

Changing Pattern of Houses and Lifestyle of Sillery Gaon, Kalimpong, West Bengal

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ABSTRACT: View of Kanchandezonga is the main attraction of the place. Due to this attraction more than a century before some woodcutters are clean this land and create their permanent settlement as well as a tourist spot. They are living year after year. Now, the profession for living is changed. The socio-economy is changed, as well as standard of living is also changed.

Objectives: (i) To study decadal change of households of Sillery gaon. (ii) To study life style of Sillery gaon.

Methodology: The study has been done by both primary and secondary data. Primary data has been collected by interview schedule survey of households. Out of 37 households 40% (i.e. 15) households of Sillery Gaon have been randomly selected for the study.

Findings: (i) 64.29% families are in joint format. (ii) 70.27% of working population are engaged in Formal sector. (iii) 86.72% of the total sample houses are CTiC in nature. (iv) There are 28.57 % of children studying in private school. **Suggestion:** Govt. has to pay attention on economic improvement will be happen with sustainable concept.

KEYWORDS: socio-economy, standard of living, decadal change, Formal sector, sustainable

Date of Submission: 18-01-2020

Date of Acceptance: 06-02-2020

I. INTRODUCTION

Sillery Gaon is a hamlet, situated at Himalayan foothills. It is located at the northern part of Paiengaon Forest Mouza in Kalimpong District. The hamlet is bounded by beautiful pine forest. View of Kanchandezonga is the main attraction of the place. Due to this attraction more than a century before some woodcutters are clean this land and create their permanent settlement as well as a tourist spot. They are living year after year. Now, the profession for living is changed. The socio-economy is changed, as well as standard of living is also changed.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1) Singh (1994) discussed "Rural Dwellings" in a chapter in his book "Geography of Settlement". He discussed about rural buildings and several types of houses in rural settlement.¹

2) Maity (2013) discussed about "Evolution of Slum Huts in Tamluk Town, W.B., India (A Case Study of Iswar Colony)". He classifies the huts of the slum by using alphabetical codes (Three letter index). At the same time he discussed decade wise changes of huts also.²

3) Maity, Sahoo and Dhara De (2016) studied "Changing Pattern of Rural-Urban Fringe Life of Tamluk Town, W.B., India (A Case Study of Ward No. 20)". They classify the houses (constructional materials) of the ward by using alphabetical codes (Three letter index). At the same time they discussed decade wise change of housing condition also. They also used some indicators to understand rural-urban fringe life.

III. OBJECTIVES

- i) To study decadal change of households of Sillery gaon.
- ii) To study life style of Sillery gaon.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The study has been done by both primary and secondary data. Primary data has been collected by interview schedule survey of households. Out of 37 households 40% (i.e. 15) households of Sillery Gaon have been randomly selected for the study. TCX converter has been used for preparing contour map of the study area. Cadastral maps and demographic data have been collected from BDO office, Algarh, Kalimpong Block- II, Kalimpong. Census of Darjeeling, 2011 is also studied.

V. STUDY AREA

Sillery Gaon lies between 27°08'19''N to 27°08'29''N and 88°34'43''E to 88°34'55''E latitude and longitude respectively. The altitude of the area is 1850 meters from MSL. The area of the settlement is 52,800 Sq.meters. i.e. 5.28 Hectares and perimeter is 1.1Kms. There are 37 households are present. Population contains 141. Sillery Gaon is situated at the moderate slope of a hill. The slope and gradient are 17°27'27' and 300 meters/Kilometer respectively. The highest elevated part of the settlement is in the South western side. The lowest elevated part is situated at north eastern side.

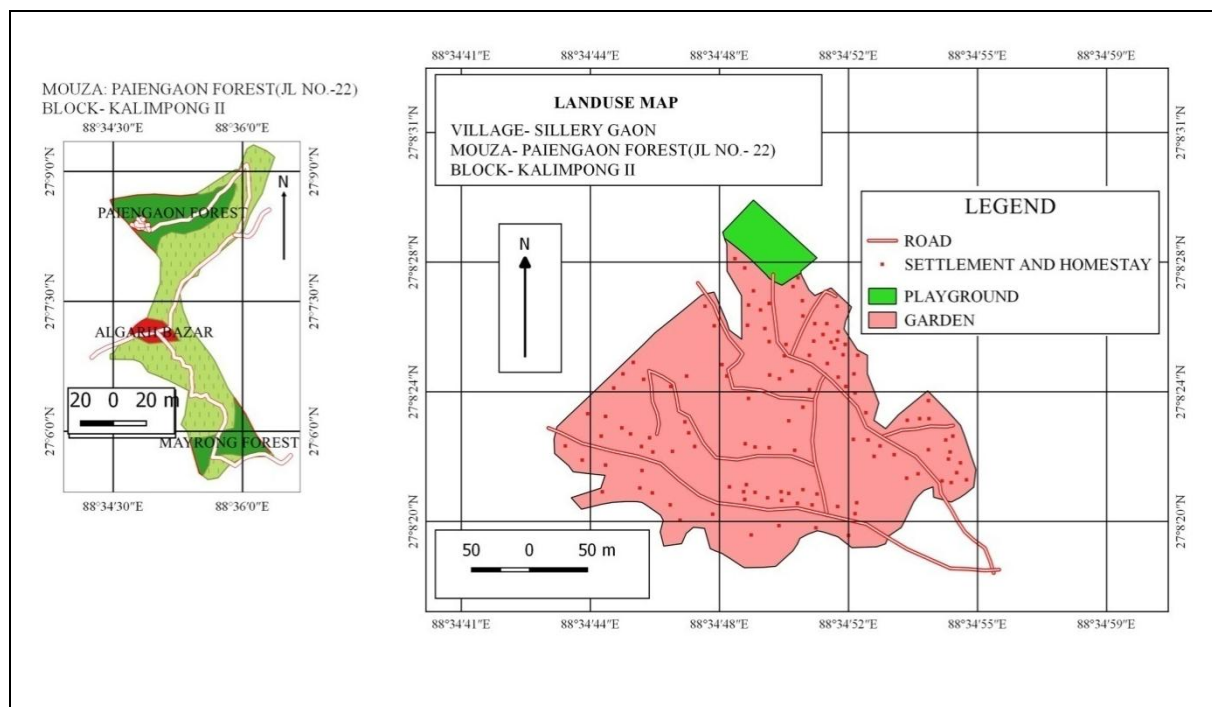


Fig. No.-1

VI. A BRIEF GEOGRAPHY OF THE AREA

The study area is a part of extra peninsula, made up of rocks of ages ranging from pre-Cambrian to Quaternary. Climate of the study area is tropical monsoonal in nature (The maximum summer temperature is 27°C and the minimum 16°C. The maximum temperature in winter is 17°C and the minimum 5°C. It gets about 2,254 mm rainfall annually.). Soils of the study area are Alfisols.

VII. LANDUSE

Every household has one at joining beautiful cottage (Homestay) for tourists. The in front area of cottage and house has a beautiful flower garden. A play ground is present in low lying area of the settlement.

VIII. RELIGION

In the village, there are three type of Religious community is present. Family belongs in Hindu (28.27%), Christian (7.14%) and Buddhist (64.29%).

IX. FAMILY TYPE

Through the field survey 64.29% families are joint. Rest 35.71% families are in nuclear format.

X. AGE STRUCTURE

It plays an important role in all areas. In the case of the village the age structure is tabulated below.

Table No. – 1
Age-sex Structure

Age Group	Male	Percentage	Female	Percentage	Total
<10	9	17.65	3	7.14	12
10-20	10	19.61	7	16.67	17
20-30	12	23.53	18	42.86	30
30-40	11	21.57	5	11.90	16

40-50	2	3.92	5	11.90	7
50-60	4	7.84	2	4.76	6
60-70	2	3.92	2	4.76	4
>70	1	1.96	0	0.00	1
Total	51	100.00	42	100.00	93

Source : Field Survey, Sept, 2019

XI. SEX STRUCTURE

Sex composition comprises an important role in demography. In the surveyed village male and female percentage is 54.84% and 45.16% respectively. Through this concept the village has almost equal in male female ratio.

XII. EDUCATIONAL STATUS

Out of the total sampled population, 37.63% of populations are illiterate. 16.13% got the primary education. 20.43% completed the Secondary education. Higher secondary, graduation and PG are completed as in 19.35%, 4.30% and 2.15% respectively.

XIII. OCCUPATIONAL SECTOR

70.27% of working population are engaged in Formal sector. A rear percentage i.e. 29.73% working population are engaged in informal sector. Occupation in informal sector worked in tertiary sector of economy. They are serving their services as Hotel Worker, Taxi Driver, etc. (mainly tourism and tourist related work). Occupation in formal sector worked in tertiary sector of economy. They are serving their services as School Teacher, owner of the Home stay, etc.

XIV. LIFESTYLE OF SILLERY GAON

a) Decadal Change of Building Materials:

The following table treated as three letter indexed table. First letter treated for wall, second treated for roof and third letter treated floor. At present 80.00% of the total sample houses are CTiC in nature. MTiM and WTiM are 6.66% and 13.34% respectively. But in the case of WTiM, and WTiC are neglected. In 2000 MTiM, WTiM are only 13.33% and 60.01%. CTiM, and WTiC are also present. CTiC making is the present tendency of the villagers. Decadal data of CTiC reflects that are increased. WTiM and WTiC are decreased.

Table No. – 2
Decadal Change of Housing condition

Time	MTiM	%	WTiM	%	CTiM	%	WTiC	%	CTiC	%	TOTAL
AT PRESENT	1	6.66	2	13.34					12	80.00	15
IN 2010	1	6.67	8	53.33	3	20.00	3	20.00			15
IN 2000	2	13.33	9	60.01	2	13.33	2	13.33			15

Source : Field Survey, Sept, 2019

INDEX			
Type of house	Wall	Roof	Floor
MTM	Mud	Tin	Mud
WTM	wood	Tin	Mud
CTM	Cemented	Tin	Mud
WTC	Wood	Tin	Cemented
CTC	Cemented	Tin	Cemented

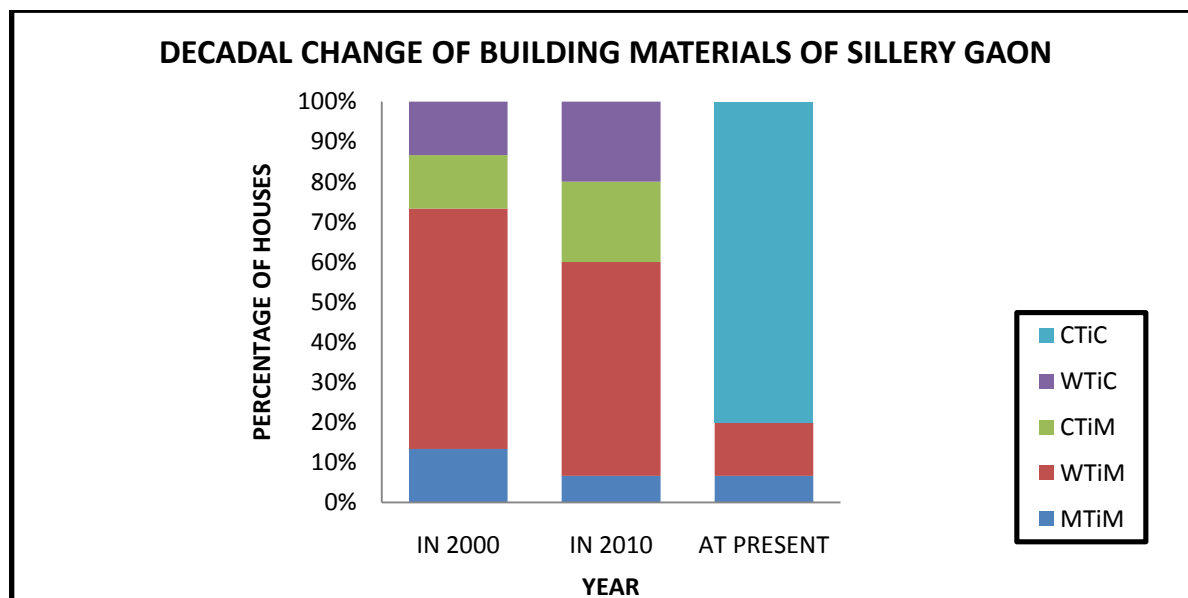


Fig. No.-2

b) Decadal Change of Source of Drinking, Bathing and Washing Water :

Water supply are the main source of water in the village. They use this water decades after decades.

c) Electrification of Sillery Gaon:

All the houses are not electrified in 2000. But now, 100% of houses are electrified.

d) Educational Institution for less than 16 years:

There are 28.57 % of children (less than 16 years old) studying in private school.

e) Educational Medium for less than 16 years:

35.71 of children are learning in English medium.

f) Computer Education for less than 16 years:

57.14% of children get computer education from their institution.

XV. FINDINGS

- i) 64.29% families are in joint format.
- ii) Higher secondary, graduation and PG are completed as in 19.35%, 4.30% and 2.15% respectively.
- iii) 70.27% of working population are engaged in Formal sector. A minor percentage i.e. 29.73% working population are engaged in informal sector.
- iv) At present 86.72% of the total sample houses are CTiC in nature.
- v) All the houses are not electrified in 2000. But now, 100% of houses are electrified.
- vi) There are 28.57 % of children (less than 16 years old) studying in private school. 35.71% of children are learning in English medium. 57.14% of children get computer education from their institution.

XVI. SUGGESTION

- i) The study area got good economic improvement. The future of the settlement is bright.
- ii) At the same time Govt. has to pay attention on economic improvement will be happen with sustainable concept.
- iii) Presently it is upgraded its quality. Physically the area is quite clean. All those upleaftments have done by the people of Sillery Gaon and projects of the Government. Till the unmetaled roads are present. Govt. has to pay attention to improve the quality of the roads.

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S.B.Maity. "Changing Pattern of Houses and Lifestyle of Sillery Gaon, Kalimpong, West Bengal". *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Invention (IJHSSI)*, vol. 09(1), 2020, pp 05-09.