i) Disease prevalence, Nutritional status, Methods people employ to overcome disease (Traditional medicine/Alternative medicine/Western medicine);
- (k) Information regarding health seeking behaviour/perceptions of health behaviour.

**IV. Schedule No. 4: Morbidity and Health Services Schedule:** This schedule was also filled at the household level along with the above - mentioned Demography Schedule. Detailed information was collected regarding:

- (a) Types of diseases prevalent;
- (b) Schedule for children below 6 years (includes information regarding immunization);
- (c) Details of morbidity and health services;

Interviews with ever-married women (primary respondents) were conducted in each sample household. A combination of approaches, life-history approach, retrospective approach were

adopted to check the consistency of responses. To supplement the interviews, discussions were held with heads of households, other elders, as well as socially important persons including members of the local self-government, religious leaders, teachers, Anganwadi workers, etc. Medical centers, hospitals were also contacted at frequent intervals to verify certain responses. Non-governmental organizations working in the study areas were also consulted.

Following data collection, analyses were carried out using the standard SPSS/PC<sup>+</sup> program package (Statistical Package for Social Sciences) [Nie et al., 1975; Norusis, 1987]. All the computations and analyses (demographic and statistical) were done separately for each of the study population group as well as all six tribes pooled together. The dependent variables considered for this study are: number of children ever born (fertility-related dependent variable), child survival ratio (infant and child mortality-related dependent variable) and usage level of family planning methods. The independent variables, already mentioned earlier, have been selected keeping in view the objectives of study and their operative/potential influence on the dependent variables, and their measurable nature. The categorizations of the independent variables were done following assessment at the micro level. The statistical analyses were performed in terms of means and percentage distributions to interpret the independent variables and know the levels. While differential analyses were carried out to obtain a general view of the differentials within and across the study population groups as well as possible relationships, multiple regression analyses (using the step-wise procedure) were done to explore and quantify the relationships between the dependent and independent variables.

Altogether a total of 900 nuclear families belonging to 661 households was covered, 200 each from the Scheduled Tribes, Sahariya, Mina and Bhil and 100 each from the Scheduled Tribes, Kathodi, Damor and Garasia. As seen in Table 23, the number of nuclear families is the highest among Bhils, followed by Sahariyas, while the lowest number is seen among Garasias. The percentage of joint families varied from a low of 17.8 percent among Bhils to a high of 56.7 percent among Garasias (Table 23).

As already mentioned, the total number of households covered was 661, of which 154, 137, 169, 77, 64, 60, belonged to the Scheduled Tribes, Sahariya, Mina, Bhil, Kathodi, Damor and Garasia, respectively. These households were randomly selected from 46 villages belonging to five districts, namely, Baran, Sawai Madhopur, Udaipur, Dungarpur and Sirohi in Rajasthan. The selection of the villages were done according to the distribution of the Scheduled Tribes in the various districts of the state as well as variations regarding presence or absence of various amenities, other physical environmental and socio-economic factors. Besides, certain practical considerations, such as, field circumstances, facilities available, involved time and cost and practicability of conducting field work also determined the selection of the study areas, as mentioned earlier.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Population Composition and Certain Independent Determinants

Population composition is the make-up of a population with respect to one or more demographic traits, such as age and sex (age-sex composition, sex ratio), economic, educational and nuptiality characteristics (activity rate,

**Table 23: Distribution (number and percentage) of nuclear and joint families among Scheduled Tribes of Rajasthan**

Particulars	Sahariyas	Minas	Bhils	Kathodis	Damors	Garasias	Total
Nuclear Families	112	91	139	57	37	26	462
	72.7	66.4	82.2	74.0	57.8	43.3	69.9
Joint Families	42	46	30	20	27	34	199
	27.3	33.6	17.8	26.0	42.2	56.7	30.1
Nuclear Families in Joint Family	88	109	61	43	63	74	462
Total Number of Nuclear Families	200	200	200	100	100	100	900
Total Number of Households	154	137	169	77	64	60	661

literacy rate and age at marriage, respectively), at a specified point of time. These analyses together with the distribution of certain independent determinants provide an overview of basic population characteristics, which are required to understand the health and well-being status of a population.

**Age Composition:** In less developed countries/societies, continued high birth rates coupled with declining death rates have produced very young populations. On the other hand, in the developed world, due to the long term decline in fertility, the proportion of old rather than young people is higher. Mortality reductions unlike fertility, do not contribute to the ageing of the population in spite of adding more people to the older segment of the population, as the diminution is usually even greater during infancy and childhood than older ages. Consequently, it is typical of societies proceeding through the demographic transition that control of mortality mostly leads to even younger population.

The present Scheduled Tribe population overall has a young age composition typical of less developed societies with fertility on the higher side. Nearly 46 percent of the population is below 15 years of age and only 3.3 percent is in the 60 years and above age bracket. Individually, Kathodis have the lowest proportion of child population below 15 years at 38.6 percent, closely followed by Damors and Garasias (40.0 percent). In comparison, Minas, Bhils and Sahariyas (44.8, 49.8, 50.9 percent, respectively) have shown higher percentages of child population depicting younger age compositions (Table 24).

Although India like a typical higher fertility country has a significant proportion of its population in the below 15 years age group, 36 percent, the estimate for the study population, on the whole, is much higher. Similar picture is noticed when the estimate is compared to that for Rajasthan (38.3 percent – SRS, 1992). The demographically advanced Kerala, expectedly has shown much lower percentage (29 percent), reflecting a much lower birth rate. [According to the UN, 2001, the percentages aged 0-14 years and 65+ years in India in the year 2000 have been 33 and 5 percent, respectively].

**Dependency Ratios:** Dependency ratios are another way of looking at the age composition of a population. The Total Dependency Ratio (TDR) is a measure of the age distribution of a population and describes the number of dependent persons that are supported by the active

members of the population in the 15-59 years age group. A high Young Age Dependency Ratio (YADR) is found in developing countries corresponding to their high fertility whereas a comparatively higher Old Age Dependency Ratio (OADR) is seen in the developed countries or those countries that have reached the placement level.

As seen in Table 25, the TDR is quite high for the Scheduled Tribe population under study (96.8 percent), which again reflects probable high fertility leading to a very high proportion of young population below 15 years of age. This also reflects low proportion of effective working population who are bearing the burden of providing sustenance to a large dependent segment. This also means lesser income in the families and low standard of living. Individually, the TDR ranged from a low of 68.0 percent to a high of 123.5 percent (among Kathodis and Sahariyas, respectively). It may be noted that, for all, a significant proportion of the TDR comprises of the young age dependency, indicating high fertility amongst all, albeit in varying degrees. The YADR is the lowest among Kathodis (64.9 percent), closely followed by Garasias (65.2 percent), while it is the highest amongst Sahariyas (113.7 percent), thereby resulting in a very high overall YADR of 90.4 percent.

The Old Age Dependency ratios, on the other hand, are relatively very low. The Damors have the highest OAD (10.5), closely followed by Sahariyas (9.8), whereas the Kathodis have the least (3.1). The Garasias and Bhils also have shown low OAD.

Like in all other developing countries, India too has a high Total Dependency Ratio (85.4 in 1981 – Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 1997), while the state of Kerala, with low fertility have comparatively low dependency load (73.8), mainly due to lower proportion of children below 15 years. [It may be mentioned here that, according to the UN, 2001, the dependency ratio for India, in 2000 has been 62 (population aged 0-14 and 65+ years/ population aged 15-64 years x 100)]. The overall TDR estimated for the study population group overall, is found much higher than these ones. Individually, only the Tribes - Kathodis and Garasias show lower estimates.

**Index of Aging:** Index of aging is a measure describing the relative number of older people in a population. It is low in those populations, where the proportion of child population below 15 years

**Table 24: Age Distribution (number and percentage) of Scheduled Tribes of Rajasthan by sex**

Age Gr. (in yrs.)	Sahariyas			Minas			Bhils			Kathodis		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0-4	104 10.1	100 9.7	204 19.8	78 7	76 6.8	154 13.7	92 9.2	107 10.7	199 19.9	30 7.8	23 6	53 13.8
5-9	101 9.8	81 7.9	182 17.7	108 9.6	96 8.6	204 18.2	81 8.1	92 9.2	173 17.3	25 6.5	24 6.3	49 12.8
10-14	79 7.7	59 5.7	138 13.4	76 6.8	69 6.1	145 12.9	67 6.7	59 5.9	126 12.6	18 4.7	28 7.3	46 12
<b>0-14</b>	<b>284</b> <b>27.6</b>	<b>240</b> <b>23.3</b>	<b>524</b> <b>50.9</b>	<b>262</b> <b>23.3</b>	<b>241</b> <b>21.5</b>	<b>503</b> <b>44.8</b>	<b>240</b> <b>24</b>	<b>258</b> <b>25.8</b>	<b>498</b> <b>49.8</b>	<b>73</b> <b>19.1</b>	<b>75</b> <b>19.6</b>	<b>148</b> <b>38.6</b>
15-19	41 4	35 3.4	76 7.4	50 4.5	48 4.3	98 8.7	31 3.1	36 3.6	67 6.7	14 3.7	14 3.7	28 7.3
20-24	23 2.2	33 3.2	56 5.4	38 3.4	27 2.4	65 5.8	36 3.6	42 4.2	78 7.8	12 3.1	17 4.4	29 7.6
25-29	49 4.8	45 4.4	94 9.1	29 2.6	50 4.5	79 7	39 3.9	49 4.9	88 8.8	18 4.7	22 5.7	40 10.4
30-34	22 2.1	30 2.9	52 5.1	50 4.5	43 3.8	93 8.3	45 4.5	33 3.3	78 7.8	20 5.2	13 3.4	33 8.6
35-39	48 4.7	40 3.9	88 8.5	72 6.4	60 5.3	132 11.8	42 4.2	34 3.4	76 7.6	13 3.4	13 3.4	26 6.8
40-44	14 1.4	14 1.4	28 2.7	24 2.1	23 2.1	47 4.2	15 1.5	20 2	35 3.5	9 2.4	13 3.4	22 5.7
45-49	10 1	11 1.1	21 2	18 1.6	7 0.6	25 2.2	23 2.3	9 0.9	32 3.2	10 2.6	4 1	14 3.7
50-54	10 1	18 1.8	28 2.7	9 0.8	12 1.1	21 1.9	6 0.6	9 0.9	15 1.5	8 2.1	16 4.2	24 6.3
55-59	13 1.3	5 0.5	18 1.8	11 1	14 1.3	25 2.2	6 0.6	6 0.6	12 1.2	12 3.1	-	12 3.1
<b>15-59</b>	<b>230</b> <b>22.3</b>	<b>231</b> <b>22.4</b>	<b>461</b> <b>44.8</b>	<b>301</b> <b>26.8</b>	<b>284</b> <b>25.3</b>	<b>585</b> <b>52.1</b>	<b>243</b> <b>24.3</b>	<b>238</b> <b>23.8</b>	<b>481</b> <b>48.1</b>	<b>116</b> <b>30.3</b>	<b>112</b> <b>29.2</b>	<b>228</b> <b>59.5</b>
60-64	11 1.1	17 1.7	28 3.7	7 0.6	10 0.9	17 1.5	5 0.5	2 0.2	7 0.7	4 1	2 0.5	6 1.6
65+	7 0.7	10 1	17 1.7	5 0.5	13 1.2	18 1.6	13 1.3	1 0.1	14 1.4	1 0.3	-	1 0.3
<b>60+</b>	<b>18</b> <b>1.8</b>	<b>27</b> <b>2.6</b>	<b>45</b> <b>4.4</b>	<b>12</b> <b>1.1</b>	<b>23</b> <b>2.1</b>	<b>35</b> <b>3.1</b>	<b>18</b> <b>1.8</b>	<b>3</b> <b>0.3</b>	<b>21</b> <b>2.1</b>	<b>5</b> <b>1.3</b>	<b>2</b> <b>0.5</b>	<b>7</b> <b>1.8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>532</b> <b>51.7</b>	<b>498</b> <b>48.4</b>	<b>1030</b> <b>100</b>	<b>575</b> <b>51.2</b>	<b>548</b> <b>48.8</b>	<b>1123</b> <b>100</b>	<b>501</b> <b>50.1</b>	<b>499</b> <b>49.9</b>	<b>1000</b> <b>100</b>	<b>194</b> <b>50.7</b>	<b>189</b> <b>49.4</b>	<b>383</b> <b>100</b>

is high. The index of ageing for India in 1971 was a low 8 (1971 Census). The present Scheduled Tribe population overall, has also shown a low index of 7.1. At the individual tribal level, the estimate ranges from a low of 4.2 among Bhils to a high of 14.3 among Damors, indicating high percentage of older people in this group (Table 25).

**Sex Composition (Sex Ratio):** The sex ratio (number of females per 1000 males) is a widely used measure of sex composition. The sex ratio for India is highly masculine (927 in 1991) compared to the other regions of the world, particularly Europe and North America. The sex ratio for India has been increasingly adverse for females as seen in the sex ratio over the years from 1901-1991.

However, within India, there is a lot of variation in sex ratio and a number of demographers

have commented on the 'north-south' divide, which refers to the highly adverse sex ratio in the north-western states and the more favourable sex ratio in the south-eastern states of India. Uttar Pradesh (879) along with other north-western states like Haryana (865), Punjab (882) and Rajasthan (911) have very low sex ratios, whereas Kerala (1036) and other southern states have a comparatively high sex ratio (Bose, 1991). This disparity has been attributed to gender inequality. The north-western states are well-known for highly unequal gender relations manifested in such symptoms as, the continued practise of female seclusion, very low female labour force participation, large gender gap in literacy, extremely restricted female property rights, strong boy preference in fertility decisions, widespread neglect of female children and drastic separation of a married women from her natal family. In all

**Table 24 Contd....**

Age Gr. (in yrs.)	Damors			Garasias			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0-4	34	44	78	360	45	75	368	395	763
	7.8	10.1	17.8	7.3	11	18.3	8.4	9	17.4
5-9	43	22	65	33	22	55	391	337	728
	9.8	5	14.8	8.1	5.4	13.4	8.9	7.7	16.6
10-14	17	15	32	16	19	35	273	249	522
	3.9	3.4	7.3	3.9	4.6	8.5	6.2	5.7	11.9
<b>0-14</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>1032</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>2013</b>
	<b>21.5</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>45.9</b>
15-19	27	16	43	14	13	27	177	162	339
	6.2	3.7	9.8	3.4	3.2	6.6	4	3.7	7.7
20-24	21	15	36	18	20	38	148	154	302
	4.8	3.4	8.2	4.4	4.9	9.3	3.4	3.5	6.9
25-29	14	14	28	17	19	36	166	199	365
	3.2	3.2	6.4	4.2	4.6	8.8	3.8	4.5	8.3
30-34	20	24	44	20	19	39	177	162	339
	4.6	5.5	10.1	4.9	4.6	9.5	4	3.7	7.7
35-39	18	8	26	18	11	29	211	166	377
	4.1	1.8	5.9	4.4	2.7	7.1	4.8	3.8	8.6
40-44	6	10	16	7	7	14	75	87	16
	1.4	2.3	3.7	1.7	1.7	3.4	1.7	2	3.7
45-49	8	8	16	5	8	13	74	47	121
	1.8	1.8	3.7	1.2	2	3.2	1.7	1.1	2.8
50-54	15	11	26	13	16	29	61	82	143
	3.4	2.5	5.9	3.2	3.9	7.1	1.4	1.9	3.3
55-59	2	1	3	8	2	10	52	28	80
	0.5	0.2	0.7	2	0.5	2.4	1.2	0.6	1.8
<b>15-59</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>1141</b>	<b>1087</b>	<b>2228</b>
	<b>29.9</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>57.3</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>50.8</b>
60-64	2	10	12	6	1	7	35	42	77
	0.4	2.3	2.7	1.5	0.2	1.7	0.8	1	1.8
65+	1	12	13	2	1	3	29	37	66
	0.2	2.7	3	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.5
<b>60+</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>143</b>
	<b>0.7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>3.3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>2237</b>	<b>2147</b>	<b>4384</b>
	<b>52.1</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>50.5</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100</b>

these respects, the social standing of a women is somewhat better in south India (Dreze and Sen, 1995). Besides, in the former group of state, female foeticides are also prevalent through systematic scientific method of amnio-centesis and other sex-determining mechanisms. A study in Bombay shows as many as 40,000 female foetus were aborted during 1984 (Joshi and Smith, 1987).

Among the Scheduled Tribes under study, the sex ratio seemed to vary from 921 among Damors to 996 among Bhils (Table 25). The sex ratio for the tribal population on the whole, was estimated as 960, indicating excess of males over females. However, this estimate appeared higher than that for the state of Rajasthan as a whole (911), and even India (927) which could be reflecting lesser gender disparity among Scheduled Tribes than among the population in

general. In fact, the tribal women show equal if not more active labour force participation in Rajasthan, and are not as secluded as others. However, the status of women is still not high or equal to men, as noticed in the southern states like Kerala.

### Economic Characteristics

**Crude Activity Rate:** In the present Scheduled Tribe population, the crude activity rate has been estimated as 35.9 percent (Table 25). Moreover, whereas the estimate for males is 49.1, that for females is found much lower at 22.2 percent, thereby indicating that, men are the principal earners among the Scheduled Tribes of Rajasthan, and female labour - force participation is rather low. However, tribal women are seen engaged in a number of household activities

throughout the day. Individually as well, similar gender gap is noticed in all the tribes studied, although among Sahariayas, active labour force participation by women is higher than among others.

The percentage of main workers in the Rajasthan state in 1991 (Table 25), stood at 31.6 percent, whereas the percentage of non-workers was quite high at 61.1 percent. About 7 percent of the total population were marginal workers. There is a wide gender difference in the work force participation too, as the percentage of female main workers was only 13.1 percent as against 48.5 percent of male main workers. Table 25 also shows that the bulk of the workers are engaged in cultivation (58.8 percent). At the All-India level, the percentage of main workers engaged in cultivation was 38.8 percent in 1991 (Census of India, 1991). However, variation is evident when the place of residence is taken into consideration. That is, whereas in rural areas of Rajasthan, the majority are engaged in cultivation (71.0 percent), in urban areas, the single largest section of workers seems to be engaged in other services (26.7 percent) followed by trade and commerce (21.5 percent).

**Occupational Characteristics of Husband:**

The principal occupation of men in the present Scheduled Tribe population overall, appears to be agricultural and/or casual labour (50.1 percent), followed by cultivation (39.9 percent). Whereas only 6.3 percent of husbands are

engaged in the service sector, only a negligible 0.8 percent seems to pursue petty business activities like small shops. Thus, almost all husbands are economically active, leaving only 0.9 percent as economically inactive. This implies that men are the principal earners among the Scheduled Tribe population studied. At the individual tribal level too, such trends are seen amongst all excepting Minas (Table 26). Among Minas, the overwhelming majority of husbands are engaged in cultivation, their traditional occupation (85.5 percent), while only 1.5 percent are agricultural/casual labourers. In fact, such labour is considered as an improper vocation amongst them. But among others, small land holdings, adverse weather conditions (drought condition due to absence of timely rainfall), poor irrigation facilities, difficult terrain have made agriculture not so viable causing them to look for other alternatives, mainly in the form of agricultural/ casual labour. Often they migrate en masse from their resident areas to other districts, even adjoining states, where there is a great demand for labour.

**Occupational Characteristics of Wife :** As can be seen in Table 26, the majority of the wives (respondents) are economically inactive (58.8 percent). This is so, because most of the work done by womenfolk among the present Scheduled Tribe population, fall outside the purview of gainful economic activity. The traditional work load of women, from housekeeping, to rearing

**Table 25: Measures of population composition among Scheduled Tribes of Rajasthan**

Measures of Population Composition	Sahariyas	Minas	Bhils	Kathodis	Damors	Garasias	Total	Rajasthan <sup>1</sup>	Kerala <sup>1</sup>	India <sup>1</sup>
<i>Dependency Ratios</i>										
Young Age	1137	860	1035	649	735	652	904			
Dependency Ratio (YADR)										
Old Age	98	60	44	31	105	40	64			
Dependency Ratio (OADR)										
Total	1235	920	1079	680	840	692	968			
Dependency Ratio (TDR)										
Index of Aging	85.9	69.6	42.2	47.3	142.9	60.6	77.0			
Sex Ratio	936	953	996	974	921	981	960	911	1036	927
<i>Crude Activity Rate</i>										
Male	46.4	47.8	45.3	59.8	48.2	59.9	49.1			
Female	39.8	33.4	1.8	29.1	14.8	0.5	22.2			
Total	43.2	40.8	23.6	44.6	32.2	30.5	35.9			
<i>Crude Literacy Rate</i>										
Male	11.8	34.6	17.2	22.2	39.0	8.2	22.2			
Female	4.2	8.4	4.8	13.2	10.5	-	6.4			
Total	8.2	21.8	11.0	17.8	25.3	4.2	14.5			

<sup>1</sup>1991 estimates

children, helping in various agricultural activities (except ploughing), tending cattle etc., even though take up their whole day, these are not considered as gainful ones, i.e., wage earnings ones. However, a considerable percentage – about 25 percent, are also found to be agricultural/casual labourers, mainly on account of Sahariya and Kathodi women, who join the labour force along with their husbands, often moving out of villages accompanying them. In fact, as much as 83.5 percent Sahariya women are observed engaged in agricultural/casual labour. It appears that on one hand, these women bear the burden of early and frequent childbearing, take care of the household, on the other hand, they also have to undergo the hardship of an agricultural/casual labourer. While the percentage seems considerable among Kathodis too (30 percent), it is much lower among Damors (15 percent), and negligible among Minas and Garasias (less than 5 percent). As in case of men, more Mina women (55.5 percent) than others are engaged in cultivation.

### Income

Income (annual household income) distribution of tribal households show that the majority (53.2 percent) fall in the Rs. 10,000 and below slab. Whereas 22.1 percent tribal households are noticed at the next income slab of Rs. 10,001-20,000, very low percentages are seen at the higher slabs (below 10 percent).

Individually as well, the same scenario prevails, except in case of Minas, who mostly own relatively large agricultural land and income, thereby having better economic standing. The highest percentage of households (34 percent) in this tribe is seen at the high-income slab of Rs. 50,001-1,00,000. And, about 17 percent of Mina households are found having even higher annual income (Rs. 1,00,000 and above). On the other hand, in case of other Scheduled tribes studied, only a negligible percentage of households are seen having an annual income above Rs. 30,000 (Table 26). It may be mentioned that, the overwhelming majority of the Kathodi households (92 percent) seem to have relatively very low annual income of Rs. 10,000 and below, which they earn mostly from casual labour.

### *Cultivable Landholding of Household:*

Table 26 reveals that the majority of Scheduled Tribe households have 1-5 kanals (8 kanals = 1

acre) of land. Whereas a few 2.2 percent own more than 50 kanals of land, on account of Minas, some households have also been found landless (7.4 percent). Individually, a considerable segment of households among Sahariyas as well as Kathodis (21 percent in each) were noticed landless, which might be one of the reasons behind their migration as labourers. Five percent Damor households have also been observed not having any cultivable land. As mentioned earlier, among Minas, there are no landless households and 10 percent of households own more than 50 kanals of land.

### Educational Characteristics

Education appears to be one of the most important factors influencing the demographic profile of a country/state/population. The important vital events, fertility and mortality (particularly infant mortality – a development indicator as well), vary with the educational attainment of a population/community.

**Literacy Rate:** The state of Rajasthan is educationally one of the most backward states in India in spite of the government efforts of opening educational institutions and providing other factors for educating people. Only 39 percent of the population (age 7 years and above) have been found literate in the Census, 1991, as compared to 52 percent in the whole country, and 90 percent in the state of Kerala. The crude literacy rate for the present Scheduled Tribe population, on the whole, despite concerted efforts of government and non-governmental organizations is found a dismal 14 percent, with a large range of difference (4.2 among Garasias to 25.3 percent among Damors) existing between individual tribal groups.

There also seems to be a wide gender gap in literacy, with only 20.4 percent of females as against 55.0 percent of males being literate. In fact, the state occupied the last position according to the ranking of major states of India with respect to 1991 female literacy. Among the Scheduled Tribes studied, the same picture is revealed as well, with only 6.4 percent of females being literate, as against 22.2 percent of males (Table 26). Individually, in case of male population, the highest crude literacy rate is noticed among Damors (39.0) followed by Minas (34.6), while the least is seen among Garasias (8.2). In case of female population, while Kathodis

show a crude literacy rate of 13.2 percent, among Garasias none is found literate.

Literacy among women can serve as a major pointer towards assessing their status to a large extent. There is no doubt that the Scheduled tribe womenfolk in Rajasthan are still burdened with ignorance. However, different schemes and projects have been launched for improvement in the education scenario in Rajasthan. Universal primary education, expansion of educational facilities with stress on girls' and adult education have been given priority. Free education up to college level is being provided to girls in the state. Distribution of books for girl students from class I to VIII is one of these. The *Lok Jumbish*, *Shiksha Karmi* Project and *Guru Mitra Jojna*, are being implemented in the state with a view to attain proper co-ordination between formal and non-formal education. For encouraging girl's education, *Saraswati Jojna* is being implemented with the help of educated women in the villages. The Directorate of Literacy and Continuing Education is also conducting Non-formal Education (NFE) Programmes along with literacy programmes in the chain of universal elementary education.

***Educational Characteristics of Husband:***

As seen in Table 26, about 82 percent of Scheduled Tribe husbands studied are illiterate. At the individual tribal level, the percentage of literate husbands varied from a low of 6.1 percent among Kathodis to 39.0 percent among Damors. Among Minas too, the literacy among husbands is relatively high (30 percent). The educational level of husbands also varies substantially across the tribal groups. At the higher secondary level, which seems to be the highest level of attainment, in the present Scheduled Tribe population, 4.5 percent Minas and only 0.5 percent Bhil husbands have been noticed. Husbands of respondents belonging to other tribes do not seem to have reached this level. Among Bhils and Garasias, even a matriculate husband is absent, whereas 10 percent Damor husbands appear to have attained the same educational level. For the Scheduled Tribe population on the whole, only 1.1 and 2.2 percent of husbands have been noticed in the higher secondary and high school slabs.

***Educational Characteristics of Wife:*** The picture is still more dismal in case of educational attainments of wives, with 98 percent of them being illiterate, on the whole. Individually, the

percentage of illiterate wives varies from 88 percent among Damors to nearly cent percent or absolutely cent percent among others (Table 26). Even among literate wives, very few have studied beyond middle level, where the percentage returned by Damors is the highest (at 8 percent). Only among Minas, 1 percent wives seem to have gone beyond middle level.

***Age of Marriage of Husband:*** In the present Scheduled Tribe population overall, only about 9 percent of husbands have got married at 21 years or beyond, the legally permissible age at marriage for males in India. A considerable chunk of them seems to have got married at a very young of below 15 years (31.6 percent). The percentage of men marrying at the legally permissible age of 21 years and beyond seems to be the highest among Bhils (42), followed by Kathodis (23). At the other end, the percentages of child marriages (below 15 years) seem quite high among Minas (77 percent) and Sahariyas (62.6 percent).

The mean age of marriage of husbands varies from a low of 13.0 years among Minas, 13.8 years among Sahariyas to 19.1 years among Bhils. The estimate for the present Scheduled tribe population overall, is 16.3 years (Table 26), way below the legally permissible age at marriage for Indian males.

***Age at Marriage of Wife :*** As in case of men, most of the women too (96 percent) seem to have got married by the age 18 years, the legally permissible age at marriage for Indian women. Besides, more than half of the women (53.3 percent) seem to have got married by the age of 14 years. At the individual level, marriages of the girl children (below 15 years) seem to be more prevalent among Sahariyas and Minas than among others (Table 26).

The mean age at marriage of women is the present Scheduled Tribe population overall, is very low at 13.7 years, indicating early marriage, perhaps cutting short their educational opportunities and early childbearing as well as more children. Individually, it ranges from 10 years among Minas to 16 years among Damors and Bhils. It appears that such low female age at marriage among Scheduled tribe population in Rajasthan expands their reproductive life and enhances the risk associated with early and frequent childbirth.

***Age of Menarche:*** In the present Scheduled Tribe population, most of the women (83 percent) seem to have experienced the onset of menarche,

**Table 26: Percent distribution of some independent determinants among Scheduled Tribes of Rajasthan**

<i>Independent determinants</i>	<i>Sahariyas</i>	<i>Minas</i>	<i>Bhils</i>	<i>Kathodis</i>	<i>Damors</i>	<i>Garasias</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Occupation of Husband</i>							
Economically Inactive	2	4	2	-	-	-	8
	1.1	2.0	1.0	-	-	-	0.9
Agricultural/Casual Labour	140	3	119	85	46	57	450
	74.9	1.5	60.1	85.9	46.0	57.0	50.9
Cultivation	31	171	63	11	41	36	353
	16.6	85.5	31.8	11.1	41.0	36.0	39.9
Petty Business	1	4	6	2	3	1	17
	0.5	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	0.8
Service	13	18	8	1	10	6	56
	7.0	9.0	4.0	1.0	10.0	6.0	6.3
<i>Occupation of Wife</i>							
Economically Inactive	24	86	192	54	77	96	529
	12.0	43.0	96.0	54.0	77.0	96.0	58.8
Agricultural/Casual Labour	167	1	6	30	15	3	222
	83.5	0.5	3.0	30.0	15.0	3.0	24.7
Cultivation	3	111	-	16	7	1	138
	1.5	55.5	-	16.0	7.0	1.0	15.3
Petty Business	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Service	6	2	2	-	1	-	11
	3.0	1.0	1.0	-	1.0	-	1.2
<i>Income (in Rs. per annum)</i>							
0-10000	57	4	164	92	78	84	479
	28.5	2.0	82.0	92.0	78.0	84.0	53.2
10001-20000	114	17	29	8	19	12	199
	57.0	18.5	14.5	8.0	19.0	12.0	22.1
20001-30000	28	36	6	-	2	3	75
	14.0	18.0	3.0	-	2.0	3.0	8.3
30001-40000	-	8	-	-	-	-	8
	-	4.0	-	-	-	-	0.9
40001-50000	-	34	-	-	1	-	35
	-	17.0	-	-	1.0	-	3.9
50001-100000	1	68	1	-	-	1	71
	0.5	34.0	0.5	-	-	1.0	7.9
100000+	-	33	-	-	-	-	33
	-	16.5	-	-	-	-	3.7
<i>Cultivable Landholding (in kanals)</i>							
0	41	-	-	21	5	-	67
	20.5	-	-	21.0	5.0	-	7.4
1-5	89	15	139	74	46	79	442
	44.5	7.5	69.5	74.0	46.0	79.0	49.1
6-10	38	42	46	5	27	14	172
	19.0	21.0	23.0	5.0	27.0	14.0	19.1
11-15	19	40	12	-	8	1	80
	9.5	20.0	6.0	-	8.0	1.0	8.9
16-20	12	33	3	-	11	1	60
	6.0	16.5	1.5	-	11.0	1.0	6.7
21-25	1	24	-	-	2	3	30
	0.5	12.0	-	-	2.0	3.0	3.3
26-50	-	26	-	-	1	2	29
	-	13.0	-	-	1.0	2.0	3.2
51+	-	20	-	-	-	-	20
	-	10.0	-	-	-	-	2.2
<i>Educational Level of Husband</i>							
Illiterate	166	140	173	93	61	91	724
	88.8	70.0	87.4	93.9	61.0	91.0	81.9
Literate	21	60	25	6	39	9	160
	11.2	30.0	12.6	6.1	39.0	9.0	18.1
Primary	11	9	10	3	11	4	48
	5.9	4.5	5.1	3.0	11.0	4.0	5.4

**Table 26: Contd...**

<i>Independent determinants</i>	<i>Sahariyas</i>	<i>Minas</i>	<i>Bhils</i>	<i>Kathodis</i>	<i>Damors</i>	<i>Garasias</i>	<i>Total</i>
Middle	7	37	14	2	18	5	83
	3.7	18.5	7.1	2.0	18.0	5.0	9.4
High School	3	5	-	1	10	-	19
	1.6	2.5	-	1.0	10.0	-	2.2
Higher Secondary School	-	9	1	-	-	-	10
	-	4.5	0.5	-	-	-	1.1
<i>Educational Level of Wife</i>							
Illiterate	199	196	200	99	88	100	882
	99.5	98.0	100.0	99.0	88.0	100.0	98.0
Literate	1	4	-	1	12	-	18
	0.5	2.0	-	1.0	12.0	-	2.0
Primary	1	1	-	-	4	-	6
	0.5	0.5	-	-	4.0	-	0.7
Middle	-	1	-	1	8	-	10
	-	0.5	-	1.0	8.0	-	1.1
High School	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	-	0.5	-	-	-	-	0.1
Higher Secondary School	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	-	0.5	-	-	-	-	0.1
<i>Age at Marriage of Husband (in yrs.)</i>							
6-10	7	37	-	-	-	-	44
	3.7	18.5	-	-	-	-	5.0
11-12	47	49	2	-	-	-	98
	25.1	24.5	1.0	-	-	-	11.1
13-14	63	68	4	1	-	1	137
	33.7	34.0	2.0	1.0	-	1.0	15.5
15-16	52	32	22	10	5	29	150
	27.8	16.0	11.1	10.1	5.0	29.0	17.0
17-18	14	5	54	35	58	42	208
	7.5	2.5	27.3	35.4	58.0	42.0	23.5
19-20	3	5	74	30	35	23	170
	1.6	2.5	37.4	30.3	35.0	23.0	19.2
21-29	1	4	42	23	2	5	77
	0.5	2.0	42.4	23.2	2.0	5.0	8.7
Mean Age at Marriage of Husband (in yrs.)	13.84	13.04	19.09	18.81	18.26	17.56	16.31
<i>Age at Marriage of Wife (in yrs.)</i>							
6-10	69	120	-	-	-	-	189
	34.5	60.0	-	-	-	-	21.0
11-12	65	43	10	4	-	1	123
	32.5	21.5	5.0	4.0	-	1.0	13.7
13-14	56	27	32	15	4	34	168
	28.0	13.5	16.0	15.0	4.0	34.0	18.7
15-16	9	8	83	53	62	49	264
	4.5	4.0	41.5	53.0	62.0	49.0	29.3
17-18	-	-	46	26	33	13	118
	-	-	23.0	26.0	33.0	3.0	13.1
19-20	-	2	20	1	1	3	27
	-	1.0	10.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	3.0
21-29	1	-	9	1	-	-	11
	0.5	-	4.5	1.0	-	-	1.2
Mean Age at Marriage of Wife (in yrs.)	11.5	10.3	16.2	15.7	16.1	15.2	13.7
<i>Age at Menarche of Woman (in yrs.)</i>							
9-10	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
	-	-	-	1.0	1.0	-	0.2
11-12	30	41	30	16	15	12	144
	15.0	20.5	15.0	16.0	15.0	12.0	16.0
13-14	170	158	166	82	84	86	746
	85.0	79.0	83.0	82.0	84.0	86.0	82.9

**Table 26: Contd...**

<i>Independent determinants</i>	<i>Sahariyas</i>	<i>Minas</i>	<i>Bhils</i>	<i>Kathodis</i>	<i>Damors</i>	<i>Garasias</i>	<i>Total</i>
15-16	-	1	3	1	-	2	7
	-	0.5	1.5	1.0	-	2.0	0.8
17-18	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	-	-	0.5	-	-	-	0.1
19-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Mean age at Menarche (in yrs.)</i>	12.92	12.90	13.08	13.06	12.96	13.08	12.99
<i>Mean age at Menopause (in yrs.)</i>	44.26	44.36	43.77	43.23	43.78	43.64	43.99
<i>Educational Facility Available</i>							
None	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	0.7
Primary	103	127	107	-	-	-	337
	51.5	63.5	53.5	-	-	-	37.4
Primary/Middle	22	32	19	100	100	100	373
Schools	11.0	16.0	9.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	41.4
Primary/Middle/High	-	41	40	-	-	-	81
Schools	-	20.5	20.0	-	-	-	9.0
Prim./Mid./High/Hr. Sec. Schools	69	-	34	-	-	-	103
	34.5	-	17.0	-	-	-	11.4
<i>Approach to Village (Road)</i>							
Kuchcha	48	139	-	25	-	-	212
	24.0	69.5	-	25.0	-	-	23.6
Pucca	152	61	200	75	100	100	688
	76.0	30.5	100.0	75.0	100.0	100.0	76.4
<i>Post/Telegraph Facility Available</i>							
No	31	-	1	-	-	-	32
	15.5	-	0.5	-	-	-	3.6
Yes	169	200	199	100	100	100	868
	84.5	100.0	99.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	96.4
<i>Telephone Facility Available</i>							
No	31	20	-	25	-	-	76
	15.5	10.0	-	25.0	-	-	8.4
Yes	169	180	200	75	100	100	824
	84.5	90.0	100.0	75.0	100.0	100.0	91.6
<i>Radio/Newspaper/Television Available</i>							
No	-	12	-	-	-	-	12
	-	6.0	-	-	-	-	1.3
Yes	200	188	200	100	100	100	888
	100.0	94.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.7
<i>Medical Facility Available</i>							
None	62	-	-	-	-	-	62
	31.0	-	-	-	-	-	6.9
Sub-Centre/Medical	14	34	165	26	76	100	415
Aid Centre	7.0	17.0	82.5	26.0	76.0	100.0	46.1
PHC /Regd. Pvt.	46	126	20	74	24	-	290
Practitioner	23.0	63.0	10.0	74.0	24.0	-	32.2
Community Health	78	40	15	-	-	-	133
Centre/Hospital etc.	39.0	20.0	7.5	-	-	-	14.8
<i>Housing Conditions</i>							
Type of House							
Kuchcha	200	79	193	96	99	100	767
	100.0	39.5	96.5	96.0	99.0	100.0	85.2
Pucca	-	121	7	4	1	-	133
	-	60.5	3.5	4.0	1.0	-	13.6
<i>Separate Cattleshed Present</i>							
No	135	39	35	85	86	88	468
	67.5	19.5	17.5	85.0	86.0	88.0	52.0
Yes	65	161	165	15	14	12	432
	32.5	80.5	82.5	15.0	14.0	12.0	48.0

**Table 26: Cond...**

<i>Independent determinants</i>	<i>Sahariyas</i>	<i>Minas</i>	<i>Bhils</i>	<i>Kathodis</i>	<i>Damors</i>	<i>Garasias</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Separate Kitchen Present</i>							
No	200	137	199	99	99	100	834
	100.0	68.5	99.5	99.0	99.0	100.0	92.7
Yes	-	63	1	1	1	-	66
	-	31.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	-	7.3
<i>Ventilation Condition</i>							
Unsatisfactory	193	141	192	97	99	100	822
	96.5	70.5	96.0	97.0	99.0	100.0	91.3
Satisfactory	7	59	8	3	1	-	78
	3.5	29.5	4.0	3.0	1.0	-	8.7
<i>General Sanitary Condition</i>							
Unsatisfactory	178	95	153	99	99	100	724
	89.0	47.5	76.5	95.0	99.0	100.0	80.4
Satisfactory	22	105	47	1	1	-	176
	11.0	52.5	23.5	1.0	1.0	-	19.6
<i>Number of Rooms Present</i>							
1	177	37	169	87	52	67	589
	88.5	18.5	84.5	87.0	52.0	67.0	65.4
2	23	55	20	6	27	24	155
	11.5	27.5	10.0	6.0	27.0	24.0	17.2
3-9	-	108	11	7	21	9	56
	-	54.0	5.5	7.0	21.0	9.0	17.3
<i>Source of Water Supply</i>							
River	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	0.2
Well/Tank	25	57	76	-	-	-	158
	12.5	28.5	38.0	-	-	-	17.6
Handpump	175	143	122	100	100	100	740
	87.5	71.5	61.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	82.2
<i>Refuse Disposal to Nearby Surroundings</i>							
Yes	196	100	85	70	37	78	566
	98.0	50.0	42.5	70.0	37.0	78.0	62.9
No	4	100	115	30	63	22	334
	2.0	50.0	57.5	30.0	63.0	22.0	37.1
<i>Power Supply Present</i>							
No	200	85	197	100	100	100	782
	100.0	42.5	98.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	86.9
Yes	-	115	3	-	-	-	118
	-	57.5	1.5	-	-	-	13.1

at 13-14 years, as is expected in hot climatic regions. Only a few women have had the onset beyond 14 years. Individually too, similar picture is seen. The mean age at menarche appears to vary within a very narrow range across the tribal groups – 12.9 among Minas and Sahariyas to 13.1 years among Bhils, Kathodis and Garasias. The estimate for the population overall is 13.0 years (Table 26).

**Age of Menopause:** The present Scheduled Tribe women population, on the whole, have registered a mean age at menopause of 44 years (Table 26). Across the individual tribes, the age at menopause varies within a very narrow range of 43 years (among Kathodis) to 44 years (among others).

#### **Amenities Available (in the Study Area)**

**Educational Facilities Available:** In the present Scheduled Tribe population, the largest segment of respondents (41 percent) seem to have primary/middle schools within 5 km of their residence (Table 26). While another 9 percent have primary/middle/high schools near vicinity, around 11 percent have these as well as higher secondary schools near their residence. At the individual Scheduled Tribe level, high schools are not present within 5 km of residence of Sahariya, Kathodi, Damor and Garasia respondents. And, higher secondary schools are accessible to Mina, Kathodi, Damor and Garasia Tribes beyond 5 km.

### Communication Facilities Available

**Approach to Village (Road):** The majority of the Scheduled Tribe respondents (76 percent) have a pucca road within 5 km of their residence. However, a considerable percentage (24 percent) does not enjoy this facility and are connected only by a kuchcha road (Table 26).

**Post/Telegraph Facility Available:** Most of the Scheduled Tribe populations studied have access to post office facility within 5 km of their residence (96 percent). Individually too, the same picture is seen (Table 26).

**Telephone Facility Available:** With regard to this facility as well, similar picture as mentioned above is seen, i.e., most of the respondents have this facility within 5 km of their residence (91.6 percent) (Table 26).

**Radio/Newspaper/Television Available:** Almost all the respondents (99 percent) seem to have radio and/or newspaper and/or television. Individual groups have also registered the same (Table 26).

**Medical Facility Available:** Improvements in the health care system have immediate effect in reducing infant, child, and maternal deaths. Improvements in the public health are attributed to social and economic variables, ranging from significant improvements in the health delivery systems and increasing ability of individual household to deal with health care privately.

The largest segment of respondents (46 percent), seem to have access to Medical Aid Center/Sub-centre (within 5 km of residence). While another 32 percent have an easy access to a Primary Health Centre/Registered Medical Practitioner, and about 15 percent to a Community Health Centre/Hospital, about 7 percent does not seem to have any medical facility within 5 km of their residence. This is solely an account of Sahariyas, amongst whom nearly one-third of respondents do not have this facility within 5 km of their residence (Table 26). Registered private doctors or Government ones, are not easily accessible to majority of Damors and all Garasias investigated in the present study.

### Household Amenities

Following is a discussion on the percentage distribution of household amenities among the Scheduled Tribes studied, even though homogeneity is seen in case of certain amenities across groups.

**Type of House:** The majority of the Scheduled Tribes (85 percent) live in kuchcha houses, usually made of mud, stone with or without a bamboo framework with thatched or tiled (made of clay) roof. Only about 14 percent are living in pucca houses, but mostly because of the Minas (Table 26). In fact, the majority of them seem to have pucca houses, (61 percent) unlike other Scheduled Tribes. It may however, be noted that none of houses of Scheduled Tribes studied have separate bathroom/lavatory facility.

**Separate Cattle shed:** Overall, 52 percent of Scheduled Tribe respondents live in houses with separate cattle shed. At the individual level, while the majority among Minas and Bhils has separate cattle shed, the opposite is noticed among others (Table 26).

**Separate Kitchen:** About 93 percent of Scheduled Tribe respondents do not have separate kitchen, while the rest have this facility. This is mainly because of the Minas, amongst whom nearly one-third has separate kitchen facility (Table 26).

**Ventilation Condition:** The overwhelming majority of Scheduled Tribes studied (91.3 percent) seem to be living in ill-ventilated houses, and only a miniscule minority about 9 percent have houses with satisfactory ventilation, that too on account of the Minas (Table 26). Amongst them, a considerable segment, about 30 percent has well-ventilated houses. The state of ventilation in houses belonging to other tribes is unsatisfactory.

**General Sanitary Condition:** Overall, the general sanitary condition is quite unsatisfactory in the houses of majority of respondents (80 percent). Individual Scheduled Tribes also register the same trend, excepting Minas, amongst whom about 53 percent live in houses with satisfactory general sanitary condition (Table 26).

**Number of Rooms:** The majority of the Scheduled Tribes also seem to be living in one-roomed houses (65 percent). Individually speaking, similar picture is revealed amongst all, excepting in case of Minas. The economically well off Minas, register that 54 percent have relatively large living space in terms of 3-9 rooms, and only 19 percent are living in one-roomed houses (Table 26).

**Source of Water Supply:** In the present Scheduled Tribe population, the majority of households (82 percent) seem to draw water from

hand pumps. And, while wells/tanks provide drinking water to about 18 percent, only negligible proportion of respondents seem to fetch water from river. Individually too, the same picture is noticed, except in case of Kathodis, Damors and Garasias, amongst whom the hand pump is the only source of drinking water (Table 26).

**Refuse Disposal to Nearby Surroundings:** In the present study population, as much as 63 percent seem to dispose off the refuse at immediate or nearby surroundings thus polluting the atmosphere. Individually too, the same picture is seen except in case of Damors, Bhils and Minas. Whereas in the first two, the majority are disposing off refuse away from the settlements, among the last one only one-half is doing so (Table 26).

**Power Supply:** As in case of other facilities, even in respect of this facility too, similar picture has emerged. That is, the majority of the Scheduled Tribe households studied are without power supply (87 percent), and only a minor proportion is enjoying the same (13 percent), which again is mostly because of Minas of Sawai Madhopur (Table 26). Amongst them, the majority of respondents have power supply (58 percent) in their houses although those without the facility are also considerable (43 percent).

### CONCLUSION

It may be evaluated from the foregoing observations that the age composition of the population appears young, typical of developing regions, including India, with relatively high fertility, and falling mortality. Nearly 46 percent of the total population is under 15 years, with their reproductive years still in the future, thereby highlighting clear potential for population growth. Persons of age 60 years and over constitute only 3.3 percent of the population. The population pyramid hence, is more or less conical shaped with a slight constriction at the base. This also bears resemblance with the Indian one.

However, inter-population variations exist in the age structure. Sahariyas as well as Bils seem to have high proportion of child population in ages 0-14 years, above 50 percent. They also show wide-based population pyramids. In fact, the relatively high proportion of child population (46 percent) among all the Tribal on the whole, is due to these estimates. But, among Damors and Garasias, the proportion of young population is

lower (40 percent) and the pyramid shows a slightly constricted base, indicating probably a recent marginal decline in fertility. The proportion of population below 15 years, among Kathodis, is still lower, 38.6 percent. And, the constriction at the base of population pyramid is more prominent, suggesting a decline in fertility in recent years.

The comparison shows that the tribal populations of Rajasthan have higher values as compared to the percentages of young population in state of Kerala 29 percent, and in India as a whole, it is 36 percent.

Because of the young age structure, most of the dependency load in the present population (960) is due to the large young age dependency, while the old age dependency comprises only a small part of the total dependency, as noticed in many developing countries, including India. The index of ageing is also therefore, low. The same pattern is seen in each of the individual population group as well.

The sex ratio is 960, which indicates excess of males over females - a characteristic of developing regions. However, this sex ratio is higher than the sex ratios of 929, and 910 observed for India and the state of Rajasthan (respectively) in 1991 Census, but is lower than the ratio for Kerala (1036).

The literacy rate in the population is 14.5 percent. But, there is a wide gender gap in literacy, with 22.2 percent of males as against only 6.4 percent of females in the total population being literate. These estimates are quite lower than the corresponding ones for India as a whole (64, 39 percent, respectively), and Kerala (94, 86 percent, respectively) with high level of social development. At the individual population level, wide disparities exist, with the literacy rate varying from 4.2 percent (in Garasias) to 25.3 percent (in Damors), particularly due to the differentials in female literacy. A gender difference in activity rate is also noticeable in the study population, with only 22 percent of females as against 49 percent of males in the active work force.

The mean age at marriage is 18 years for females and 22 years for males, but the Tribal populations of Rajasthan have shown low mean age at marriage for females (13.7 years) and males on the whole (16.3 years).

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