

Chapter 3

SOCIAL BACKGROUND OF THE RESPONDENTS

This chapter analyzes the social background of the youth (respondents) in the four villages. “The opinions, statements, propositions and systems of ideas are not taken at their face value, but are interpreted in the light of the situation of the one who expresses them” (Mannheim 1936). Keeping this logic in mind in the present research it is tried to look into the social background of the respondents. The socio-cultural background of the youth includes age group, sex, marital status, income, occupation, caste, community, religion, language, educational qualification, family composition, household status, religious activities, marriage activities, mass media etc. One’s age, sex, marital status, income, occupation, education etc determine his or her attitudes and values. The youth of different age, sex, marital status, income and occupation use mobile phones. Mobile use pattern varies on the basis of youth’s age, sex, income, occupation, education, marital status etc. Some youths use high priced mobile sets and some can afford only low priced sets; some youths talk on mobile anytime and some talk sometimes; some use mobile because of genuine needs and some keep it as status symbol. Hence, the mobile use varies on the age, sex, income, education, occupation and marital status of the youths. So, in this chapter an attempt has been made to analyze the use of mobile phone among the youths of different age groups, sex groups, income, occupation, education, marital status etc.

AGE

In the course of life, a person gathers varied experiences starting from childhood to old age. One’s thoughts, ideas, actions, attitudes and even ways of life differ time to time along with different stages of life from childhood to maturity and from maturity to old age. This study analyzes how and for what purposes rural youths of different age groups use the mobile phones. The following table shows the age groups of the respondents in the four villages:

Table 3.1
Age Groups of the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Age Group	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated Village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated Village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC Village)	Rampur Gaon (ST Village)	
18-26 (Early Youth Age)	40 (58.83)	60 (68.18)	33 (39.75)	30 (49.18)	163 (54.33)
27-35 (Late Youth Age)	28 (41.17)	28 (31.82)	50 (60.25)	31 (50.82)	137 (45.67)
Total	68 (100)	88 (100)	83 (100)	61 (100)	300 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table depicts that of 300 respondents in the four villages, majority (54.33%) belong to the age group of 18-26 and the rest (45.67%) to the age group of 27-35. In Komar Khatowal and Charigaon villages, majority of respondents are in the age group of 18-26. On the other hand, both in Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon, majority of respondents belong to the age group of 27-35. Thus, majority of all the respondents as well as those from Komar Khatowal and Charigaon who have mobiles belong to the age group of 18-26 years. This means that though the early age youth (18-26) has more mobile users than the late youth age (27-35) in general and in the General castes and OBC in particular.

SEX

Different sex groups play different role in human society. Different sex groups use mobile phone differently in their day to day life. The following table shows the sex groups- male, female and Hijra by the use of mobile phone in the four villages:

Table 3.2
Sex wise Distribution of the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Sex of Respondent	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated Village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated Village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC Village)	Rampur Gaon (ST Village)	
Male	39 (57.35)	55 (62.5)	42 (50.61)	41 (67.22)	177 (59.00)
Female	28 (41.18)	33 (37.5)	41 (49.39)	20 (32.78)	122 (40.67)
Hijra	1 (1.47)	-	-	-	1 (0.33)
Total	68 (100)	88 (100)	83 (100)	61 (100)	300 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

Out of the total respondents majority (59%) is of males and the rest are female. Only one is Hijra. Majority of respondents in Komar Khatowal (57.35%) and

Charigaon, (62.5) half of those in Gorowal Chungi (50.61%) Gaon and two thirds of those in Rampur Gaon (67.22%) are male. Thus, in all, two thirds of the respondents are male, which indicates that less number of females than males in the villages. This means that there is gender gap in the category of youth in the villages. Hijra is a marginal case in the population.

MARITAL STATUS

The youths of different marital status may have different attitudes or opinion and may perform different roles in the society. On the basis of marital status of the youth, the use pattern and social functions of mobiles may be different. So, responses of the youths of different marital status have been shown in the following table:

Table 3.3
Marital Status of the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Marital Status	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated Village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated Village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC Village)	Rampur Gaon (ST Village)	
Married	18 (26.48)	23 (26.13)	26 (31.33)	13 (21.31)	80 (26.67)
Unmarried	48 (70.58)	64 (72.74)	53 (63.87)	47 (77.06)	212 (70.68)
Widow	1 (1.47)	-	-	1 (1.63)	2 (0.66)
Divorced	-	1 (1.13)	1 (1.20)	-	2 (0.66)
Deserted	-	-	1 (1.20)	-	1 (0.33)
Remarried	1 (1.47)	-	2 (2.40)	-	3 (1.00)
Total	68 (100)	88 (100)	83 (100)	61 (100)	300 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table reveals that over two thirds (70.68%) of the respondents are unmarried followed by married ones (26.67%). Only a few respondents are remarried (1%), widow (0.66%), divorced (0.66%) and deserted (0.33%). A large number of unmarried respondents are found in Rampur Gaon (77.06%) than in other three villages. Thus, more unmarried youths are in Rampur Gaon, followed by Charigaon and Komar Khatowal. This means that the SC youths married at the earliest among the social groups and the tribal youths married later than other groups, followed by the OBC and general caste groups.

AGE AT MARRIAGE

In Indian society age of 21 years is the legal age for marriage of males. After

the age of 21 one can marry legally. Of course, somebody is seen to sit in marriage before 21. The following table presents the age at marriage of the male respondents:

Table 3.4
Age at Marriage of the Male Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Age at Marriage of the Respondents	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated Village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated Village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC Village)	Rampur Gaon (ST Village)	
Below 21	2 (15.38)	1 (6.25)	2 (11.76)	-	5 (8.92)
21-25	9 (69.24)	4 (25.00)	10 (58.84)	3 (30.00)	26 (46.44)
26-30	2 (15.38)	9 (56.25)	4 (23.52)	7 (70.00)	22 (39.29)
31-35	-	2 (12.5)	1 (5.88)	-	3 (5.35)
Total	13(100)	16(100)	17(100)	10(100)	56(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table highlights that of total 56 male respondents, nearly half (46.44%) of them performed marriage at the age of 21-25 years, followed by 39.29 percent respondents who performed marriage at the age of 26-30 years. Of the respondents, 8.92 percent got married below 21 years of age and 5.35 percent at the age of 31-35. In Komar Khatowal over two thirds (69.24%) and in Gorowal Chungi above three fifths (58.84%) of the male respondents married at the age of 21-25 while over two thirds (70%) of the respondents married at the age of 26-30. Thus, majority of the respondents from Komar Khatowal and Gorowal Chungi Gaon married in the early youth age while those from Charigaon and Rampur Gaon married in the late youth age. This means that the general caste and SC respondents married in the early youth age while the OBC and tribal respondents married in the late youth age. The general caste and SC respondents have even child marriage in a significant proportion.

In case of females, legal age of marriage in India is the age of 18 years. The following table shows the age at marriage of the female respondents:

Table 3.5
Age at Marriage of the Female Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Age at Marriage of Female Respondents	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated Village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated Village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC Village)	Rampur Gaon (ST Village)	
Below 18	1 (20.00)	1 (14.28)	3 (33.33)	1 (33.33)	6 (25.00)
18-22	3 (60.00)	3 (42.87)	5 (55.56)	-	11 (45.84)
23-27	-	2 (28.57)	1 (11.11)	2 (66.67)	5 (20.83)
28-32	1 (20.00)	1 (14.28)	-	-	2 (8.33)
Total	5(100)	7(100)	9(100)	3(100)	24(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table indicates that out of the total 24 female respondents, over two fifths (45.84%) of them married at the age of 18-22 years, followed by those who married in the 18 years (25%). Of the total female respondents one fifth (20.83%) married at the age of 23-27. In Komar Khatowal (60%), Charigaon (42.87%) and Gorowal Chungi (55.56%), majority female respondents married at the age of 18-22 years constitute majority while in Rampur Gaon two thirds of them (66.67%) married at the age of 23-27 years. Thus, two thirds (66.67%) of the female respondents married in the early youth age (18-27), one fourth (25%) married before youthhood (below 18 years) and the rest married in the late youth age (28-32+years). More respondents from the tribal group married in the late youth age and more respondents from the general caste, OBC and SC groups married in the early youth age. One third, each of the SC and ST respondents have Child marriage, followed by one fifth of the general caste and over one tenth (14.28%) of the OBC respondents. This shows that the OBC and tribal females married in the late youth age.

In brief, more numbers of the male and female respondents married in the early youth age. Abaesides, more females than males have Child marriage. Thus, some gender gap reflects from the age at marriage among the respondents.

OCCUPATION

The mode of living of an individual and his behaviour and thinking largely depend upon his occupation. Affordability and use of mobile are affected by an

occupation. An individual may have two types of occupation: main and allied. The following table shows the main occupations of the respondents:

Table 3.6
Main Occupations among the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Main Occupation	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated Village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated Village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC Village)	Rampur Gaon (ST Village)	
Cultivation	12 (17.64)	10 (11.36)	17 (20.48)	14 (22.95)	53 (17.66)
Service	8 (11.76)	10 (11.36)	3 (3.61)	2 (3.27)	23 (7.66)
Business	10 (14.73)	19 (21.59)	38 (45.78)	8 (13.11)	75 (25.00)
Labour	5 (7.35)	7 (7.95)	13 (15.68)	24 (39.37)	49 (16.33)
Student	28 (41.17)	38 (43.20)	7 (8.43)	10 (16.39)	83 (27.69)
Housewife	5 (7.35)	4 (4.54)	5 (6.02)	3 (4.91)	17 (5.66)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

Regarding the main occupation of the respondents, the table shows that 27.69 percent of the respondents are students followed by business persons (25%). Besides, 17.66 percent are occupied with cultivation and 16.33 percent engaged in labours. A few engaged in service and housewives. In Komar Khatowal (41.17%) and Charigaon (43.20%) the largest numbers of respondents are students while it is labourers in Rampur Gaon (39.37%) and businessmen in Gorowal Chungi (45.78%).

Thus, education, business and labour engage the largest section of the general caste and OBC respondents, SC respondents and tribal respondents respectively.

Allied Occupation is an additional occupation of an individual. Like the main occupation it also gives economic and financial support to an individual. The allied occupation of the respondents is classified into ten categories in the following table:

Table 3.7
Allied Occupations among the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Allied Occupation	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated Village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated Village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC Village)	Rampur Gaon (ST Village)	
Grocery Shop	2 (25.00)	2 (10.52)	3 (27.27)	1 (25.00)	8 (19.06)
Pharmacy	1 (12.5)	1 (5.26)	-	-	2 (4.76)
Stationary Shop	-	6 (31.59)	-	-	6 (14.28)
Cloth Store	1 (12.5)	-	2 (18.18)	-	3 (7.14)
Handicraft Store	-	-	1 (09.09)	1 (25.00)	2 (4.76)
Electronic Shop	-	1 (5.26)	-	-	1 (2.38)
Cyber Café	-	2 (10.52)	-	-	2 (4.76)
Private Tuition	2 (25.00)	6 (31.59)	-	2 (50.00)	10 (23.80)
Vegetable Shop	2 (25.00)	1 (5.26)	5 (45.46)	-	8 (19.06)
Total	8(100)	19(100)	11(100)	4 (100)	42(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that 10 (23.80%) of total 42 respondents have private tuition as allied occupation, followed by grocery shop and vegetable shop each. Respondents are not more in the villages, which have pharmacy (4.76%), cloth store (7.14%), handicraft store (4.76%), electronic shop (2.38%) and cyber cafe (4.76%). The respondents are by and large distributed across the two broad categories of shopkeeping and private tuition in all the four villages.

INCOME

The social status of a person is, to a large extent, determined by income. Moreover, an individual is guided by income in regard to attitudes and style of life as well as use of mobile phone. So, table 3.8 shows the distribution of annual income of the BPL respondents:

Table 3.8
Annual Income of BPL Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Income Groups	No. of Youth				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated Village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated Village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC Village)	Rampur Gaon (ST Village)	
0-2828	21 (46.66)	25 (45.48)	37 (60.65)	22 (57.89)	105 (52.78)
2829-5657	14 (31.13)	17 (30.90)	14 (22.95)	9 (23.68)	54 (27.13)
5658-8486	6 (13.33)	7 (12.72)	6 (9.85)	2 (5.26)	21 (10.55)
8487-11315	4 (8.88)	6 (10.90)	4 (6.55)	5 (13.17)	19 (9.54)
Total	45 (100)	55(100)	61(100)	38 (100)	199 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that in all the villages most of the BPL respondents (79.89%) have income in the bracket of Rs 2828-5657. This pattern is true across the villages. Respondents are small in numbers who have income of Rs 5658-8486 (10.55%) and Rs 8487-11315 (9.54%). The APL income is quite different from BPL income of the respondents. The following table shows the APL income of the respondents:

Table 3.9
Annual Income of APL Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Income Groups	No. of Youth				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
11316-14144	4 (17.39)	3 (9.09)	5 (22.72)	4 (17.39)	16 (15.84)
14145-16973	5 (21.73)	5 (15.15)	3 (13.63)	6 (26.08)	19 (18.81)
16974-19802	1 (4.34)	7 (21.22)	4 (18.18)	1 (4.34)	13 (12.87)
19803-22631	6 (26.08)	5 (15.15)	6 (27.29)	7 (30.43)	24 (23.76)
Above 22632	7 (30.46)	13 (39.39)	4 (18.18)	5 (21.76)	29 (28.72)
Total	23 (100)	33(100)	22(100)	23(100)	101(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table reveals that more APL respondents have income of Rs above 22632 (28.72%). More APL respondents are in Komar Khatowal (30.46%) and Charigaon (39.39) while small number of the respondents in Gorowal Chungi (18.18%) and Rampur (21.76%) who has income of Rs above 22632.

CASTE

In India on the basis of caste one acquires higher or lower position. The respondents are classified into five caste categories as shown in the following table:

Table 3.10
Caste Categories among the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Caste Category	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
General Caste	62 (91.17)	5 (5.68)	-	-	67 (22.33)
OBC	6 (8.83)	83 (94.32)	-	-	89 (29.68)
Scheduled Caste	-	-	83 (100.00)	-	83 (27.66)
Scheduled Tribes	-	-	-	61 (100.00)	61 (20.33)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

Of the total respondents 89 (29.68%) are belong to OBCs, 83 (27.66%) to scheduled castes, 67 (22.33%) to General castes and 61 (20.33%) to Scheduled tribes. Two caste groups; namely General caste and OBCs are found both in the village Komar Khatowal and Charigaon. However, Komar Khatowal is dominated by General caste respondents (91.17%) and Charigaon dominated by the OBCs respondents (94.32%). Gorowal Chungi and Rampur have all the respondents from Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively. Thus, the respondents are by and large equal in number in the four villages, each having distinct category of respondents i.e. General castes, OBCs, SCs and Tribals.

COMMUNITY

The respondents are divided into nine - (i) Brahmin, (ii) Kalita, (iii) Chutia, (iv) Konch, (v) Keot, (vi) Koibortta, (vii) Ahom, (viii) Tea-tribes and (ix) Mishing. The following table depicts the different communities:

Table 3.11
Communities among the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Name of Community	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Brahmin	2 (2.94)	1 (1.13)	-	-	3 (1.00)
Kalita	61 (89.71)	4 (4.54)	-	-	65 (21.68)
Chutia	-	16 (18.19)	-	-	16 (5.33)
Konch	5 (7.35)	41 (46.59)	-	-	46 (15.35)
Keot	-	17 (19.33)	-	-	17 (5.66)
Koibortta	-	-	83 (100.00)	-	83 (27.66)
Ahom	-	9 (10.22)	-	-	9 (3.00)
Tea-tribe	-	-	-	02 (3.27)	2 (0.66)
Mishing	-	-	-	59 (96.73)	59 (19.66)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that 27.66 percent of total respondents belong to Koibortta (SC) community followed by the Kalita (General caste) which constitutes 21.68 percent. A few respondents belong to the Mishing (19.66%), and the Konch (15.35%) communities fewer belong to Keot (5.66%), Chutia (15.35%), Ahom (3%), Brahmin (1%) and Tea-tribes (0.66%) communities. There are three communities in Komar Khatowal including Brahmin, Kalita and Konch. The Kalita (89.71%) being the largest one. Six communities are found in Charigaon namely Konch (46.59%), Keot (19.33%), Chutia (18.19%), Ahom (10.22%), Kalita (4.54%) and Brahmin (1.13%). In Gorowal Chungi, all the respondents are from the Koibortta community. In Rampur Gaon, most of the respondents (96.73%) belong to the Mishing community and only 3.27 percent are from tea-tribes.

RELIGION

Religion moulds the attitudes and outlook of individuals. It binds together the

followers of a particular religion. The following table shows the different religions of the respondents:

Table 3.12
Religion among the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Religion	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Hinduism	68 (100.00)	88 (100.00)	83 (100.00)	59 (96.73)	298 (99.34)
Christianity	-	-	-	2 (3.27)	2 (0.66)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that of the total respondents, 298 (99.34%) are Hindu and only 0.66 percent are Christian. All the respondents from Komar Khatowal, Charigaon and Gorowal Chungi are Hindu while in Rampur Gaon 99.34 percent belong to Hindu and the rest (3.27%) belong to Christianity.

LANGUAGE

By learning different languages, people can achieve more knowledge and information relating to different societies, cultures and ways of life. The languages spoken by the respondents are categorized into (1) Assamese, (2) Assamese & Hindi, (3) Assamese & English, (4) Assamese, Hindi & English, (5) Assamese & other language/dialect etc. These are shown in the following table:

Table 3.13
Languages Spoken by the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Category of Language Spoken	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Assamese	30 (44.11)	39 (44.31)	56 (67.47)	26 (42.63)	151 (50.33)
Assamese, Hindi	17 (25.00)	25 (28.42)	24 (28.93)	10 (16.39)	76 (25.33)
Assamese, English	6 (8.82)	5 (5.68)	1 (1.20)	1 (1.63)	13 (4.33)
Assamese, Hindi, English	11 (16.19)	15 (17.05)	2 (2.40)	3 (4.91)	31 (10.33)
Assamese & Other language, dialect etc	4 (5.88)	4 (4.54)	-	21 (34.44)	29 (9.68)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table reveals that half of the respondents (50.33%) speak only Assamese; 25.33 percent Assamese and Hindi; 10.33 percent Assamese, Hindi and English; 9.68 percent speak Assamese and other language or dialect and only 4.33 percent speak Assamese and English. In all, more respondents speak only Assamese.

Mishing community gives equal importance to Assamese language and their dialect. So, in Rampur Gaon, 34.44 percent respondents use both Assamese and their own dialect. The Mishings are not proficient in languages like Hindi and English. Generally, this community resides in the interior places and the people of this community are not so educated.

EDUCATION

“Education Changes the horizon, standards and perspectives of people. The horizon acceptable to a person at one time in his life may, as a result of learning is highly unacceptable at another time (Cole & Cox 1968).” The following table shows the educational qualifications of the respondents:

Table 3.14
Educational Qualifications of the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Educational Qualification	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Illiterate	2 (2.94)	-	5 (6.02)	8 (13.11)	15 (05.00)
Primary School	6 (8.82)	12 (13.65)	26 (31.34)	14 (22.95)	58 (19.35)
Middle School	9 (13.23)	13 (14.78)	20 (24.09)	11 (18.03)	53 (17.66)
High School	12 (17.64)	14 (15.90)	11 (13.25)	13 (21.33)	50 (16.66)
Higher Secondary School	19 (27.97)	25 (28.42)	14 (16.88)	10 (16.39)	68 (22.68)
Graduation	12 (17.64)	17 (19.31)	6 (7.22)	5 (8.19)	40 (13.33)
Post Graduation	7 (10.29)	6 (6.81)	1 (1.20)	-	14 (4.66)
M.Phil/Ph.D	1 (1.47)	1 (1.13)	-	-	2 (0.66)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table indicates subsequently the respondents with the qualification upto higher secondary levels are more (22.68%), followed by those who have qualification upto primary school (19.35%), middle school (17.66%), high school level (16.66%) and Graduate level (13.33%). A few respondents are post graduate (4.66%), and M.Phil/Ph.D degree holders (0.66%).

More respondents from Komar Khatowal and Charigaon have achieved higher education while more respondents from Gorowal Chungi and Rampur are educated from primary to higher secondary school levels.

Types of Family

There are two types of families in the four villages i.e. Nuclear and Joint. The table 3.15 shows the respondents' types of family:

Table 3.15
Types of Respondents Family
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Family	No. of Households				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Nuclear	59 (86.76)	83 (94.32)	77 (92.77)	49 (80.32)	268 (89.34)
Joint	9 (13.24)	5 (5.68)	6 (7.23)	12 (19.68)	32 (10.66)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table indicates that most of the families (89.34%) of the respondents are nuclear and the rest are Joint. This pattern is observed across the four villages.

Family Size

There are small, medium and large families in the villages. In the following table, the family size of the respondents is shown:

Table 3.16
Family Size of the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Family Size	No. of Households				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Small (1-4 members)	39 (57.35)	55 (62.5)	46 (55.42)	22 (36.06)	162 (54.00)
Medium (5-8 members)	20 (29.42)	28 (31.82)	31 (37.34)	27 (44.27)	106 (35.34)
Large (More than 8 members)	9 (13.23)	5 (5.68)	6 (7.22)	12 (19.67)	32 (10.66)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that more than half (54%) of the respondents' families are small followed by the medium sized families (35.34%). Rests are large families. Rampur Gaon has more families of medium size (44.27%) than small families (36.06%). The rest of the villages exhibit the general pattern of family size.

Age Groups in the Families

Members are found of different age groups in a family. The different age groups in the families of the respondents are shown in the following table:

Table 3.17
Age Groups in the Families of the Respondents by Gende
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Age Group	No. of Persons												Grand total		
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)			Charigaon (OBC dominated village)			Gorowal Chungi (SC village)			Rampur Gaon (ST village)					
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
0-5	6 (3.82)	4 (3.07)	10 (3.48)	4 (1.32)	7 (2.69)	11 (1.96)	11 (3.39)	14 (5.40)	25 (4.29)	11 (6.39)	9 (7.37)	20 (6.80)	32 (3.35)	34 (4.40)	66 (3.82)
6-10	08 (5.09)	11 (8.46)	19 (6.62)	19 (6.31)	13 (5.00)	32 (5.70)	14 (4.32)	18 (6.94)	32 (5.48)	12 (6.97)	04 (3.27)	16 (5.44)	53 (5.55)	46 (5.96)	99 (5.73)
11-15	10 (6.36)	4 (3.07)	14 (4.87)	12 (3.98)	18 (6.92)	30 (5.34)	19 (5.86)	13 (5.02)	32 (5.48)	18 (10.46)	7 (5.73)	25 (8.50)	59 (6.18)	42 (5.44)	101 (5.85)
16-20	12 (7.64)	8 (6.15)	20 (6.96)	18 (5.98)	11 (4.23)	29 (5.16)	10 (3.08)	13 (5.03)	23 (3.94)	9 (5.23)	7 (5.73)	16 (5.44)	49 (5.13)	39 (5.05)	88 (5.10)
21-25	9 (5.73)	6 (4.61)	15 (5.22)	15 (4.98)	7 (2.69)	22 (3.92)	15 (4.62)	9 (3.47)	24 (4.11)	13 (7.55)	7 (5.73)	20 (6.80)	52 (5.45)	29 (3.76)	81 (4.69)
26-30	13 (8.28)	9 (6.92)	22 (7.66)	8 (2.65)	9 (3.46)	17 (3.03)	11 (3.39)	6 (2.31)	17 (2.91)	13 (7.55)	4 (3.27)	17 (5.78)	45 (4.71)	28 (3.63)	73 (4.23)
31-35	6 (3.82)	05 (3.84)	11 (3.83)	9 (2.99)	11 (4.23)	20 (3.56)	14 (4.32)	5 (1.93)	19 (3.25)	5 (2.90)	3 (2.45)	8 (2.72)	34 (3.56)	24 (3.11)	58 (3.36)
36-40	21 (13.37)	12 (09.23)	33 (11.49)	42 (13.95)	29 (11.15)	71 (12.67)	34 (10.49)	37 (14.28)	71 (12.19)	26 (15.13)	21 (17.22)	47 (15.98)	123 (12.89)	99 (12.84)	222 (12.88)
41-45	16 (10.19)	19 (14.61)	35 (12.19)	37 (12.31)	32 (12.30)	69 (12.29)	39 (12.05)	28 (10.81)	67 (11.49)	13 (7.57)	17 (13.95)	30 (10.20)	105 (11.02)	96 (12.45)	201 (11.67)
46-50	10 (6.38)	21 (16.15)	31 (10.81)	28 (9.30)	36 (13.86)	64 (11.42)	37 (11.41)	28 (10.81)	65 (11.14)	9 (5.23)	4 (3.27)	13 (4.42)	84 (08.80)	89 (11.54)	173 (10.02)
51-55	21 (13.38)	8 (6.15)	29 (10.12)	39 (12.97)	29 (11.15)	68 (12.12)	46 (14.21)	29 (11.21)	75 (12.88)	07 (4.06)	15 (12.31)	22 (7.48)	113 (11.86)	81 (10.52)	194 (11.24)
56-60	12 (7.66)	08 (6.15)	20 (6.98)	30 (9.98)	27 (10.38)	57 (10.16)	36 (11.13)	28 (10.81)	64 (10.99)	18 (10.48)	13 (10.67)	31 (10.56)	96 (10.06)	76 (9.87)	172 (9.97)
Above 60	13 (8.28)	15 (11.53)	28 (9.77)	40 (13.28)	31 (11.94)	71 (12.67)	38 (11.73)	31 (11.98)	69 (11.85)	18 (10.48)	11 (9.03)	29 (9.88)	109 (11.44)	88 (11.43)	197 (11.42)
Total	157(100)	130 (100)	287 (100)	301 (100)	260 (100)	561 (100)	324 (100)	259 (100)	583 (100)	172 (100)	122 (100)	294 (100)	954 (100)	771 (100)	1725 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table highlights that of the total people of the four villages, 994 (55.31%) are male and 771 (44.69%) are female. By age groups, 15.42 percent are children (0-15years), 17.39 percent are youth (16-35 years), 55.76 percent are middle aged (36-60 years) and 11.42 percent are old aged (above 60 years). Thus, more people are in the middle age group. This is by and large true across all the four villages.

MARITAL STATUS OF THE RESPONDENTS' FAMILY MEMBERS

In almost all the traditional societies like the society of India, a married person enjoys superior status. His or her position is higher than that of an unmarried person. Similarly, the position of a child is lower than the other members of the family. The table (3.18) shows the marital status of the family members of the respondents:

Table 3.18
Marital Status of the Respondents' Family Members
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Marital Status	No. of Persons				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Children	41 (14.28)	54 (09.62)	60 (10.29)	46 (15.64)	201 (11.65)
Married	130 (45.29)	272 (48.48)	285 (48.88)	116 (39.47)	803 (46.58)
Unmarried	111 (38.69)	223 (39.77)	221 (37.93)	129 (43.87)	684 (39.65)
Widow	5 (1.74)	10 (1.78)	10 (1.71)	3 (1.02)	28 (1.62)
Divorced	-	1 (0.17)	2 (0.34)	-	3 (0.17)
Deserted	-	-	1 (0.17)	-	1 (0.05)
Remarried	-	1 (0.17)	4 (0.68)	-	5 (0.28)
Total	287 (100)	561(100)	583 (100)	294(100)	1725 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that of total population, 803 (46.58%) are married, followed by unmarried (39.65%). The rest are children (11.65%), widow (1.62%), re-married (0.28%), divorced (0.17%) and deserted (0.05%). Only 1 (0.17%) deserted person is found in Gorowal Chungi Gaon.

FAMILY OCCUPATION

In each and every family, members are found having different occupations.

Some are cultivators, some are students, some are housewives, some are businessmen, some are labourers and some are service holders. The table 3.19 shows the main occupation of the members of the respondents' families:

Table 3.19
Main Occupations of Family Members
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Main Occupation	No. of Persons				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Cultivation	52 (18.11)	95 (16.93)	112 (19.21)	49 (16.66)	308 (17.85)
Service	31 (10.83)	59 (10.51)	13 (2.22)	8 (2.72)	111 (6.43)
Business	27 (09.40)	95 (16.93)	119 (20.41)	30 (10.20)	271 (15.71)
Labour	12 (4.18)	59 (10.51)	68 (11.66)	76 (25.87)	215 (12.46)
Student	91 (31.70)	134 (23.88)	159 (27.29)	57 (19.38)	441 (25.58)
Housewife	74 (25.78)	119 (21.21)	112 (19.21)	74 (25.17)	379 (21.97)
Total	287 (100)	561 (100)	583 (100)	294 (100)	1725 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table depicts that of the total population of the villages, 441 (25.56%) are students, subsequently followed by housewives (21.46%), cultivators (17.85%), businessmen (15.71), labourers (12.46%) and servicemen (6.43%). Number of service holders is very small. Students are more in Komar Khatowal, Charigaon and Gorowal Chungi while than labourers is more in Rampur Gaon.

Like the main occupations, allied occupations of the families are shown in the following table:

Table 3.20
Allied Occupations in the Respondents' Families
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Allied Occupation	No. of Persons				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Grocery Shop	7 (20.00)	05 (8.77)	5 (18.51)	03 (15.78)	20 (14.49)
Pharmacy	3 (08.57)	03 (5.26)	-	-	6 (4.34)
Stationary Shop	-	12 (21.05)	2 (7.40)	1 (5.26)	15 (10.88)
Cloth Store	4 (11.42)	2 (3.50)	4 (14.81)	1 (5.26)	11 (07.97)
Handicraft Store	2 (5.71)	-	1 (3.70)	3 (15.78)	6 (4.34)
Electronic Shop	-	4 (7.01)	2 (7.40)	-	6 (4.34)
Cyber Café	4 (11.42)	7 (12.28)	-	-	11 (7.97)
Private Tuition	8 (22.88)	11 (19.29)	7 (25.94)	6 (31.59)	32 (23.18)
Vegetable Shop	7 (20.00)	13 (22.80)	6 (22.24)	5 (26.33)	31 (22.49)
Total	35(100)	57(100)	27 (100)	19 (100)	138(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table indicates that of total 138 persons, 32 (23.18%) have private tuition, followed by vegetable shop which constitutes 22.49 percent. Broadly, the population of the villages is distributed into business (16.82%), and private tuition (23.18%). All the occupations are from the service sector of economy.

ANNUAL INCOME OF BPL FAMILIES

Income may be different in case of BPL and APL families among the respondents. In order to find out the income of the BPL families, five income groups have been shown in the following table:

Table 3.21
Annual Income of BPL Families
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Income Group	No. of Persons				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
10000-12526	4 (02.81)	5 (1.74)	34 (8.62)	8 (5.33)	51 (5.24)
12527-15053	11 (7.74)	8 (2.79)	42 (10.65)	13 (8.67)	74 (7.61)
15054-17580	21 (14.78)	18 (6.29)	80 (20.30)	9 (6.00)	128 (13.16)
17581-20107	34 (23.94)	78 (27.29)	168 (42.65)	69 (46.00)	349 (35.90)
20108-22634	72 (50.73)	177 (61.89)	70 (17.78)	51 (34.00)	370 (38.09)
Total	142(100)	286(100)	394(100)	150(100)	972(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table reveals that in all the villages, most of the BPL families have income in the bracket of Rs. 17581-22634. This pattern is true across the villages except that in Gorowal Chungi about three fifths of villagers fall in this bracket of income. This means that the SC people have poor economic condition as compared with the other three villages.

ANNUAL INCOME OF APL FAMILIES

Social status of family depends on the income of the every member of the family. Basically, the income of the members of APL families is better than the members of BPL families. Table 3.22 shows the annual income of APL families of the respondents:

Table 3.22
Annual Income of the Respondents' Families
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Income Group	No. of Persons				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
22635-25161	6 (5.88)	8 (3.96)	10 (10.00)	9 (10.84)	33 (6.77)
25162-27688	3 (2.94)	5 (2.47)	5 (5.00)	4 (4.81)	17 (3.49)
27689-30215	5 (4.90)	4 (1.98)	3 (3.00)	6 (7.22)	18 (3.69)
30216-32742	9 (8.82)	18 (8.93)	14 (14.00)	8 (9.63)	49 (10.06)
32743-35269	12 (11.78)	23 (11.38)	44 (44.00)	35 (42.18)	114 (23.40)
35270<	67 (65.68)	144 (71.28)	24 (24.00)	21 (25.32)	256 (52.56)
Total	102(100)	202(100)	100 (100)	83 (100)	487 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that most of APL families (75.96%) have income in the bracket of 32743-35270 & more. This is observed across the four villages.

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION OF THE RESPONDENTS' FAMILY

Educational qualification determines the social status of a person not only in the family but in the society as a whole. The table 3.23 shows the educational qualifications of the Respondents' families:

Table 3.23
Educational Qualification of Family Members of the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Educational Qualification	No. of Persons				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Illiterate	6 (2.09)	08 (1.42)	13 (2.22)	20 (6.80)	47 (2.72)
Primary	54 (18.81)	96 (17.13)	171 (29.33)	82 (27.89)	403 (23.36)
Middle	34 (11.84)	89 (15.86)	181 (31.05)	66 (22.44)	370 (21.46)
High School	60 (20.91)	97 (17.29)	152 (26.09)	74 (25.19)	383 (22.23)
Higher Secondary	82 (28.59)	150 (26.75)	41 (7.03)	31 (10.54)	304 (17.62)
Graduation	38 (13.24)	96 (17.11)	23 (3.94)	21 (7.14)	178 (10.31)
Post Graduation	09 (3.13)	19 (3.38)	2 (0.34)	-	30 (1.73)
M.Phil/Ph.D	4 (1.39)	6 (1.06)	-	-	10 (0.57)
Total	287(100)	561(100)	583(100)	294(100)	1725(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table reveals that out of total population, 403 (23.36%) have qualification upto primary level followed by those qualified upto high school level (22.23%). Around one fifth of the respondents are each qualified upto middle school level (21.46%), high school (22.23%) and higher secondary level (17.62%). The rest have got higher education which is largely distributed between Komar Khatowal and Charigaon i.e. General caste and OBC groups. On the other hand, Gorowal Chungi has negligible number of respondents and Rampur Gaon has no respondents with higher educational qualification. Thus, SC and tribal groups are relatively backward on educational front.

OWNERSHIP OF HOUSE

Ownerships of house may be different in each family. In some families, ownerships of house is found male and in some families female. So, table 3.24 shows the ownership of respondents' family:

Table 3.24
Ownership of House
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Ownership of House	No. of Households				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Male	59 (86.77)	78 (88.64)	76 (91.57)	52 (85.25)	265 (88.34)
Female	9 (13.23)	10 (11.36)	7 (8.43)	9 (14.75)	35 (11.66)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that 88.34 percent respondents have male of their houses and the rest have female owners. It is by and large observed across the villages. Thus, patriarchy prevails in the families of all the respondents across the villages.

HOUSE TYPES

Households are of different types. Some are kachcha, some pacca; some Assam type and some L patterned. The following table shows the house types:

Table 3.25
Types of House among the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of House	No. of Households				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Kachcha	6 (8.82)	5 (5.68)	30 (36.16)	14 (22.95)	55 (18.33)
Pacca	11 (16.17)	13 (14.77)	17 (20.49)	10 (16.39)	51 (17.01)
L Patterned (Kachcha)	8 (11.77)	12 (13.63)	12 (14.45)	14 (22.95)	46 (15.33)
L Patterned (Pacca)	10 (14.70)	15 (17.06)	5 (6.02)	4 (6.55)	34 (11.33)
UPatterned (Kachcha)	1 (1.47)	-	-	-	1 (0.33)
U Patterned (Pacca)	-	3 (3.40)	-	-	3 (1.00)
Assam Type (Kachcha)	6 (8.82)	2 (2.27)	8 (9.63)	10 (16.39)	26 (8.66)
Assam Type (Pacca)	22 (32.37)	31 (35.24)	11 (13.25)	09 (14.77)	73 (24.35)
RCC	4 (5.88)	7 (7.95)	-	-	11 (3.66)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table reveals that of 300 total households, 73 (24.35%) have Assam type (pacca) houses followed by Kachcha houses (18.33%). Besides of them 17.01 percent have pacca house,; 15.33 percent L patterned (kachcha) houses and 11.33 percent L patterned (pacca) houses. The house patterns also reveal that the general caste and OBC respondents have more pacca houses than the SC and tribal respondents.

BASIC AMENITIES

Every household needs some basic amenities in day to day life. These amenities are closely related with one another. The table 3.26 shows the basic amenities in houses of the respondents:

Table 3.26
Households' Basic Amenities
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Villages	Basic amenities		
	Separate Kitchen	Attached latrine	Bathroom facility
Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village) N=68	59 (86.76)	4 (5.88)	64 (94.11)
Charigaon (OBC dominated village) N=88	80 (90.90)	09 (10.22)	84 (95.45)
Gorowal Chungi (SC Village) N=83	64 (77.10)	-	65 (78.31)
Rampur Gaon (ST Village) N= 61	40 (65.57)	-	47 (77.04)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that majority or most have separate kitchen and bathroom in their houses across the villages while SC and tribal villages do not have attached latrines in their houses. However, the general caste and OBC respondents have attached latrines in their houses.

TYPES OF LATRINE

Latrines are of different types: Kachcha, pacca and open defecation. Table 3.27 shows the type latrine facility of the respondents' family:

Table 3.27
Types of Latrine in the Respondents' Houses
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Latrine	No. of Households				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Kachcha	16 (23.53)	19 (21.59)	51 (61.45)	34 (55.75)	120 (40.00)
Pacca	52 (76.47)	69 (78.41)	27 (32.53)	23 (37.70)	171 (57.00)
Open Defecation	-	-	5 (6.02)	4 (6.55)	9 (3.00)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table indicates that of the respondents, 171 (57%) have pacca and 40 percent have kachcha latrines in their houses. The general caste and OBC respondents' houses more pacca latrines and in the SC and tribal respondents' houses

more kachcha latrines are found. Even a small fraction of the SC and the tribal respondents have each to defecate in open space in absence of latrines.

SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER

The families of some respondents use pond and some hand pump; some use river water and some use pipe water supply. The following table shows the household sources of drinking water:

Table 3.28
Sources of Drinking Water among the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Source of Drinking Water	No. of Households				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Pond	5 (7.35)	2 (2.27)	1 (1.20)	3 (4.91)	11 (3.66)
Pond & Hand Pump	-	7 (7.95)	3 (3.61)	9 (14.75)	19 (6.33)
Private Tubewell	29 (42.66)	10 (11.36)	5 (6.02)	24 (39.36)	68 (22.68)
Pond & Private Tubewell	31 (45.60)	15 (17.05)	-	25 (40.98)	71 (23.68)
River & Private Tubewell	-	-	40 (48.22)	-	40 (13.33)
Govt. Pipe Water supply	-	18 (20.45)	16 (19.27)	-	34 (11.33)
Govt. Pipe Water supply and Private Tubewell	-	31 (35.24)	18 (21.68)	-	49 (16.33)
Home Fitted Running Water with Motor	3 (4.41)	5 (5.68)	-	-	8 (2.66)
Total	68 (100)	88(100)	83 (100)	61 (100)	300 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that the numbers of households that have pond and private tubewell (23.68%), private tubewell (22.68%) and Govt. pipe water supply and

private tube well (16.33%) as sources of drinking water. Besides, other sources are river and private tubewell (13.33%), Govt. pipe water supply (11.33%), pond and hand pump (6.33%), pond (3.66%) and home fitted running water with motor (2.66%). The households using pond and private tubewell as source of drinking water are more in Komar Khatowal (45.60%) and Rampur Gaon (40.98%). On the other hand, households are more in Charigaon (35.24%) which use Govt. pipe water supply and private tubewell. In Gorowal Chungi, more households (48.22%) use river and private tubewell as source of drinking water.

FUELS USED TO COOK MEAL

Fuel is one of the most essential need of a family. Fuels used in families are bamboo, wood, kerosene stove, LPG etc. So, the following table reveals different fuels used in the households:

Table 3.29
Fuels Used for Cooking in the Respondents' Houses
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Fuel used for Cooking	No. of Households				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Bamboo/Wood	18 (26.47)	10 (11.36)	31 (37.35)	22 (36.06)	81 (27.00)
Bamboo/Wood & Kerosene Stove	-	-	3 (3.61)	-	3 (1.00)
LPG	19 (27.94)	36 (40.90)	12 (14.45)	13 (21.31)	80 (26.66)
LPG & Bamboo/Wood	31 (45.59)	42 (47.74)	37 (44.59)	26 (42.63)	136 (45.34)
Total	68 (100)	88 (100)	83 (100)	61(100)	300 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table indicates that of the households, 136 (45.34%) use LPG & bamboo/wood as their fuels followed by bamboo/ wood only (27%). Besides, 26.66 percent households use LPG and the rest use bamboo/wood& kerosene stove. This pattern is prevalent across the villages, except that of the Charigaon respondents a little over one tenth uses bamboo/wood while most of them use LPG.

NUMBER OF ROOMS

Numbers of rooms depends upon the population of a family. Rooms are found more in Joint families than the neuclear families. In the following table rooms are divided into six categories:

Table 3.30
Number of Rooms in the Respondents' houses
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Number of Room	No. of Households				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
One	-	-	1 (1.20)	-	1 (0.33)
Two	10 (14.70)	8 (9.09)	16 (19.27)	5 (8.19)	39 (13.00)
Three	13 (19.11)	17 (19.32)	24 (28.93)	08 (13.11)	62 (20.66)
Four	23 (33.84)	32 (36.38)	18 (21.69)	23 (37.72)	96 (32.00)
Five	14 (20.59)	25 (28.40)	17 (20.48)	12 (19.67)	68 (22.68)
More than Five	08 (11.76)	6 (6.81)	7 (8.43)	13 (21.31)	34 (11.33)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83 (100)	61 (100)	300 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that out of 300 households, 96 (32%) have four rooms, 68 (22.68%) have five rooms, 62 (20.66%) have three rooms, 39 (13%) two rooms and 34 (11.33%) have more than five rooms. The general caste and tribal respondents have the largest number of four room houses while the SC respondents have three room houses.

TYPES OF BATHROOM

Nature of bathrooms of a family depends on the economic status of a family. Table 3.31 shows the types of bathrooms in respondents' family:

Table 3.31
Types of Bathroom among the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Bathroom	No. of Households				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Kachcha	18 (28.12)	17 (20.23)	37 (56.92)	22 (46.80)	94 (36.15)
Pacca	46 (71.88)	67 (79.76)	28 (43.08)	25 (53.20)	166 (63.85)
Total	64 (100)	84 (100)	65 (100)	47 (100)	260 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that majority of the households (62.66%) have pacca bathrooms and the rest have Kachcha bathrooms in the respondents' houses. Pacca bathrooms are more in Komar Khatowal (71.88%), Charigaon (79.76%) and Rampur Gaon (53.20%) while Gorowal Chungi has more Kachcha bathrooms (56.92%).

LAND HOLDING SIZE

Land is another sine quanon for determining the social status of individuals in society. The economic position of an individual is linked with the amount of lands he possesses. Therefore, the table 3.32 shows the land holding size of respondents' family:

Table 3.32
Landholding Size among the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Size of Land holding (in bighas)	No. of Households				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
2-4	12 (17.64)	19 (21.59)	26 (31.32)	21 (34.42)	78 (26.00)
5-7	19 (27.96)	36 (40.92)	50 (60.26)	27 (44.28)	132 (44.00)
8-10	27 (39.70)	28 (31.81)	6 (7.22)	11 (18.03)	72 (24.00)
More than 10	10 (14.70)	5 (5.68)	1 (1.20)	2 (3.27)	18 (06.00)
Total	68(100)	88(100)	83(100)	61(100)	300 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that 44 percent households of the villages possessed land in between 5-7 bighas, followed by 2-4 bighas (26%). On the other hand, 24 percent household possessed land in 8-10 Bighas. Very less (6%) households possessed more than 10 Bighas. In Komar Khatowal and Charigaon more respondents have landholding more than 7 bighas while more of Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon less than 8 bighas of landholding. Thus, the general caste and OBC respondents have more landholding than the SC and tribal respondents.

There are various types of marriage in the society. So, the table 3.33 describes the types of marriage preferred by the respondents:

Table 3.33
Marriage Type Preferred among the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Marriage Type Preferred	No. of Persons				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
Arranged Marriage	49 (72.05)	61 (69.31)	54 (65.05)	52 (85.24)	216 (72.00)
Love Marriage	19 (27.95)	27 (30.68)	29 (34.95)	9 (14.76)	84 (28.00)
Total	68 (100)	88 (100)	83 (100)	61(100)	300(100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows the predominance of arranged marriage over love marriage. Of the respondents 72 percent prefer arranged marriage and the prefer love marriage. This is by and large correct across the villages and social groups.

TYPES OF NEWSPAPER

There are different types of newspapers and it is found in various languages.

The various types of news papers are shown in the following table:

Table 3.34
Newspapers Read by the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Types of Newspaper		No. of Youths			
		Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated Village) 68	Charigaon (OBC dominated Village) N=88	Gorowal Chungi (SC Village)N=83	Rampur Gaon (ST Village) N=61
English Newspaper	The Assam Tribune	3 (4.41)	4 (4.54)	1 (1.20)	2 (3.27)
	The Times of India	-	2 (2.27)	-	-
	The Hindustan Times	-	1 (1.13)	-	-
	The Telegraph	1 (1.47)	-	-	-
	The Sentinel	2 (2.94)	3 (3.40)	1 (1.20)	1 (1.63)
Vernacular Newspaper	Asomiya Pratidin	26 (38.23)	38 (43.18)	30 (36.14)	19 (31.14)
	Amar Asom	13 (19.11)	18 (20.45)	11 (13.25)	12 (19.67)
	Asomiya Khabor	14 (20.58)	22 (25.00)	13 (15.66)	10 (16.39)
	Dainik Batori	07 (10.29)	10 (11.36)	8 (9.63)	09 (14.75)
	Dainik Agradoot	6 (8.82)	7 (7.95)	4 (4.81)	-
	Dainik Janambhumi	35 (51.47)	32 (36.36)	26 (31.32)	28 (45.90)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table reveals that 92 percent respondents prefer Assamese news papers and the rest English newspapers. Komar Khatowal and Charigaon have most of the respondents reading English newspapers while the rest two have negligible number of respondents reading English newspapers. The vernacular newspaper reading is distributed across all the villages. Thus, the villages/groups have by and large similar reading patterns in respect of vernacular newspapers.

TOPIC IN THE NEWSPAPERS

There are various topics in all types of newspapers. So, the table 3.35 describes the various topics of the newspapers:

Table 3.35
Topics Read in News Papers by the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Topic read in Newspaper	No. of Youths			
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated Village)N=68	Charigaon (OBC dominated Village)N=88	Gorowal Chungi (SC Village)N=83	Rampur Gaon (ST Village)N=61
Editorial	9 (13.23)	14 (15.90)	11 (13.25)	12 (19.67)
Sports	22 (32.35)	27 (30.68)	20 (24.09)	21 (34.42)
Advertisements	4 (5.88)	7 (7.95)	3 (3.61)	3 (4.91)
Politics	12 (17.64)	17 (19.31)	11 (13.25)	14 (22.95)
Employment News	18 (26.47)	26 (29.54)	14 (16.86)	11 (18.03)
Current Affairs	26 (38.23)	38 (43.18)	24 (28.91)	26 (42.62)
Healthlines	10 (14.70)	19 (21.59)	8 (9.63)	9 (14.75)
First Page News	4 (5.88)	6 (6.81)	12 (14.45)	6 (9.83)
Business News	8 (11.76)	15 (17.04)	16 (19.27)	15 (24.59)
Foreign News	2 (2.94)	5 (5.68)	2 (2.40)	-
International Issues	1 (1.47)	2 (2.27)	-	1 (1.63)
Entertainment News	9 (13.23)	17 (19.31)	15 (18.07)	14 (22.95)
Cinema	14 (20.58)	18 (20.45)	21 (25.30)	20 (32.78)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that a current affair is much read by the respondents in the news papers in all the villages i.e. Komar Khatowal (38.23%), Charigaon

(43.18%), Gorowal Chungi (28.91%) and Rampur (42.62%). Editorial, sports, politics, employment news, healthlines, first page news, business news, entertainment news and cinema news are not much read. Numbers of respondents are very less of those who read the foreign news and international issues across the villages.

TYPES OF MAGAZINE

Magazines are found in various types. Thus, the following table reveals the various kinds of Magazine:

Table 3.36
Magazines Read by the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Magazine read	No. of Youths			
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village) N=68	Charigaon (OBC dominated village) N=88	Gorowal Chungi (SC village) N=83	Rampur Gaon (ST village) N=61
India Today	2 (2.94)	2 (1.27)	-	1 (1.63)
North-East Sun	3 (4.41)	1 (1.13)	-	-
Sunday	1 (1.47)	-	-	-
Health	-	3 (3.40)	-	2 (3.27)
Competition Success	11 (16.17)	15 (17.04)	3 (3.61)	2 (3.27)
Competition Refresher	6 (8.82)	13 (14.77)	2 (2.40)	5 (8.19)
Women's Era	4 (5.88)	-	-	1 (1.63)
Film Fare	6 (8.82)	3 (3.40)	2 (2.40)	3 (4.91)
Prantik (Assamese)	24 (32.29)	30 (34.09)	16 (19.27)	13 (21.31)
Goriashi (Assamese)	13 (19.11)	11 (12.5)	9 (10.84)	7 (11.45)
Maya (Assamese)	14 (20.58)	18 (20.45)	23 (27.71)	22 (36.06)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that the Assamese magazines are more popular than the English in the villages. Of course, interest of reading magazines varies in the villages. The table shows that the respondents who read the Prantik (Assamese Magazine) are more both in Komar Khatowal (32.29%) and Charigaon (34.09%). Of course, respondents are found not so less both in Komar Khatowal (20.58%)

and Charigaon (20.45%) who read the Maya (Assamese Magazine). On the other hand, both in Gorowal Chungi (27.71%) and Rampur Gaon (36%), respondents are more who read the Maya (Assamese Magazine). Again, respondents are not so less both in Gorowal Chungi (19.27%) and Rampur (21.31%) who read Prantik. Among the English Magazines, Competition Success and Competition Refresher are popular both in Komar Khatowal and Charigaon. In Komar Khatowal 16.17 percent read Competition Success and 8.82 percent Competition Refresher. On the other hand, in Charigaon, 17.04 percent read Competition Success and 14.77 percent Competition Refresher. A few respondents of the villages read India Today, North-East Sun, Sunday, Health, Women's Era and Film Fare.

There are some parts in the magazines i.e. editorial, current affairs, healthlines readers' column, politics, cinemas and so on. These are discussed in the following table:

Table 3.37
Part of the Magazines Read Most by the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Part of Magazines Read	No. of Youths			
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village) N=68	Charigaon (OBC dominated village) N=88	Gorowal Chungi (SC village) N=83	Rampur Gaon (ST village) N=61
Editorial	8 (11.76)	15 (17.04)	7 (8.43)	9 (14.75)
Current Affairs	37 (54.41)	42 (47.72)	20 (24.09)	19 (31.14)
Healthlines	22 (32.35)	24 (27.27)	12 (14.45)	18 (29.50)
Readers Column	4 (05.88)	11 (12.5)	5 (6.02)	5 (8.19)
Politics	16 (23.52)	20 (22.72)	13 (15.66)	11 (18.03)
Cinema	18 (26.47)	23 (33.82)	17 (20.48)	17 (27.86)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that the current affairs is much popular in the villages while editorial, healthlines, reader's column, politics, cinema are less popular. The table reveals that 54.41 percent respondents in Komar Khatowal, 47.72 percent in Charigaon, 24.09 percent in Gorowal Chungi and 31.14 percent in Rampur Gaon read current affairs and related part of the magazines.

RADIO

Radio is an electronic audio medium for broadcasting programme to the audience. This medium is cosmopolitan in approach and is suitable for communication to millions of people widely dispersed and situated in far-flung areas. Availability of low cost receiving sets operated with electricity or battery help radio to penetrate deep into the rural life.

Once, radio was a part and parcel in rural life. Now, it has lost its popularity than before. Of course, some families of the rural areas use it regularly. The youths also listen radios in educational purposes and for entertainment. In Komar Khatowal, Charigaon, Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon, some youths listen radios. Of course, numbers of the youths are not more in the villages who listen radios. 5 respondents (7.35%) in Komar Khatowal, 6 (6.81%) in Charigaon, 12 (14.45%) in Gorowal Chungi and 8 (3.11%) in Rampur Gaon listen radios.

They listen radio at different places as mentioned in the following table.

Table 3.38
Place of Radio Listening
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Place of Radio listening	No. of Youths				Total
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)	
At Home	4 (80.00)	6 (100.00)	9 (75.00)	7 (87.5)	26 (83.88)
Neighbor's home	1 (20.00)	-	3 (25.00)	1 (12.5)	5 (16.12)
Total	5 (100)	6 (100)	12 (100)	8 (100)	31 (100)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that out of the respondents, 26 (83.88%) listen Radio at their home and the rest listen it at neighbours home. This is by and large observed across villages. Notably, in the OBC village all the respondents listen radios at home.

TELEVISION

Television means 'seeing from a distance.' Television with radio is a significant aid to good instruction and with the modern innovations television has become one of the most promising mean of educational forces. Television offers modern equipments and vitality which not only attracts attention but also creates interest and motivates a desire to learn.

Television plays a vital role in rural life. It provides a good communication network among the people in the villages. The youths are very fond of it because they can watch different programmes telecast by it. Majority of the households of the villages have television sets in their houses. 58 households (85.29%) of Komar Khatowal, 78 (88.63%) of Charigaon, 70 (84.33%) of Gorowal Chungi and 43 (70.49%) of Rampur Gaon have television sets.

The programs watched on TV among the respondents are shown in the following table

Table 3.39
Programs Watched on Television by the Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Program watched on Television	No. of Youths			
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village) N=68	Charigaon (OBC dominated village) N=88	Gorowal Chungi (SC village) N=83	Rampur Gaon (ST village) N=61
News	19 (27.94)	25 (28.40)	22 (26.50)	17 (27.86)
Sports	36 (52.94)	52 (59.09)	34 (40.96)	30 (49.18)
Dance	16 (23.52)	14 (15.90)	21 (25.30)	12 (19.67)
Mythological Programs	4 (5.88)	5 (7.35)	1 (1.20)	-
Serials	34 (50.00)	37 (42.04)	53 (63.85)	22 (36.06)
Music Programs	13 (19.11)	24 (27.27)	11 (13.25)	9 (14.75)
Films	30 (44.11)	48 (54.54)	37 (44.57)	39 (63.93)
Children Programs	3 (4.41)	4 (4.54)	2 (2.40)	3 (4.91)
Agricultural Programs	10 (14.70)	6 (8.82)	9 (10.84)	14 (22.95)
Educational Programs	15 (22.05)	21 (30.88)	11 (13.25)	13 (21.31)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that in Komar Khatowal, majority of respondents (52.94%) watch sports programmes, followed by serials (50%). In Charigaon also majority of respondents (59.09%) watch sports programmes followed by serials (42.04%). The picture is different in Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon. Majority respondents (63.85%) of Gorowal Chungi watch serials followed by Films (49.57%). But, in Rampur, majority (63.93%) of the respondents watch film followed by sports (49.18%). The respondents who have interest in watching news, dance music programmes, agricultural programmes and educational programmes are more than those who watch serials,, sports and films. Less respondents are found not having interest in mythological and Children's programmes.

COMPUTER

Computer functions as an instructional aid. As far as the modern age is concern, computer has occupied a place in every field of work. Like the mobile phone, computer is an important media of communication. It can be used for

different purposes. It has a vital role in educational field. For making education more communicative and effective computer is very much needed. Teacher as well as students can also feel even freer with the help of computer. Computer provides the facility of using internet. For such facility one can find different information. The youths of villages use computer like the youths of urban areas. Of course, the number of computer ownership is not found more in rural areas than the urban areas. In the villages 16 respondents (23.52%) of Komar Khatowal, 23 (26.13%) of Charigaon, 09 (10.84%) of Gorowal Chungi and 7 (11.47%) of Rampur Gaon have computer sets. Places used for computers are distributed among the respondents in the following table:

Table 3.40
Places of Using Computer
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Place of using Computer	No. of Youths			
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village)	Charigaon (OBC dominated village)	Gorowal Chungi (SC village)	Rampur Gaon (ST village)
At home	18 (26.47)	27 (30.68)	10 (12.04)	9 (14.75)
Office	7 (10.29)	9 (10.22)	1 (1.20)	2 (3.27)
College	14 (20.58)	14 (15.90)	19 (22.89)	14 (22.95)
At any place	16 (23.52)	19 (21.59)	22 (26.50)	18 (29.50)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that the respondents who use computer at home are more in Komar Khatowal (26.47%) and Charigaon (30.68%). On the other hand, the respondents who use computer at any place are more both in Gorowal Chungi (26.50%) and Rampur (29.50%). Computers are used for different purposes among the respondents as shown in the following table:

Table 3.41
Purposes of Using Computer
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Purpose of using Computer	No. of Youths			
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village) N=68	Charigaon (OBC dominated village) N=88	Gorowal Chungi (SC village) N=83	Rampur Gaon (ST village) N=61
Education	27 (39.70)	36 (40.90)	28 (33.73)	25 (40.98)
Business	4 (5.88)	12 (13.63)	8 (9.63)	3 (4.91)
Entertainment	19 (27.94)	23 (26.13)	20 (24.09)	16 (26.22)
Games	13 (19.11)	18 (20.45)	11 (13.25)	9 (14.75)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The respondents who use computer for educational purpose are more in all the villages. In Komar Khatowal, 39.70 percent use computer for educational purpose followed by entertainment (27.94%), games (19.11%) and business (5.88%). In Charigaon, 40.90 percent use computer for educational purpose, followed by entertainment (26.13%). In this village, the numbers of respondents are not so less who use computer to play games (20.45%) and in business purposes (13.63%).

Respondents in Gorowal Chungi use computer in educational purposes. In this village, 24.09 percent use computer for entertainment. The respondents of Gorowal Chungi use computer to play games (13.25%) and for business purposes (9.63%). In Rampur Gaon, 40.98 percent use computer for educational purpose, followed by entertainment (26.22%), games (14.75%) and business (4.91%).

THE SUMMARY OF THE CHAPTER

After the detailed discussion of the said background of the respondents, major points are recapitulated here:

1. Over half (54.33%) of the respondents belong to the age group of 18-26 and the rest belong to the age group of 27-35. In Komar Khatowal and Charigaon, majority of them are in the age group of 18-26 (early youth age). On the other hand, in Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon, majority of them are in the age group of 27-35 (late youth age).

2. Majority of the respondents (59%) are male. Of them 40.67 percent are female and 0.33 percent Hijra. In Komar Khatowal (57.35%), Charigaon (62.5) and Gorowal Chungi (50.61%) Gaon males are in majority. On the other hand, in Rampur Gaon, over two thirds of (67.22%) the respondents are male

3. Majority of the respondents (70.68%) are unmarried followed by married ones (26.67%). A few respondents are remarried (1%), widowed (0.66%), divorced (0.66%) and deserted (0.33%). A large number of unmarried respondents are found in

Rampur Gaon (77.06%).

4. Of the total 56 male respondents, 46.44 percent married in the age of 21-25 years, 39.29 percent in the age of 26-30 years, 8.92 percent in the age below 21 years and 5.35 percent in the age of 31-35.

In Komar Khatowal (69.24%) and Gorowal Chungi (58.84%) majority of the male respondents have got married in the age of 21-25 years. In Charigaon (56.25%) and Rampur Gaon (70%), majority of the male respondents married in the age of 26-30 years. Child marriage is found more in Gorowal Chungi and Rampur village than in Komar Khatowal and Charigaon.

5. Of 24 female respondents, 45.84 percent married in the age of 18-22 years followed by those who married in the age under 18 years (25%). Of the total respondents 20.83 percent married in the age of 23-27 as well. In Komar Khatowal (60%), Charigaon (42.87%) and Gorowal Chungi (55.56%), majority of the female respondents married in the age of 18-22. On the other hand, in Rampur Gaon (66.67%) majority of them married in the age of 23-27 years.

6. Of the respondents, 27.69 percent have been students in the villages followed by business holders (25%). Besides, 17.66 percent are cultivators, 16.33 percent are labour, 7.66 percent have service and 5.66 percent are housewives by occupation. In Komar Khatowal (41.17%) and Charigaon (43.20%) the largest number of respondents constitutes students. On the other hand, the largest number of labourers is in Rampur Gaon (39.37%). In Gorowal Chungi (45.78%), the largest numbers of respondents is engaged in business.

7. Of the respondents, 10 (23.80%) have private tuition followed by grocery shop (19.06%) and vegetable shop (19.06%) as occupation. Besides, the respondents are engaged in pharmacy (4.76%), cloth store (7.14%), handicraft store (4.76%), electronic shop (2.38%) and cyber cafe (4.76%). In Komar Khatowal they are occupied with grocery shop (25%), private tuition (25%) and vegetable shop (25%). In Charigaon they have stationery shops (31.59%) and private tuition (31.59%). In Gorowal Chungi, the respondents have vegetable shop (45.46%). In Rampur, majority of the respondents (50%) have private tuition, followed by grocery shop and handicraft store each.

8. Most of the BPL respondents (79.89%) have income in the bracket of Rs 2828-5657 in all the villages. Respondents are small in numbers who have income of Rs 5658-8486 (10.55%) and Rs 8487-11315 (9.54%).

9. More APL respondents have income of Rs above 22632 (28.72%). More APL respondents are in Komar Khatowal (30.46%) and Charigaon (39.39%) while small number of the respondents is found in Gorowal Chungi (18.18%) and Rampur Gaon (21.76%) who has income of Rs above 22632.

10. Of the 300 total respondents 89 (29.68%) belong to OBC, 83 (27.66%) to scheduled castes, 67 (22.33%) to General castes and 61 (20.33%) to Scheduled tribes. General caste and OBC are found in Komar Khatowal and Charigaon respectively. In Komar Khatowal most of the respondents (91.17%) belong to General Caste. In Charigaon most of the respondents (94.32%) belong to OBC. In Gorowal Chungi, all

the respondents belong to a Scheduled Caste and in Rampur all the respondents belong to tribes.

11. Of the respondents, 27.66 percent belong to Koibortta (SC) community followed by the Kalita (21.68%). Besides, the respondents belong to the Mishing (19.66%) and the Konch (15.35%), the Keot (5.66%), the Chutia (15.35%), the Ahom (3%), the Brahmin (1%) and the Tea-tribe (0.66%). In Komar Khatowal respondents belong to Kalita (89.71%), Konch (7.35%) and Brahmin (2.94%). In Charigaon the respondents are from Konch (46.59%), Keot (19.33%), Chutia (18.19%), Ahom (10.22%), Kalita (4.54%) and Brahmin (1.13%) communities. In Gorowal Chungi,, all the respondents are Koiborttas and in Rampur Gaon most of the belong to the Mishing tribe and the rest belong to tea-tribe.

12. Of the total respondents, 298 (99.34%) are Hindu and 0.66 percent are Christian. All the respondents of Komar Khatowal, Charigaon and Gorowal Chungi are Hindu. In Rampur Gaon 99.34 percent respondents are Hindu and the rest are Christian.

13. Half of the respondents (50.33%) speak only Assamese; 25.33 percent speak Assamese and Hindi; 10.33 percent speak Assamese, Hindi and English; 9.68 percent speak Assamese and other language or dialect and only 4.33 percent speak Assamese and English.

14. The respondents who are qualified upto higher secondary level are more (22.68%) than the respondents with primary level (19.35%), middle school (17.66%), high school level (16.66%) and Graduate level (13.33%), post graduate level (4.66%) and M.Phil/Ph.D level (0.66%).

The respondents of Komar Khatowal and Charigaon have achieved higher educational standards than those of Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon. The respondents qualified upto higher secondary level are more in Komar Khatowal (27.97%) and Charigaon (28.42%). Similarly, the respondents qualified upto primary level is more in Gorowal Chungi (31.34%) and Rampur (22.95%).

15. Most of the families (89.34%) of the villages are nuclear; and the rest are joint. Nuclear families are more (94.22%) in Charigaon than in Komar Khatowal (86.70%), Gorowal Chungi (92.77%) and Rampur Gaon (80.32%). Similarly, numbers of joint families are more in Rampur Gaon (19.68%) than in Komar Khatowal (13.24%), Charigaon (5.68%) and Gorowal Chungi (7.23%).

16. Over (54%) of the respondents have small family, followed by medium size family (35.34%). Only 10.66 percent families are large in size. In Rampur Gaon, number of medium size family is more (44.27%) as compared to the rest of the villages. Similarly, number of large size family is more (19.67%) in Rampur Gaon than any other villages under the study.

17. In the respondents' families, 994 (55.31%) are male and 771 (44.69%) are female. Out of the total persons of both the genders, the highest number of persons (12.88%) is in the age group of 36-40 and the lowest number is found in 31-35 (3.36%).

In Komar Khatowal, 12.19 percent are in the age group of 41-45, followed by the age group of 36-40 (11.49%). In Charigaon, equal number is found in the age

groups of 36-40 (12.67%) and above 60 (12.67%) each, followed by the age group of 41-45 (12.29%). In Gorowal Chungi, 12.88 percent of the respondents are in the age group of 51-55 followed by the age group of 36-40 (12.19%). In Rampur Gaon, 15.98 percent of the respondent in the age group of 36-40, followed by the age group of 56-60 (10.50%).

18. Of the respondents' family members 803 (46.58%) are married followed by the unmarried ones (39.65 %.). While 11.65 percent are children, a very few persons are widow (1.62%), re-married (0.28%). divorced (0.17%) and deserted (0.05%).

19. Of the respondents' family members, 441 (25.56%) are students followed by housewives (21.46%), cultivators (17.85%), business holders (15.71), labourers (12.46%) and service (6.43%). The number of students is more in Komar Khatowal, Charigaon and Gorowal Chungi while the number of labourers more in Rampur Gaon.

20. Regarding the allied occupation of the respondents' family members, of the total 138 persons, 32 (23.18%) have private tuition, followed by vegetable shop (22.49%), grocery shop (14.49%), stationary shop ((10.88%), cloth store (7.97%), cyber café (7.97%), pharmacy (4.34%), and electronic shop (4.34%).

Number of persons having private tuitions is more in Komar Khatowal (22.88%), Gorowal Chungi (25.94%) and Rampur Gaon (31.59%) and of those having vegetable shops is more (22.80%) in Charigaon.

21. In all the villages more persons are found in BPL category. Of total 972 persons of BPL category, 370 (38.09%) have annual income in the group of Rs. 20108-22634, followed by the group of Rs 17581-20107 (35.90%), Rs 15054-17580 (13.16%), Rs 12527-15053 (7.61%) and Rs 10000-12526 (5.24%).

Number of persons of BPL category having high income is more in Komar Khatowal and Charigaon while persons of BPL category having income in medium range is more in Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon.

22. Of the persons of APL category 52.56 percent have income above Rs 35270, followed by the income group of Rs 32743-35269 (23.40%). The rest are in the income group of Rs 30216-32742 (10.06%), Rs 22635-25161 (6.77%), Rs 27689-30215 (3.69%) and Rs 25162-27688 (3.49%). Number of persons with high income is more in Komar Khatowal and Charigaon while number of those with medium range is more in Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon.

23. Of the total family population, 403 (23.36%) are qualified upto primary level, followed by qualification upto high school level (22.23%), of the total population of the villages. Number of persons is not so less who have qualification of middle school level (21.46%) and higher secondary level (17.62%), graduate level (10.31%), illiterate (2.72%), post graduate (1.73%) and M.Phil/ Ph.D level (0.57%). M.Phil/ Ph.D degree holders are found only in Komar Khatowal (1.39%) and Charigaon (1.06).

In Komar Khatowal (28.59%) and Charigaon (26.75%), more persons are qualified upto higher secondary level while persons are more (27.89%) in Rampur Gaon qualified upto primary level. In Gorowal Chungi Gaon, the persons qualified upto middle school level is more (31.05%).

24. As regards the owners of house, 88.34 percent are male and the rest are female. Male ownership is more (91.57%) in Gorowal Chungi than in Komar Khatowal (86.77%), Charigaon (88.64%) and Rampur Gaon (85.25%). Similarly, female ownership is more in Rampur Gaon (14.75%) than in Komar Khatowal (13.23%), Charigaon (11.36%) and Gorowal Chungi (8.43%).

25. Of 300 total households, 73 (24.35%) are Assam type (pacca) houses, followed by Kachcha houses (18.33%). Besides, 17.01 percent households are pacca, 15.33 percent are L- patterned (kachcha) and 11.33 percent have L patterned (pacca) house, RCC building (3.66%), U patterned (pacca) house (1%), and U- patterned (Kachcha) house (0.33%). Assam type (pacca) houses are more in Komar Khatowal (32.37%) and Charigaon (35.24%) while Kachcha houses are more in Gorowal Chungi (36.16%) and Rampur Gaon (22.95%).

26. Regarding basic amenities, a large number of households are having separate kitchen: 90.90 percent in Charigaon, 86.76 percent in Komar Khatowal, 77.10 percent in Gorowal Chungi and 65.57 percent in Rampur Gaon. Attached latrine facility is less in the villages: 10.22 percent in Charigaon, 5.88 percent in Komar Khatowal and no attached latrine in Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon.

Bathroom facility is found in most of the houses (95.45%) in Charigaon, followed by those in Komar Khatowal (94.11%). 78.31 percent household in Gorowal Chungi and 77.04 percent in Rampur have bathroom facility.

27. Of the 300 total households, 171 (57%) have pacca latrines, followed by Kachcha latrine (40%). Pacca latrine facility is more in both Komar Khatowal (76.47%) and Charigaon (78.41%) while Kachcha latrine is more in Gorowal Chungi (61.45%) and Rampur Gaon (55.75%). A few houses in Gorowal Chungi (6.02%) and Rampur Gaon (6.55%) defecate in open spaces.

28. For drinking water the number of households using pond and private tubewell (23.68%), private tubewell (22.68%) and Govt. pipe water supply and private tube well (16.33%) are more than those using river and private tube well (13.33%), Govt. pipe water supply (11.33%), Pond and Hand Pump (6.33%), Pond (3.66%) and Home fitted running water with motor (2.66%).

Use of pond and private tube well as source of drinking water is more in Komar Khatowal (45.60%) and Rampur Gaon (40.98%) while the households using Govt. pipe water supply and private tubewell are more in Charigaon (35.24%). In Gorowal Chungi, more (48.22%) households use river and private tubewell as their source of drinking water.

29. Out of the 300 households, 136 (45.34%) use LPG & bamboo/wood as fuel, followed by bamboo/ wood (27%). 26.66 percent households use LPG only. Number of households is very less (1%) in the villages that use bamboo/wood & kerosene stove. LPG & bamboo/wood are used more in each of the village. Number of households using bamboo/wood & kerosene stove is very less in the villages. Only 3.61 percent households in Gorowal Chungi use bamboo/ wood & kerosene stove as their fuel.

30. Of the 300 households, 96 (32%) have four rooms, 68 (22.68%) five rooms, 62 (20.66%) have three rooms, 39 (13%) have two rooms and 34 (11.33%)

have more than five rooms in their houses. The households that have four rooms are more in Komar Khatowal (33.84%), Charigaon (36.38%) and Rampur Gaon (37.72%) while in Gorowal Chungi, more households (28.93%) are having three rooms.

31. Majority of the households (62.66%) have pacca bathroom and the rest have Kachcha bathroom. Pacca bathrooms are more in Komar Khatowal (71.88%), Charigaon (79.76%) and Rampur Gaon (53.20%) while Kachcha bathrooms are more in Gorowal Chungi Gaon (56.92%).

32. Of the households of the respondents (44%) possessed landholding of 5-7 bighas, followed by 2-4 bighas (26%). Besides, 24 percent households possessed 8-10 bighas of land. Households are found very less (6%) in the villages that possessed more than 10 Bighas. Households are found more in Komar Khatowal that have 8-10 bighas of land while households are found more in Charigaon (40.92%), Gorowal Chungi (60.26%) and Rampur Gaon (44.28%) that have 5-7 bigas of land.

33. Predominance of arranged marriage is found in all the villages. Of 300 total households, majority (72%) of the respondents' households prefer arranged marriage and the rest prefer love marriage.

Respondents who prefer arranged marriage are more (85.24%) in Rampur Gaon while respondents preferring love marriage are more (34.95%) in Gorowal Chungi.

34. Majority of the respondents prefer Assamese news papers than English newspapers. In Komar Khatowal, Dainik Janambhumi (51.47%) and Asomiya Pratidin (38.23%) are more popular while in Charigaon Asomiya Pratidin (43.18%) and Dainik Janambhumi (36.36%) are more popular. Asomiya Pratidin (36.14%) and Dainik Janambhumi (31.32%) are also more popular in Gorowal Chungi. Dainik Janambhumi (45.90%) and Asomiya Pratidin (31.14%) are also popular in Rampur Gaon. A few respondents read English newspapers.

35. Current affairs is much read by the respondents in the news papers: Komar Khatowal (38.23%), Charigaon (43.18%), Gorowal Chungi (28.91%) and Rampur (42.62%) while editorial, sports politics, employment news, healthlines, first page news, business news, entertainment news and cinema news are not much read. Number of respondents who read foreign news and international issues is very less.

36. More respondents read the Assamese magazines while a few respondents read English magazines. Prantik and Maya is more popular among the respondents. More respondents read Prantik: 32.29 percent respondents in Komar Khatowal and 34.09 percent in Charigaon. Similarly more respondents read Maya: 27.71 percent respondents in Gorowal Chungi and 36.06 percent in Rampur. Prantik is more popular among General caste and OBCs respondents while Maya is more popular among the SC and tribal respondents.

37. Respondents mostly read current affairs in magazines: 54.41 percent in Komar Khatowal, 47.72 percent in Charigaon, 24.09 percent in Gorowal Chungi and 31.14 percent in Rampur Gaon. Respondents who read the editorial part are found very less in all the villages.

38. Radio listeners are less in number: 5 respondents (7.35%) in Komar Khatowal, 6 (6.81%) in Charigaon, 12 (14.45%) in Gorowal Chungi and 8 (3.11%) in

Rampur Gaon listen radios.

39. Of the total 31 respondents, 26 listen radio at home and the rest listen it at neighbours home. Of 5 respondents of Komar Khatowal, 4 listen Radios at home and the rest 1 listen at neighbor's home. In Charigaon, all the respondents listen it at home. Of 12 respondents of Gorowal Chungi, 9 listen at home and 3 at neighbor's home while 8 respondents in Rampur Gaon, 7 listen at home and the rest 1 at neighbor's home. Among the four villages, radio listeners are more in Gorowal Chungi.

40. Majority of the households of the respondents has television sets: 58 households (85.29%) in Komar Khatowal, 78 (88.63%) in Charigaon, 70 (84.33%) in Gorowal Chungi and 43 (70.49%) in Rampur Gaon.

41. Respondents' interest in watching television programmes is found different in the villages. In Komar Khatowal, majority of respondents (52.94%) watch sports programmes, followed by serials (50%). In Charigaon also majority of respondents (59.09%) watch sports programmes, followed by serials (42.04%). The picture is different in case of Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon. Majority respondents (63.85%) of Gorowal Chungi watch serials, followed by films (49.57%). In Rampur, majority (63.93%) of the respondents watch films, followed by sports (49.18%). The respondents who have interest in watching news, dance, music programmes, agricultural programmes and educational programmes are more in the villages.

42. Of the respondents not many have computer: 16 respondents (23.52%) of Komar Khatowal, 23 (26.13%) of Charigaon, 9 (10.84%) of Gorowal Chungi and 7 (11.47%) of Rampur Gaon.

43. More respondents of Komar Khatowal (26.47%) and Charigaon (30.68%) use computer at home while more respondents of Gorowal Chungi (26.50%) and Rampur Gaon (29.50%) use it at any place.

44. The largest number of the respondents use computer for educational purposes and the rest use it for entertainment, games and business.

CONCLUSION

The people of all ages have been embracing the mobile phone as an effective media of communication. The youths are the most enthusiastic users of it among other people of different age groups. One's personal background determines the use pattern of mobile phone. So, use pattern of mobile is not same among the people of all age, sex, income, occupations etc. In this chapter, a study has been made on different variables of the youths and how these variables are related with mobile phone.
