

## Chapter 4

### Socio-Economic Background of the Respondents

This chapter discuss the socio-economic background of the respondents which includes social structure like families, marriage, kinship, age, education, occupation etc. details of above mentions units are given below:-

#### Age

On the basis of age respondents are divided into certain categories. These are shown clearly in following:

**Table No. 4.01 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of their Age Structure.**

Age Group	Villages						Grand Total And Percentage
	Respondents						
	Kazigaon	Gombiraghat	Maliaghoi	Gombrikhata	Harjhora	Bongshijhora	
20-25	03 (6%)	03 (6%)	03 (6%)	04 (8%)	03 (6%)	03 (6%)	19 (6.33%)
26-30	04 (8%)	03 (6%)	04 (8%)	04 (8%)	02 (4%)	04 (8%)	21 (7%)
31-35	04 (8%)	05 (10%)	04 (8%)	05 (10%)	05 (10%)	05 (10%)	27 (9%)
36-40	05 (10%)	05 (10%)	05 (10%)	05 (10%)	05 (10%)	05(10%)	30 (10%)
41-45	05 (10%)	06 (12%)	05 (10%)	06 (12%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	35 (11.67%)
46-50	06 (12%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	06 (12%)	07 (14%)	39 (13%)
51-55	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	06 (12%)	05 (10%)	39 (13%)
56-60	07 (14%)	05 (10%)	06 (12%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	05 (10%)	36 (12%)
61-65	03 (6%)	05 (10%)	04 (8%)	05 (10%)	04 (8%)	07 (14%)	27 (9%)
66-70	04 (8%)	02 (4%)	04 (8%)	03 (6%)	04 (8%)	04 (8%)	21 (7%)
71 and Above	02 (4%)	01 (2%)	01 (2%)	00	01 (2%)	01 (2%)	06 (2%)
Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	300 (100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The table shows that the respondents are divided into eleventh categories on the basis of their age group like, 20-25, 26-30, 31-35, 36-40, 41-45, 46-50, 51-55, 56-60, 61-65, 66-70 and 71 and above. 13% respondents each belongs to age group of 46-50 and 51-55,

12% respondents are 56-60 age group, 11.67% respondents are 41-45 age group, 10% respondents are 36-40 age group, 9% each belongs to 31-35 and 61-65 age group, 7% each belongs to 26-30 and 66-70 age group, 6.33% respondents are 20-25 age group and 2% respondents are 71 and above age group.

So it can be said that two fifth respondent each belongs to the age group of 21-45 and 46-60 years of age and rest are old. The age structure of the respondents family members are shown in the following table.

**Table No.4.02 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of all their family members Age Structure.**

Age Group	Villages						Grand Total
	Respondents						
	Kaziganon	Gombiraghat	Maliaghoi	Gombrikhatta	Harjhora	Bongshijhora	
1-5	34 (7.90%)	30 (9.93%)	32 (10.06%)	44 (9.84%)	60 (11.65%)	97 (11.04%)	297 (10.27%)
6-10	78 (18.13%)	50 (16.56%)	55 (17.30%)	77 (17.23%)	83 (16.12%)	129 (14.68%)	472 (16.33%)
11-15	51 (11.87%)	54 (17.88%)	55 (17.30%)	59 (13.20%)	69 (13.40%)	107 (12.17%)	395 (13.66%)
16-20	60 (13.95%)	45 (14.90%)	48 (15.09%)	55 (12.30%)	64 (12.43%)	99 (11.26%)	371 (12.83%)
21-25	45 (10.47%)	27 (8.94%)	29 (9.12%)	34 (7.61%)	56 (10.87%)	98 (11.15%)	289 (10%)
26-30	25 (5.81%)	18 (5.96%)	18 (5.66%)	28 (6.26%)	51 (9.90%)	87 (9.90%)	227 (7.95%)
31-35	20 (4.66%)	15 (4.97%)	16 (5.03%)	20 (4.47%)	39 (7.57%)	72 (8.19%)	182 (6.30%)
36-40	28 (6.51%)	18 (5.96%)	19 (5.97%)	35 (7.83%)	27 (5.24%)	67 (7.62%)	194 (6.71%)
41-45	22 (5.11%)	14 (4.64%)	13 (4.09%)	37 (8.28%)	23 (4.47%)	49 (5.57%)	158 (5.47%)
46-50	25 (5.81%)	10 (3.31%)	11 (3.46%)	23 (5.15%)	18 (3.50%)	37 (4.21%)	124 (4.29%)
51-55	10 (2.32%)	09 (2.98%)	10 (3.14%)	18 (4.03%)	14 (2.72%)	16 (1.82%)	77 (2.66%)
56-60	17 (3.96%)	07 (2.31%)	06 (1.89%)	13 (2.91%)	08 (1.55%)	12 (1.37%)	63 (2.18%)
60 Above	15 (3.49%)	05 (1.66%)	06 (1.89%)	04 (0.89%)	03 (0.58%)	09 (1.02%)	42 (1.45%)

e							
Total	430 (100%)	302 (100%)	318 (100%)	447 (100%)	515 (100%)	879 (100%)	2891 (100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The above data shows that 16.33% villages belongs to the age group of 6-10 years, 13.66% belongs to age group of 11-15 years, 12.83% belongs to the age group of 16-20, 10% each belongs to 1-5 and 21-25 years, 7.95% belongs to the age group of 26-30 years, 6.71% and 6.30% belongs to 36-40, 31-35 respectively, 5.47% belongs to 41-45 years, 4.29% belongs to 46-50 years of age, near about 2% each belongs to 51-55, 56-60 years of age and 1.45% belongs to 60 above. So, it is found that 40.26% villagers belong to the age group of 1-15 years, 30.78% belongs to the age group of 16-30 years. It can be said that majority of population belongs to child followed by youth and old age.

### **Marital Status**

Marriage is an important and universal social institution of society. As a social institution, it provides a recognized form for entering into a relatively enduring heterosexual relationship for the bearing and rearing of children. It is thus primarily a way of regulating human reproduction. The marital status of the respondents has shown in the following table.

**Table No. 4.03 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of their marital status.**

Marital Status	Villages						Grand Total And Percentage
	Respondents						
	Kaziga on	Gombirag hat	Maliagh oi	Gombrikh ata	Harjho ra	Bongshijh ora	
Married	32 (64%)	25 (50%)	30 (60%)	28 (56%)	26 (52%)	29 (58%)	170 (56.67%)
Unmarried	14 (28%)	15 (30%)	16 (32%)	17 (34%)	19 (38%)	16 (32%)	97 (32.33%)
Widow	01 (2%)	08 (16%)	02 (4%)	03 (6%)	01 (2%)	02 (4%)	17 (5.67%)
Widower	2 (4%)	02 (4%)	01 (2%)	01 (2%)	03 (6%)	02 (4%)	11 (3.67%)
Divorced	01 (2%)	-	01 (2%)	01 (2%)	01 (2%)	01 (2%)	05 (1.67%)

Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	300 (100%)
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**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The above data depicts that the respondents are divided into five categories on the basis of their marital status namely married, unmarried, widow, widower and divorced. Among the respondents 56.67% are married, 32.33% are unmarried, 5.67% are widow, 3.67% are widower and 1.67% is divorced. Village wise 64% respondents of Kazigaon are married, 60% respondents of Malighoi, 58% Bongshijhora, 56% respondents of Gombrikhata, 52% respondents of Harjhora and 50% respondents of Gombrighat are married. Near one third respondents of all the villages are unmarried. Regarding widow, Gombrighat has large number of widows (16%) followed by Gombrikhata (6%), Malighoi (4%) and other village. It is also found that except Gombrighat, 2% respondents of all the villages are divorced. Divorce is not a rare phenomenon among the Bodos. Widow, widower and divorce remarriage are allowed among the Bodos. But it largely depends upon age of the person. The preferable age for remarriage of a widow and female divorce is upto 35 and male upto 45 years. But all the widow and widower of the studied villages are above 45 year of age. So, possibility is very less for their remarriage.

### **Age at Marriage**

Age at marriage is an important indicator of development, gender attitude in a given society. It also helps to understand the process of change in the society and community. The data related to age at marriage of the respondents of six villages are given in the following:

**Table No. 4.04 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of age at their marriage.**

Age at marriage	Villages Respondents						Grand Total And Percentage
	Kazigaon	Gombiraghat	Maliagh oi	Gombrikhata	Harjhora	Bongshijhora	
18-20	02 (4%)	03 (6%)	01 (2%)	02 (4%)	01 (2%)	02 (4%)	11 (3.67%)
21-23	08 (16%)	09 (18%)	08 (16%)	05 (10%)	04 (8%)	03 (6%)	37 (12.33%)

24-26	09 (18%)	07 (14%)	10 (20%)	09 (18%)	11 (22%)	08 (16%)	54 (18%)
27-29	14 (28%)	13 (26%)	13 (26%)	15 (30%)	11 (22%)	12 (24%)	78 (26%)
30-32	09 (18%)	11 (22%)	13 (26%)	10 (20%)	14 (28%)	15 (30%)	72 (24%)
33-35	04 (8%)	05 (10%)	04 (8%)	06 (12%)	07 (14%)	08 (16%)	34 (11.33%)
36-38	03 (6%)	02 (4%)	01 (2%)	02 (4%)	02 (4%)	01 (2%)	11 (3.67%)
39 above	01 (2%)	-	-	01 (2%)	-	01 (2%)	03 (1%)
Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	300 (100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The above table illustrates that 26% respondents' get marriage at the age group of 27-29 years, 24% respondent get married at the age group of 30-32 years, 18% at the age group of 24-26 years, 12.33% at the age group of 21-23 years, 11.33 at the age group of 33-35years, 3.67 each at the age group of 18-20 and 36-38year and 1% get married at the age group of 39 and above. So, almost 68% respondents get married at the age group of 26-32 years. Village wise in Kazigaon 64% respondent get married between the age group of 24-32 years, 59% respondent of Gombiraghat, 72% respondent of Malighoi, 68% respondent of Gombrikhata, 72% of Harjhora and 70% respondent of Bongshijhora get married at the age group of 24-32 years, 18% respondent of Gombrighat, 16% of Kazigaon and Malighoi, 10% respondent of Gombrikhata, 8% and 6% respondents of Harjhora and Bongshijhora respectively get married at the age group of 21-23 years, 18% each of Harjhora and Bongshijhora, 16% respondents of Gombrikhata, 14% each of Kazigaon and Gombiraghat and 10% respondents of Malighoi get married at the age group of 33-38years. Nearly one tenth of the respondent of all six villages get married at the age of 18-20 year of age. Only 2% each of Kazigaon, Gombrikhata and Bongshijhora get married at the age group of 39 and above.

It appears from the above analysis that none of the villagers get married before attaining legal age and physical maturity. The upper and lower age limit for the villagers is between 21-35 years that is 15 years and a negligible portion of villagers get married

before attaining 21 years of age after crossing 35 years of age. Thus a tendency of late marriage prevails among the villages. It may be due to modern education.

## Family

Family is one of the most important social institutions. It is a very basic unit of the social structure in any society. It is a universal social institution and has existed throughout the history of human society in some form or the other. MacIver and Page (1987) said that family is a group defined by a sex relationship sufficiently, precise and enduring to provide for the procreation and upbringing of children. In six villages both the type nuclear and joint families are found. The types of families of the respondents are given in the following table.

**Table No. 4.05 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of types of their family.**

Types of Family	Villages Respondents						Grand Total and Percentage
	Kazigaon	Gombiraghat	Maliaghoi	Gombrikhata	Harjhora	Bongshijhora	
Joint	23 (46%)	28 (56%)	26 (52%)	29 (58%)	27 (54%)	20 (40%)	153 (51%)
Nuclear	27 (54%)	22 (44%)	24 (48%)	21 (42%)	23 (46%)	30 (60%)	147 (49%)
Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	300 (100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The data shows that 51% respondents belong to joint and 49% respondents belong to nuclear family. Village wise 58% respondents of Gombrikhata, 56% of Gombiraghat, 54%, Harjhora, 52% of Maliaghoi, 46% respondents of Kazigaon and 40% of Bongshijhora are belongs to joint family and 60% respondents of Bongshijhora, 54% of Kazigaon, 48% of Maliaghoi 46% of Harjhora 44% of Gombiraghat, 42% of Gombrikhata are belongs to nuclear family.

## Size of the Family

On the basis of the size, the families of six villages are classified into six categories: (i) 1-2 members (ii) 3-4 members (iii) 5-6 members, (iv) 7-8 members and (v) 9 and above. Different sizes of families in the village are given in the following table.

**Table No. 4.06 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of the size of their family.**

Size of Family	Villages Respondents						Grand Total And Percentage
	Kazigaon	Gombiraghat	Malighoi	Gombrikhat	Harjhora	Bongshijhora	
1-2	07 (14%)	05 (10%)	03 (6%)	04 (8%)	04 (8%)	05 (10%)	28 (9.33%)
3-4	15 (30%)	12 (24%)	10 (20%)	09 (18%)	08 (16%)	10 (20%)	64 (21.33%)
5-6	14 (28%)	20 (40%)	18 (36%)	21 (42%)	20 (40%)	17 (34%)	110 (36.67%)
7-8	10 (20%)	08 (16%)	12 (24%)	14 (28%)	18 (36%)	13 (26%)	75 (25%)
9-above	04 (8%)	05 (10%)	07 (14%)	02 (4%)	-	05 (10%)	23 (7.67%)
Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	300 (100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The above table shows respondents family size has been categorized as 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 and 9 above. 36.63% respondents family have 5-6 members, 25% respondents have 7-8 members, 21.33% have 3-4 members, 9.33% have 1-2 member and 7.67% respondents have 9 and more family members. Village wise, nearly 40% family of Gombiraghat, Gombrikhata and Harjhora, 28% family of Kazigaon, 36% Malighoi and 34% family of Bongshijhora have 5-6 member, 30% family of Kazigaon, 24% of Gombiraghat, 20% each of Malighoi and Bongshijhora, 18% of Gombrikhata and 16% of Harjhora have 3-4 members. Again 36% respondent of Harjhora, 28%, 26%, 24%, 20% and 16% family of Gombrikhata, Bongshijhora, Malighoi, Kazigaon and Gombiraghat respectively have 7-8 members, 14% family of Malighoi, 10% each of Gombiraghat and Bongshijhora, 8% family of Kazigaon and 4% family of Gombrikhata have 9 and above members. For

getting clearer picture about the size of the family the following table will depict the types of family along with its size.

**Table No. 4.07 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of types of family along with its size.**

Types of Family	Size of Families					Total and Percentage
	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9 and Above	
Nuclear	35 (23.64%)	30 (20.27%)	38 (25.67%)	35 (23.64%)	10 (6.75%)	148 (100%)
Joint	-	-	69 (45.39%)	70 (46.5%)	13 (8.52%)	152 (100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The above table reveals that 25.67% nuclear family of these villages have 5-6 members, 23.64% each nuclear family have 1-2 and 7-8 members, 20.27% and 6.75% nuclear family have 3-4 and 9 and above members respectively, whereas 45.39% joint families of these villages have 5-6 members and 46.5% have 7-8 members and 8.52% have 9 and above members. So, nine tenth joint families have and two fourth nuclear families have 5-8 members. This shows that overall size of nuclear family is large whereas sizes of joint family of these villages are neither too small nor too large.

## **Education**

Education plays a significant role in socio-economic development of a community. Education has multiple impacts on society like economic growth, population control, change in day to day life activities etc. Educational qualifications of the respondents of the villages are shown in the following:



**Table No. 4.08 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of their educational qualification.**

Educa tional Qualif ication	Villages												Grand Total
	Respodents												
	Kazigaon		Gombiragh at		Maliaghoi		Gombrikhat a		Harjhora		Bongshijho ra		
	Male	Fe mal e	Male	Fe mal e	Mal e	Fe mal e	Male	Fem ale	Male	Fem ale	Male	Fe mal e	
Illitera te	01 (2%)	03 (6%) )	01 (2%)	02 (4%) )	01 (2%) )	02 (4%) )	01 (2%)	03 (6%)	02 (4%)	01 (2%)	02 (4%)	02 (4%) )	21 (7%)
Primar y	03 (6%)	01 (2%) )	03 (6%)	02 (4%) )	04 (8%) )	02 (4%) )	03 (6%)	01 (2%)	02 (4%)	02 (4%)	02 (4%)	02 (4%) )	27 (9%)
Middl e Schoo l	05 (10 %)	03 (6%) )	06 (12 %)	02 (4%) )	05 (10 %)	03 (6%) )	05 (10 %)	03 (6%)	05 (10 %)	03 (6%)	06 (12 %)	02 (4%) )	48 (16%)
High Schoo l	06 (12 %)	05 (10 %)	06 (12 %)	04 (8%) )	06 (12 %)	03 (6%) )	05 (10 %)	05 (10 %)	07 (14 %)	04 (8%)	06 (12 %)	04 (8%) )	61 (20.33%)
HSLC	05 (10 %)	02 (4%) )	04 (8%)	02 (4%) )	05 (10 %)	02 (4%) )	04 (8%)	02 (4%)	03 (6%)	03 (6%)	03 (6%)	03 (6%) )	38 (12.67%)
HS	05 (10 %)	03 (6%) )	05 (10 %)	03 (6%) )	05 (10 %)	02 (4%) )	05 (10 %)	04 (8%)	04 (8%)	02 (4%)	06 (12 %)	03 (6%) )	47 (15.67%)
Gradu ate	03 (6%)	01 (2%) )	04 (8%)	02 (4%) )	04 (8%) )	02 (4%) )	03 (6%)	02 (4%)	05 (10 %)	03 (6%)	04 (8%)	01 (2%) )	34 (11.33%)
Post- Gradu ate	03 (6%)	01 (2%) )	03 (6%)	01 (2%) )	03 (6%) )	01 (2%) )	02 (4%)	02 (4%)	02 (4%)	02 (4%)	03 (6%)	01 (2%) )	24 (8%)
Total	50 (100 %)		50 (100 %)		50 (100%)		50 (100 %)		50 (100%)		50 (100%)		300 (100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The above data shows that 17% respondents educated up to high school level out of which 8.33% male and 9.33% female, followed by 14.33% and 14.67% are educated up to High school leaving certificate and higher secondary level respectively, out of which 10% male and 4.33% female educated up to high school leaving certificate level and 8.33% male 6.33% female up to higher secondary level. 13.67% educated up to middle school level, out of which 8.67% male and 5% one female, 10% respondents educated up

to graduate level out of which 7% male and 3% female, 9.67% are educated up to Primary level out of which 6% male and 3.67% are female, 4% respondent educated up to post graduate level out of which 2.67% male and 1.33% female and 16% respondents of these villages are illiterate out of which 7.33% male 8.67 are female.

The analysis shows that literary is predominant of these villages. Educational Qualification of these villages ranges from primary to post graduate level and not much gender gap are found is regards to educational qualification. For getting clearer picture of literacy level of the villagers an analysis of respondents family members educational status is given below:

**Table No. 4.09 Distribution of the Respondents Family on the basis of their educational qualification.**

Educa tional Qualif icatio n	Villages												Grand Total
	Respodents												
	Kazigaon		Gombiragh at		Maliaghoi		Gombrikhat a		Harjhora		Bongshijho ra		
Male	Fe mal e	Male	Fe mal e	Mal e	Fe mal e	Male	Fem ale	Male	Fem ale	Male	Fe mal e		
Illitera te	20 (8.0 3%)	26 (14. 36 %)	16 (8.7 0%)	19 (16. 10 %)	17 (9.5 5%)	23 (16. 43 %)	44 (17. 25% )	35 (18. 13% )	49 (16. 61% )	35 (15. 98% )	87 (17. 61% )	59 (15. 32 %)	430 (14.87% )
Prima ry	50 (20. 08% )	41 (22. 65 %)	35 (19. 02% )	28 (23. 73 %)	33 (18. 54 %)	33 (23. 57 %)	46 (18. 04% )	37 (19. 17% )	51 (17. 29% )	44 (22. 09% )	109 (22. 06% )	80 (20. 78 %)	587 (20.30% )
Middl e Schoo l	45 (18. 07% )	31 (17. 13 %)	39 (21. 20% )	24 (20. 34 %)	41 (23. 03 %)	27 (19. 29 %)	33 (12. 94% )	26 (13. 47% )	59 (20 %)	39 (17. 81% )	97 (19. 06% )	86 (22. 34 %)	547 (18.92% )
High Schoo l	47 (18. 88% )	36 (19. 89 %)	29 (15. 76% )	18 (15. 25 %)	28 (15. 73 %)	24 (17. 14 %)	48 (18. 82% )	37 (19. 17) )	42 (14. 24% )	37 (16. 89% )	79 (15. 99% )	70 (18. 18 %)	495 (17.12% )
HSLC	34 (13. 65% )	18 (9.9 4%)	23 (12. 50% )	14 (11. 86 %)	19 (10. 67 %)	14 (10 %)	25 (9.8 0%)	28 (14. 5%)	35 (11. 86% )	34 (15. 53% )	54 (10. 93% )	48 (12. 47 %)	346 (11.97% )
HS	27	16 (8.8 4%)	26 (14. 13% )	09 (7.6 3%)	22 (12. 36 %)	10 (7.1 4%)	31 (12. 16% )	19 (9.8 4%)	21 (7.1 2%)	13 (5.9 4%)	35 (7.0 9%)	24 (6.2 3%)	253 (8.75%)

Graduate	16 (6.4 3%)	09 (4.9 7%)	12 (6.5 2%)	05 (4.24 %)	13 (7.3 0%)	07 (5% )	23 (9.0 2%)	09 (4.6 6%)	29 (9.8 3%)	11 (5.0 2%)	20 (4.0 5%)	11 (2.8 6%)	165 (5.71%)
Post-Graduate	10 (4.0 2%)	04 (2.2 1% %)	04 (2.1 7%)	01 (0.8 5%)	05 (2.8 1%)	02 (1.4 3%)	05 (1.9 6%)	02 (1.0 4%)	09 (3.0 5%)	06 (2.7 4%)	13 (2.6 3%)	07 (1.8 2%)	68 (2.35%)
Total	430 (100%)		302 (100%)		318 (100%)		447 (100%)		515 (100%)		879 (100%)		2891 (100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The data reveals that 20.30% villagers are educated upto primary level, 18.92% educated upto middle school level, 17.12% upto high school level, 11.97% upto HSLC level, 8.75% villagers are educated upto HS level, 5.715 and 2.325 are educated upto graduate and post graduate level and 14.87% are illiterate. The pictures of literacy level of all the six villagers are almost same. So, it appears that literacy is the predominant feature in these villages than illiteracy.

### **Economic Status**

Traditional occupation of Bodo is agriculture. The majority of them are lived in plan area where they can cultivate easily. Economic status of a community reflected from its occupational patterns, income, size of land holding etc. In the six villages, most of the villagers are farmer. So, the main occupations of the villagers are cultivation and government service. The villagers have few major occupations and the others as allied ones. Major occupations are cultivation, government service, shop keeping and allied occupations are like wage labor, weaving, selling cloth and tailoring etc. Majority of occupation are dependable for maintaining their livelihood.

### **Occupational pattern**

Agriculture is the main occupation of the respondents and few of them are engaged in government service, shop keeping, wage labor and private service etc. Occupational pattern depicts the living standard of the villagers. On the basis of occupation; the respondents are classified into six main categories. These are (i) **Cultivation**, (ii) **Government service**, (iii) **Shop keeping**, (iv) **Housewife**, (v) **Wage labor** and (vi)

**Private Service.** The distribution of respondents into these categories is shown in the following table.

**Table No. 4.10 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of their Occupation.**

Occupation	Respondents		Grand Total and Percentage
	Male	Female	
Cultivation	60(20%)	25(8.33%)	85(28.33%)
Government Job	45(15%)	24(8%)	69(23%)
Shop Keeping	26(8.67)	19(6.33%)	45(15%)
House Wife		25(8.33%)	25(8.33%)
Wage Labor	27(9%)	19(6.33%)	46(15.33%)
Private Job	20(6.67)	10(3.33%)	30(10%)
<b>Total</b>	178 (59.34%)	122(40.65%)	300(100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The above table depicts that 28.33% respondents main occupation is cultivation out of which 20% are male and 8.33% are female, 23% respondents are government servant out of which 15% male and 8% female, 15% respondents main occupation is shop keeping out of which 8.67% male are male and 6.33% are female, 8.33% are house wife, 15.33% main occupation is wage labor out of which 9% are male and 6.33% are female, 10% respondents engaged in private sector for maintaining their livelihood out of which 6.67% male 3.33% female. The details of these occupations are given bellow.

### **Government Service**

Government service is the value of government benefit and services provided a person, partnership, corporation or other legal entity over a given period of time, including the proportional value of general governmental expenses and social welfare costs (Turley 1987). In six villages, there are 45 government servants. Among them eightenths (18) are working as a teacher in different primary, M.E school, High School, ten (10) are working in Indian army as a soldier, five (5) are lower division clerk of which one is working in health centre office and one in circle office. The rest each one is working as Assistant Railway Station Master, Advocate, Mandal, Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) supervisor and fire brigade service respectively.

## **Shop Keeping**

A person who owns or manages a shop or small store is called shopkeeper. In all the six villages few people maintain their livelihood by shop keeping. Their customers are villagers only and they sale goods in cash and credit also.

## **Wage labor**

Generally by wage labor we mean that the mode of production in which the laborer sells their capacity to work as commodity. 15.33% respondents' source of earning is wage laborer. Normally the villagers who have no sufficient agricultural land and other source of income they adopt wage labour as their occupation. They work on daily wage basis in other's houses, farms etc. Their work include repairing houses, tilling, cutting the crops, making bamboo fencing, collecting firewood and other allied works related with cultivation etc. For these works they earn Rs.150-200 per day and one time meal. They mostly work in their own and neighboring villages. The works of female wage labor are related to domestic work like cleaning the houses, washing clothes, planting work of paddy etc. For these work they get Rs.100-150 per day with one time meal.

## **Private Service**

In the era of globalization, job in private sector become one of the major source of income for the educated unemployed youth. Many people from six villages earn by working in private sector .Among them two are the private school teacher, three are driver and rest are working in different companies.

## **Cultivation**

Majority of the respondents of these villages maintain their livelihood through cultivation. They mainly practices settle cultivation in their own land or lease land. The types of agricultural adopted by the villagers are shown in the following table.

**Table No. 4.11 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of the types of Agriculture they adopted.**

Types of Agriculture	Villages						Grand Total
	Respodents						
	Kazigaon	Gombiraghat	Maliaghoi	Gombrikhata	Harjhora	Bongshijhora	
Settle cultivation in their own land	37 (74%)	35 (70%)	36 (72%)	31 (62%)	33 (66%)	34 (68%)	206 (68.67%)
Settle cultivation in lease land	13 (26%)	15 (30%)	14 (28%)	19 (38%)	17 (34%)	16 (32%)	94 (31.33%)
Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	300 (100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The table depicts the type of agriculture adopted by respondents. Normally village's practices settled cultivation but on the basis of ownership of agricultural land it may be divided into two types. It is found that villagers either cultivated in their own land or cultivated in others land. It is also found that 68.67% respondent practices agriculture in their own land whereas rest of the people cultivated others land on lease based. Lease is given on the basis of agreement like cultivators have to give fifty percent of agricultural product to the owner of the land. In all the six villages both the types of cultivator are found. Near three forth cultivator of Kazigaon, Gombiraghat and Malighoi and more than two third cultivators of Gombrikhata, Harjhora, and Bongshijhora cultivated in their own land and rest of the farmer cultivated other land on lease basis.

### **Size of Land Holding**

In six villages majority of the villagers have more or less cultivable land. The sizes of the land holding of the villagers are given bellow.

**Table No. 4.12 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of the size of Landholding.**

Size of Land Holding	Villages						Grand Total
	Respondents						
	Kazigaon	Gombiraghat	Maliaghoi	Gombrikhata	Harjhora	Bongshijhora	
1-5	10 (20%)	15 (30%)	18 (36%)	17 (34%)	16 (32%)	18 (36%)	94 (31.33%)
6-10	05 (10%)	07 (14%)	06 (12%)	05 (10%)	05 (10%)	07 (14%)	35 (11.67%)
11-15	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	05 (10%)	07 (14%)	08 (16%)	08 (16%)	42 (14%)
16-20	09 (18%)	07 (14%)	06 (12%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	04 (8%)	40 (13.33%)
21-25	08 (16%)	06 (12%)	07 (14%)	06 (12%)	05 (10%)	04 (8%)	36 (12%)
26-30	07 (14%)	04 (8%)	05 (10%)	04 (8%)	04 (8%)	04 (8%)	28 (9.33%)
31 Above	04 (8%)	04 (8%)	03 (6%)	04 (8%)	05 (6%)	05 (10%)	25 (8.33%)
Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	300 (100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The above table shows that 31.33% respondents have 1-5 bighas of land, 14% respondents have 11-15 bighas of land, 13.33% respondents have 16-20 bighas of land, 12% respondents have 21-25 bighas of land, and 9.33% and 8.33% respondents have 26-30 and 31 above bighas of cultivable land respectively. The villagers inform that those who have 1-5 bighas of land, they have to cultivate other land also on the lease basis because cultivating 1-5 bighas are not sufficient for maintaining livelihood.

### **Types of crops**

The villager's produces different types of crops in their agricultural field. They mainly produce rice, and seasonal vegetable like tomato, cabbage, cauliflower, and pumpkins etc. They produce crops both for domestic consumption as well as for commercial purposes. The types of crops they produce are shown in the following table:

**Table No. 4.13 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of the types of Crops they produced**

Types of Crop	Villages						Grand Total And Percentage
	Respondents						
	Kazigaon	Gombiraghat	Maliaghoi	Gombrikhata	Harjhora	Bongshijhora	
Rice	34 (68%)	30 (60%)	32 (64%)	35 (70%)	33 (66%)	33 (66%)	197 (65.67%)
Rice and Vegetable	10 (20%)	12 (24%)	10 (20%)	07 (14%)	09 (18%)	06 (12%)	54 (18%)
Rice, Vegetable and Fruits	06 (12%)	08 (16%)	08 (16%)	08 (16%)	08 (16%)	11 (22%)	49 (16.33%)
Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	300 (100%)

**Source:** Field study conducted during on May 2012 - January 2015.

The above table shows that 65.67% respondents produce only rice, 18% respondent produce two types of agriculture product like rice and vegetable and 16.33% respondents produce three types of agricultural product like rice, fruit and vegetable. Village wise, more than 60% respondents of all the six villages produce single crop that is rice, 24% respondent of Gombiraghat, 20% each of Kazigaon and Malighoi, 18% respondent of Harjhora, 14% of respondent of Gombrikhata and 12% of respondent of Bongshijhora produce vegetable along with rice, 22% of respondent of Bongshijhora, 16% of each respondent of Gombiraghat, Malighoi, Gombrikhata and Harjhora 12% respondents of Kazigaon produce three types of agricultural products like rice, vegetable and fruits.

### **Agricultural Implements**

Most of the Bodo farmer still followed traditional method for cultivation and uses agricultural implements like chopper, spade, scissors, plough and hatchet. The agricultural implements of the villagers are shown in the following table



**Table No. 4.14 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of the Types of Agricultural Implements they used**

Types of Crops Material	Villages						Grand Total (%)
	Respondents						
	Kazigaon	Gombiraghat	Maliaghoi	Gombrikhat	Harjhora	Bongshijhora	
Plough	17 (34%)	20 (40%)	19 (38%)	21 (42%)	19 (38%)	22 (44%)	118 (39.33%)
Plough and Chopper	07 (14%)	08 (16%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	06 (12%)	06 (12%)	41 (13.66%)
Chopper and Spade	10 (20%)	06 (12%)	09 (18%)	05 (10%)	10 (20%)	06 (12%)	46 (15.33%)
Power tiller and Water pump	13 (26%)	12 (24%)	12 (24%)	14 (28%)	13 (26%)	15 (30%)	79 (26.33%)
Tractor	03 (6%)	04 (8%)	03 (6%)	03 (6%)	02 (4%)	01 (2%)	16 (5.33%)
Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	300 (100%)

**Source:** Field study conducted during on May 2012 - January 2015

The above data reveals that 68.32% respondent still uses traditional agricultural implements, among them them 39.33% have four types of agricultural equipments namely chopper, spade and plough, 15.33% respondents have two types of implements like spade and plough, 13.67% have plough and chopper. Whereas 31.66% respondents have modern agricultural implements like 26.33% have power tiller and water pump and 5.33% have tractor. It is also obvious from the table that chopper, spade and plough are mostly used implements for cultivation. Again the use of modern agricultural implements for cultivation by one fourth respondents shows the initiation of modernization of agriculture in these villages.

Village wise, it can be said that near three fourth of the respondents of all the six villages still use traditional implements for cultivation and more than one fourth respondents started to use modern implements for cultivation.

## Animal Husbandry

The Bodos of six villages keep some domestic animals like duck, hen, cow, buffalo, pig, goat etc. They keep animal for agriculture and other purposes like milk, meat, egg and trade.

**Table No. 4.15 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of the Animal they have.**

Types of Animal	Villages Respondents						Grand Total And Percentage
	Kaziga on	Gombirag hat	Maliaghoi	Gombrikh ata	Harjhora	Bongshijh ora	
	Duck, Hen	04 (8%)	06 (12%)	04 (8%)	02 (4%)	03 (6%)	
Duck, Hen, Cow	07 (14%)	06 (12%)	04 (8%)	06 (12%)	04 (8%)	04 (8%)	31 (10.33%)
Cow	12 (24%)	13 (26%)	13 (26%)	10 (20%)	12 (24%)	12 (24%)	72 (24%)
Buffalo	02 (4%)	01 (2%)	01 (2%)	02 (4%)	01 (2%)	00	07 (2.33%)
Duck and Goat	06 (12%)	03 (6%)	02 (4%)	04 (8%)	02 (4%)	03 (6%)	20 (6.67%)
Duck, Cow, Goat	04 (8%)	06 (12%)	07 (14%)	09 (18%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	40 (13.33%)
Cow, and Pig	04 (8%)	05 (10%)	08 (16%)	10 (20%)	10 (20%)	09 (18%)	46 (15.33%)
Pig and Hen	02 (4%)	03 (6%)	04 (8%)	03 (6%)	04 (8%)	02 (4%)	18 (6%)
Cow, Pig and Hen	09 (18%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	04 (8%)	07 (14%)	09 (18%)	43 (14.33%)
Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	300 (100%)

**Source:** Field study conducted during on May 2012 - January 2015

The above data shows that almost all the respondents domesticate one or other types of animal. It also found that the villagers keep six types of animal like cow, buffalo, ducks, hen, and pig and got. 35% respondents have two types of animal like duck and hen (7.67%), duck and goat (6.67%), cow and pig (15.33%) and pig and hen (6%), 37.99% respondents have three types of animal such as duck, hen and cow (10.33%), duck, cow

and goat (13.33%), cow, pig and hen (14.33%) and 26.33% respondents have one types of animal like cow (24%) and Buffalo (2.33%). Domesticating animal is common feature in all the six villages. In short, the villagers keep animal for meeting their dietary as well as monetary requirement.

### Monthly Family Income

Monthly income of a person, group or community indicates the standard of living as well as economic status. Following table will reveal the economic status of the villagers.

**Table No. 4.16 Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of their monthly family income.**

Monthly income (in rupees)	Villages Respondents						Grand Total And Percentage
	Kazigao n	Gombiragh at	Maliagh oi	Gombrikhat a	Harjhor a	Bongshijhor a	
5000-6000	02 (4%)	03 (6%)	02 (4%)	04 (8%)	02 (4%)	03 (6%)	16 (5.33%)
7000-8000	05 (10%)	03 (6%)	04 (8%)	03 (6%)	04 (8%)	04 (8%)	23 (7.67%)
9000-10000	05 (10%)	06 (12%)	05 (10%)	04 (8%)	04 (8%)	05 (10%)	29 (9.67%)
11000-12000	06 (12%)	06 (12%)	05 (10%)	06 (12%)	06 (12%)	05 (10%)	34 (11.33%)
13000-14000	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	06 (12%)	07 (14%)	08 (16%)	07 (14%)	42 (14%)
15000-16000	07 (14%)	08 (16%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	07 (14%)	43 (14.33%)
17000-18000	09 (18%)	09 (18%)	09 (18%)	10 (20%)	09 (18%)	08 (16%)	54 (18%)
19000-20000	09 (18%)	08 (16%)	12 (24%)	09 (18%)	10 (20%)	11 (22%)	59 (19.67%)
Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	50 (100%)	300 (100%)

**Source-** Field study during May, 2012 - December 2015

The above table reveals that respondent's monthly income ranges from Rs.5000 to Rs.20000 19.67% respondents monthly income are Rs. 19000 to Rs. 20000, 18% respondents monthly income are Rs. 17000 to Rs. 18000, 14.33% respondents monthly

income are Rs. 15000 to Rs. 16000, 14% respondents monthly income are Rs. 13000 to Rs. 14000, 11.33% respondents monthly income are Rs. 11000 to Rs. 12000, 9.67% respondents monthly income are Rs. 9000 To Rs. 10000, 7.67% respondents monthly income are Rs. 7000 to Rs. 8000 and 5.33% respondents monthly income are Rs. 5000 to Rs. 6000.

In summary, it is found that socio-economic background of the respondents of Gombiraghat, Maliahgoi, Gombrikhata, Harjhora, Kazigaon and Bongshhijhora consist of age, family, marriage, education, occupation, monthly income etc. Economy of these villages is based on agriculture and allied activities. They are neither too rich nor too poor. Their monthly income ranges from 5000-20000 Rs. Both joint and nuclear family are found in the villages and literacy is the predominant feature of these villages.