

UTTAR DINAJPUR

Overall scenario of the district

Uttar Dinajpur district is situated in the central point of south Bengal. It is surrounded by seven important districts namely enclosed by Panchagarh, Thakurgaon and Dinajpur districts of Bangladesh on the east, Kishanganj, Purnia and Katihar districts of Bihar on the west, Darjeeling district and Jalpaiguri district on the north and Malda district and Dakshin Dinajpur district on the south.

This newly constructed district is preliminarily agricultural in nature. Here, due to its diverse and surplus production of various crops like Tea, Jute, Potato, Ginger, Spices and Pineapple etc. the district has a strong base for agro based and horticulture- based industry.

The district constitutes of

- ✓ Municipalities -4
- ✓ Blocks - 9

The district ranks 19th in terms of literacy rate and 13th in terms of sex ratio among all other districts of West Bengal.

In 2006 the Ministry of Panchayati Raj named Uttar Dinajpur one of the country's 250 most backward districts (out of a total of 640). It is one of the eleven districts in West Bengal currently receiving funds from the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme (BRGF).

District Profile:

Population:

According to Census Data (2011), the Total Population of the district is 30,00,849 out of which there are 15,50,219 males (51.66%) & 14,50,630 females (48.34%). Out of a total 640 districts in India, Hooghly is ranked 124th in terms of population. The population density in the district is 956 persons per sq km.

Some of the major areas in terms of density of population (according to 2001 census) is:

- Raiganj (362056 persons per sq. km),
- Karandighi (318881 persons per sq. km),
- Itahar (249541 persons per sq. km),
- Goalpokhar-I (245430 persons per sq. km),
- Islampur (241951 persons per sq. km)

Other major settlements in the district (in terms of total number of population) are Kaliaganj, Dalkhola, Kasba & Nachhralpur Katabari.

Distribution of population over different age group (Census, 2001):

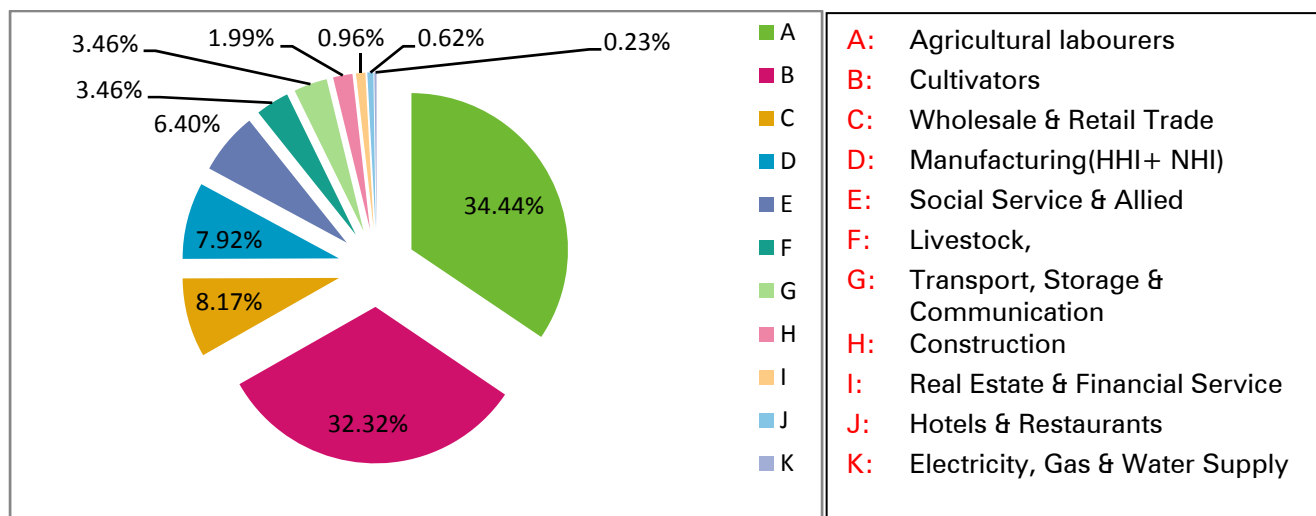
Age group	% of total population
0-4	14.12
05-24	44.55
25-59	36.12
60 and above	5.14

Source: District Statistical Handbook, 2009

Around 2.70% total population, 24,41,794 (2001) living in the district are from outside of West Bengal, among them, notable states are:

- ✓ Bihar,
- ✓ Assam,
- ✓ Jharkhand
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh

Work force constitutes 36.89% of total population and the distribution of the same is as follows:



Source: Census Data, 2001

The per capita income in the district was found out to be Rs 22398/- during the year 2003-04.

Infrastructure:

The district is well networked with other parts of the states through:

Road ways:

- National Highway: NH 31
 - Lane: 4
 - Length of NH within the district: 89.2 KM
 - Connected other states: The highway starts in Barhi, Jharkhand at the NH 2 and generally traverses in Northeast direction passing through Jhumri Tilaiya & Koderma in Jharkhand, Nawada, BiharSharif, Bakhtiarpur, Mokameh, Begusarai, Purnea, &

Kishanganj in Bihar Dalkhola, Bagdogra & Siliguri, Malbazar, Mainaguri, Dhupguri, CoochBehar & Tufanganj in West Bengal, Kokrajhar, Nalbari in Assam and ends at Jalukbari, Guwahati.

- Connected other districts: Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling
- Blocks on the NH: Karandighi, Islampur
- National Highway: NH 34
 - Lane: 2 (proposition for 4 lanes)
 - Length of NH within the district: 85.7 KM
 - Connected other states: The highway runs through the state of West Bengal and is a major link with the North Eastern States.
 - Connected other districts: Howrah, Burdwan, N-24 Parganas, Nadia, Murshidabad
 - Blocks on the NH: Karandighi, Itahar
- State Highway (SH):
 - 1 SH
 - SH-10A connecting Kaliganj & Raiganj.

Source: West Bengal Public Works' Department

Other social infrastructure:

- Technical Education:
 - Polytechnics: 01
 - ITI: 01
- Health:
 - Standard health network like district hospital, block hospitals and Private nursing home/clinics are observed
- Entertainment:
 - Standard cinema halls are observed.
- Banking Infrastructure:
 - Lead Bank - UBI Bank and following are the other banks found in the district

Name of Bank	No. of Branches
SBI	17
Allahabad	5
UBI	10
BOI	5
PNB	2
CBI	11
Axis	2
ICICI	3
HDFC	2

Supply Stations (SS) are:

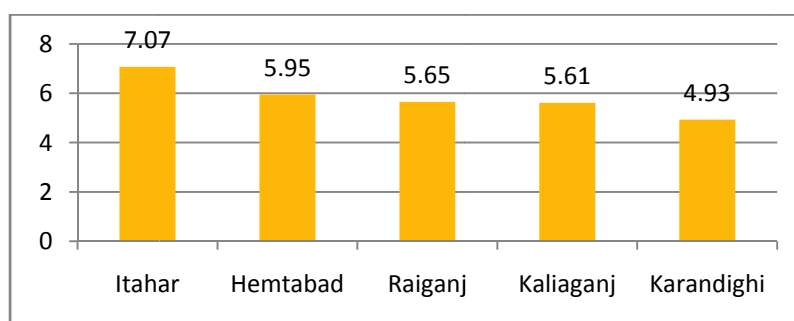
Sl. No	SS name	Capacity (KVA)
1	Purnea PG	400
2	Dalkhola PG	220
3	Dalkhola	220
4	Raiganj	132
	Total	972

Source: West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited

Ground water:

It has been observed that one of the major sources of water for food processing units in West Bengal is ground water.

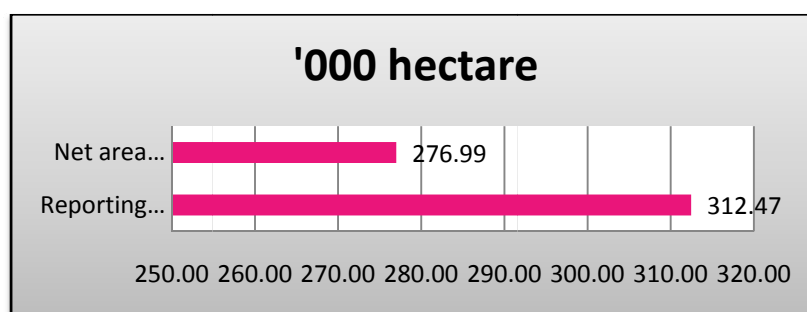
Blocks with average depth of ground water more than 4.8 meters during April, 2011 are:



Source: State Water Investigation Directorate

Agriculture & Horticulture:

Reporting area in the district is 312470 hectare. Net sown area is 88.65% of total reporting area. Hence the district is rich in agricultural production.



Source: District Statistical Handbook, 2009

Agriculture, Horticulture and Livestock production:

Position of the district in terms of State's production:

Uttar Dinajpur	Crops/ Veg/ Fruits/ livestock	Rank in the state	Production, 000' MT	% to states' production
Agricultural produce	Cereals	2nd	286.523	22.91
	Linseed	2nd	0.274	19.7
	Mustard	4th	41.419	9.35
Vegetables	Radish	4th	21.494	4.37
Fruits	Pineapple	2nd	80.297	26.65

Major Tulaipanji (Paddy) growing area:

- Raiganj
- Kaliaganj
- Hemtabad
- Itahara

Major Pineapple growing area:

- Chopra
- Hemtabad
- Karandighi

Major agricultural/ horticultural markets:

Regulated market:

- Islampur Regulated Market
- Kaliaganj Regulated Market

Storage facilities:

- Potato storage:
 - 7 cold storage having total capacity 649115 quintal
- Multipurpose cold storage:

Block	No.	Total capacity (qt)
Islampur	1	140000

Source: Directorate of Agri Marketing

Chilling plants/ Bulk Milk Cooler:

There are 7 chilling plants/ Bulk Milk Cooler (BMC) in the district. Capacity of the units is given below:

Name of Chilling plant	No	Capacity (TLPD)
Gangarampur (BMC)	1	4.0
Itahar (BMC)	1	0.5
Baharali (BMC)	1	0.5
Rasokhoa (BMC)	1	0.5
Majhihar (BMC)	1	0.5
Ghatol (BMC)	1	0.5
Moujgaon (BMC)	1	0.5

Source: West Bengal Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited, 2011

Food Processing Industries:

Till 2006-07, number of food processing units in the district was 322. New units registered since 2007 is as given below. According to definition of MSME act 2006, the distribution of the units is as follows:

Units	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
Micro	38	58	51	43	42	232
Small	2	1	4	3	2	12
Total	40	59	55	46	44	244

Sector wise and year wise distribution of the units is as follows:

Sector	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
Cereals & Pulses Processing	4	9	1	1	4	19
Confectionery/Biscuit	1	3	0	0	2	6
Diary & Milk	1	1	2	0	0	4
Fruits & vegetable processing	0	1	0	0	0	1
Oil	13	6	9	1	5	34
Others	0	0	2	2	3	7
Packaged Drinking Water	0	0	0	1		1
Paddy Processing	21	36	39	39	29	164
Snacks/Pasta	0	1	2	2	0	5

Sector	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
Spices	0	2	0	0	1	3
Total	40	59	55	46	44	244

Employment scenario in the food processing industry of the district is shown in the table below:

Sector	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		Total	
	Male	Fem	Male	Fem	Male	Fem	Male	Fem	Male	Fem	Male	Fem
Cereals & Pulses Processing	25	0	44		5	3	4	3	14	8	92	14
Confectionery/Biscuit	6	0	37	3	0	0	0	0	28	0	71	3
Diary & Milk	7	0	3	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	22	0
Fruits & vegetable processing	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2
Oil	67	2	34	0	50	3	6	0	60	1	217	6
Others	0	0	0	0	58	34	75	0	78	0	211	34
Packaged Drinking Water	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	0
Paddy Processing	120	13	237	26	396	6	251	31	209	4	1213	80
Snacks/Pasta	0	0	4	0	7	0	1	18	18	1	30	19
Spices	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
Total	225	15	367	31	528	46	341	52	407	14	1868	158

Hence a total of 2026 people are directly involved in the food processing industry for their livelihoods. Out of which 7.80% is female worker.

Investment opportunities:

- The district ranked 2nd in terms of production of Maize. Maize is one of the major processable cereals. A significant concentration is found in Darjeeling, North Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar. Hence a new Maize processing unit can be set up in the district.
- Tulaipanji and Gobindo bhog have got the statutory clearance for export from Ministry of Commerce, Gol. Hence processing and packaging unit for these particular varieties can be set up.