

Socio-demographic Characteristics of the Baigas of Samnapur Block of Dindori District, Madhya Pradesh

A.N. Sharma and Pankaj Dwivedi

Department of Anthropology, Dr. H.S. Gour University, Sagar 470 001, Madhya Pradesh India

KEYWORDS Baigas. Dependency Ratio. Birth Rate. Mortality Rate. Madhya Pradesh

ABSTRACT The paper presents few aspects of socio-demographic characteristics of the Baigas of Samnapur block of Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh. The finding indicate that majority of population is illiterate and thus the situation demands some sort of educational programmes for the awareness and upliftment of educational status among them. The population indices are lagging behind the state population. The fertility and mortality levels are high, the infant mortality rate being particularly higher. The dependency ratio is very high indicating a large number of dependents in population, thus requiring some attention of the family welfare institutions. The high mortality rate is prevalent due to frequent occurrence of different diseases, however some deaths have also resulted from delivery complications. Acceptance of family welfare is almost nil. Under these circumstances it is highly desirable to take step for reducing infant mortality by improving mother and child health service and by increasing awareness regarding hygienic conditions at the time of delivery or else wise. Also, steps should be taken to increase acceptance of family welfare devices.