

TRAFFICKING AND HIV

West Bengal

(Need Assessment Study- based on Secondary Data)

Draft Report

ASSESSING VULNERABILITIES
FOR
TRAFFICKING AND HIV/AIDS

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WEST BENGAL 2001



West Bengal - Demography

With a population of about 82 million in 2001 according to the 2001 Census, West Bengal is the fourth most populous state situated in the eastern region of India. Accounting for about 2.7 per cent of India's area (88,752 square km) but about 7.8 per cent of the country's population, this state ranks first in terms of density of 904 per sq km as per the 2001 Census. The boundaries of the state are Nepal, Bhutan and the state of Sikkim on the North, Goalpara district of Assam and Bangladesh on the East, Orissa and Bay of Bengal on the South and Bihar on the West.

About 72 per cent of the people live in rural areas. According to the Planning Commission, the proportion of population below the poverty line in 1999-2000 in West Bengal was 31.85 per cent. The percentages of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe populations are 28.6 and 5.8 respectively in the rural areas and 19.9 and 1.5 respectively in the urban areas. Among the minorities, the

Muslims are the dominant section and they account for about 28.6 per cent of the total population in West Bengal. The corresponding figures for rural and urban areas were 33.3 per cent and 11.8 per cent respectively. Further, it may be noted that these three categories, namely SC, ST and Minorities, together account for more than half the population, and these are also the three poorest groups in rural Bengal.

A significant part of the state is relatively more backward economically, and also tends to be less advanced in terms of human development. These include large parts of the six northern districts (Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Koch Behar, Malda, Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur), the three western districts (Purulia, Bankura and Birbhum) and the Sunderbans area of the two 24 Parganas districts in the south of the state.

The aggregate state domestic product in 2000-01 was about Rs. 17860 Crores in current prices and the per capita SDP was about Rs. 16072. This is higher than the national average. It reflects a compound annual growth rate of 7 per cent and per capita growth of 5.4 per cent over the period 1993-94 to 2000-01, making West Bengal one of the fastest growing states in India in that period.

For most of its post-independence history, West Bengal was a food deficit state, dependent upon the central government for a major part of its supply, to be routed through the public distribution system. For a long time, food production remained stagnant and the technology of green revolution bypassed the state. However, there was a significant spurt in agricultural production from the early 1980s and the state is now surplus in foodgrain. There has also been some diversification in cultivation, so that along with jute, West Bengal is now the major producer of vegetables in the country. Tea plantations, a major foreign exchange earner, also occupy a substantial proportion of land in North Bengal.

The share of West Bengal in the total value of industrial output in India was about 9.8 per cent in 1980-81 and it had declined gradually over time to 5.0 per cent by 1997-98. However, the services sector has expanded in the state, faster than the national average.

West Bengal National Context

Comparisons of West Bengal with the rest of India, in terms of economic growth and human development, are provided in the chapters that follow. Here, it is worth mentioning that in terms of the more obvious indicators of human development, the state is somewhere in the middle of all Indian states. Per capita State Domestic Product in West Bengal in the late 1990s was just above the national average. Per capita consumption expenditure in 1999-2000 (according to the National Sample Survey Organisation) in West Bengal was Rs. 572 per month, lower than the national average of Rs. 591 per month. The inequality in consumption was lower in the state than for all-India, and for most other states, in both rural and urban areas. However, the difference between rural and urban per capita consumption was higher in West Bengal than the all-India pattern. When consumption is adjusted for different rates of inflation and inequality, per capita consumption in West Bengal turns out to be higher than the all-India average.

According to the Planning Commission, the incidence of poverty in West Bengal in 1999-2000, at 27 per cent of the population below the poverty line, was only marginally higher than the national average of 26 per cent. However, it was more rurally concentrated: 84 per cent of the absolutely poor population of West Bengal lived in rural areas, compared to 74 per cent in India as a whole.

In terms of basic household amenities, West Bengal's performance tends to be lower than the national average. In the late 1990s, 68 per cent of urban households and only 16 per cent of rural households had pukka houses, compared to 71 per cent and 29 per cent respectively for all-India. Half the households had access to toilet facilities, which is the same as for all-India. Many more households - 82 per cent - had access to safe drinking water in West Bengal than the Indian average of 62 per cent. Electrification has proceeded more slowly than in the rest of India: in 1991, only 33 per cent of all households in West Bengal had electricity connection, compared to 42 per cent for All-India.

Literacy and education indicators in West Bengal are well below what could be expected given the social and political orientation of the ruling state government in the last two and a half decades. The aggregate literacy rate (at 69 per cent in 2001) was only marginally above the national average of 65 per cent. Only 63 per cent of children in West Bengal in the age group 7-14 years were literate in 1991, compared to the All-India proportion of 64 per cent. Age-specific school enrolment ratios for children tended to be lower than the national averages in 1991, although these ratios have improved since then.

Health indicators, which are discussed in more detail in Chapter 6, suggest a very mixed performance. Infant mortality rates are among the lowest in India, child mortality rates are also relatively low, and life expectancy is higher than the national average. This seems to have occurred despite the relatively less developed conditions of health infrastructure, since the state has lower ratios of health care centres per population as well as higher ratios of population per hospital bed, than the All-India average. Nutrition indicators are rather poor, with higher incidence of anaemia and iron deficiency especially among women and young children, than for India as a whole.

The alluvial lands of the Gangetic plains of West Bengal, Historical and socio-economic factors have determined the present very high density of population in the state. Apart from the internal migration from the neighbouring states such as Bihar, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh to Calcutta, Haora and other industrial areas of the state, Partition led to an almost continuous stream of migrants into the State from across the Indo-Bangladesh borders.

The phenomenal growth of population in some of the Northern districts such as Koch Behar and West Dinajpur and also in the Southern districts of Nadia and 24 Parganas in the first forty years after Independence gives an indication of the enormity of migration. The density of population consequently increased sharply in a number of areas of the State. With a population density of 904 persons per sq. km. in 2001, West Bengal is currently the most densely populated state in the country.

Greater population pressure inevitably puts more pressure on basic infrastructure as well as on the provision of health and education services. The extremely high population density obviously affects per capita resource allocation, so whatever West Bengal has achieved has been in spite of this critical negative factor of having the highest population density in the entire nation. The variation across districts in this regard also needs to be borne in

mind when considering inter-district differences in human development indicators.

There is substantial variation across districts even with respect to density of population, even if we exclude those districts which are dominantly urban (Kolkata) and suburban (Haora). Nor is there any clear pattern with respect to growth of population.

Contrary to some popular perceptions, it is not very likely that recent increases in population density have resulted dominantly from in-migration from neighbouring countries. Out of the nineteen districts (Medinipur has recently been bifurcated) of the State, nine have international borders with Bangladesh.

Two such districts Jalpaiguri and Koch Bihar - show uniformly a declining rate of growth over the decades from 1961-71 to 1991 - 2001. Nadia, another border district, also experienced a sharp decline in growth rate from 3.3 per cent in 1971-81 to only 2.0 per cent in 1991-2001. In the cases of 24 Parganas and Dinajpurs, the increase in growth rates from 1971-81 to 1981-91 was followed by a sharp decline in 1991-2001. The other two border districts Malda and Murshidabad contributed a little over 12 per cent to the decadal (1981-91) growth of population of West Bengal.

All the border districts together account for 44.5 per cent of the 13.4 million population that were added to 1981 census aggregate to make the State population size stands at 68 million in 1991. On consideration of the contribution of natural growth (that is, excess of births over deaths), which is not insignificant, a major concentration of recent migrants in the border districts does not seem to have occurred. Non-border districts accounted for 55.5 per cent of the total population growth of West Bengal in 1981-91. Given the moderate levels of vital rates, this implies that the reported increase in immigration over the decade was not confined to a few border districts, but has possibly undergone a spatial diffusion to other parts of the state.

West Bengal has been successful in bringing down both birth rates and death rates, with one of the most rapid decline in birth rate in India. The decline in the birth rate has been nearly double that of the all-India average over the period 1990~ 2001, while the decline in the death rate has been one and a half times that of the national average. Infant mortality had also declined at a marginally more rapid rate than all of India. Life expectancy in West Bengal is well above the national average, and the state is one of the better performing states in this regard, even in terms of increases over time. However, there are certain districts with life expectancy well below average, which require special attention, such as Malda, Koch Behar, Birbhum and Murshidabad, all of which have average life expectancy of below 60 years.

The sex ratio in West Bengal has historically been worse for women than the national average, but it has shown greater improvement in the recent period, so that it is now just above the national average. Further, the sex ratio for the age group 0-6 years, which has recently shown rapid deterioration at the all-India level, does not indicate such a decline in West Bengal, where it was 963 in 2001 compared to 927 for all-India. This is higher than the sex ratio for all age-groups, which is a very positive sign.

Progress of Literacy in West Bengal Districts 1981-2001

Sl No.	States	1991		1991		2001	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	West Bengal	50.5	30.3	67.8	46.0	77.6	60.2
1.	Darjeeling	51.6	32.4	67.1	47.8	81.3	63.9
2.	Jalpaiguri	38.5	20.4	56.0	33.2	73.6	52.9
3.	Koch Behar	40.0	19.3	57.4	33.3	76.8	57.0
4.	Uttar Dinajpur	36.1	17.1	45.2	22.9	59.3	37.2
5.	Dakshin Dinajpur			56.8	35.3	73.3	55.1
6.	Malda	31.5	14.2	45.6	24.9	59.2	41.7
7.	Murshidabad	32.4	17.3	46.4	29.6	61.4	48.3
8.	Birbhum	43.0	24.2	56.3	37.2	71.6	52.2
9.	Bardhaman	50.9	33.8	71.1	51.5	79.3	61.9
10.	Nadia	43.7	29.4	60.1	44.4	72.7	60.1
11.	North 24 Parganas	55.4	35.4	60.1	58.0	84.4	72.1
12.	South 24 Parganas			68.5	40.6	83.1	59.7
13.	Hooghly	57.9	38.8	75.8	56.9	77.2	67.7
14.	Bankura	49.4	23.1	66.8	36.6	74.2	49.8
15.	Purulia	45.6	13.3	62.2	23.2	85.3	37.2
16.	Midnapure	55.3	29.7	81.3	56.6	83.7	64.6
17.	Howrah	60.7	40.8	76.1	57.8	79.9	70.9
18.	Kolkata	73.2	63.1	81.9	72.1	84.1	78.0

Human Development Indicators for the State of West Bengal

It is evident that human development in West Bengal presents a mixed picture, and this picture is further complicated by the variations across districts in the state presents the calculations for the Human Development Index for the different districts, as well as for the state as a whole. There are very substantial differences across districts, such that the HDI ranges from a high of 0.78 for Kolkata, to a low of 0.44 for Malda.

Gender discrimination has been an important feature of economic and social processes in West Bengal, and while it has declined in some respects in the recent past, it remains significant. But it is more evident in economic variables and in literacy than in the longevity data, which indicate improving health position of women relative to men. This comes out very clearly in the calculations of the Gender Development Index.

It is worth noting that the rankings of the CDI broadly follow the same pattern as the HDI rankings, in that districts with low HDI also tend to have low CDI. However, some districts such as Haora, North 24 Parganas, Bardhaman and Koch Behar tend to have worse ranking in terms of CDI than HDI, suggesting especially acute gender discrimination.

Demographic Profile : West Bengal Districts : 1991 and 2001

Districts	Male Popn. (000)	Female Popn. (000)	Popn. Growth Rate (% p.a.)	Urban Popn. (%)	ST Popn (%)	SC Popn (%)	Sex Ratio		Child Sex Ratio	
	2001	2001	1991-2001	2001	1991	1991	1991	2001	1991	2001
West Bengal	35511	32567.3	1.8	28.0	5.6	23.6	917	934	967	963
Bardhaman	3186.8	2863.8	1.4	37.1	6.2	27.5	899	921	959	960
Birbhum	1313.3	1242.4	1.8	8.6	7.0	30.7	946	949	976	969
Bankura	1437.5	1367.6	1.4	7.4	10.3	31.4	951	953	982	955
Medinipur	4284.9	4046.9	1.6	10.5	8.3	16.3	944	955	953	951
Howrah	1982.5	1747.2	1.5	50.4	0.3	15.8	881	906	962	959
Hooghly	2271.8	2083.4	1.6	33.5	4.0	24.1	917	947	960	951
24 Parganas (N)	3818.2	3463.7	2.3	54.3	2.3	21.5	907	927	969	961
24 Parganas (S)	2662.2	2752.8	2.1	15.8	1.2	34.4	929	938	973	969
Nadia	198.9	1862.3	2.0	21.3	2.3	29.0	936	947	983	975
Murshidabad	2439.3	2300.8	2.4	12.5	1.3	13.4	943	952	977	975
Uttar Dinajpur	987.8	909.3	2.2	12.1	9.8	29	921	937	966	973
Dakshin Dinajpur	632.9	597.6	2.9	13.1	-	-	944	950	988	968
Malda	1360.5	1276.5	2.5	7.3	18.1	18.1	938	948	976	967
Jalpaiguri	1453.2	1347.3	2.2	17.7	37.0	37.0	927	941	973	972
Darjeeling	679.3	620.6	2.4	32.4	16.2	16.2	914	943	976	971
Koch Behar	1122.3	1048.8	1.4	9.1	51.7	51.7	935	949	967	968
Puruliya	1142.8	1081.8	1.4	10.1	19.4	19.4	947	953	969	967

The very low "Income index" component of the CDI essentially reflects the low workforce participation of women in West Bengal, which in turn suggests a combination of greater restrictions on women's economic agency as well as social lack of recognition of women's unpaid work. Both of these suggest a major undercurrent of gender discrimination in society.

Such gender differences will be apparent throughout the report, in terms of differential rates of literacy and access to schooling, health and nutrition indicators. The policy interventions of the state government have had mixed effects in this regard. Until recently the choice of land reform beneficiaries tended to aggravate gender inequalities. However, women's participation in panchayats has been greater and more substantive than in many other states, and there are some regions within the state where this has had very positive social effects, including more diverse forms of empowerment of women.

With respect to human security issues, women in West Bengal tend to be relatively better placed than in many other parts of India. Economic exclusion remains one of the most significant problems for women in the state, which tends to have spill-over effects in other aspects of life. However, the trends in all of these variables are broadly in a positive direction, although the pace of change is not as rapid as could be desired.

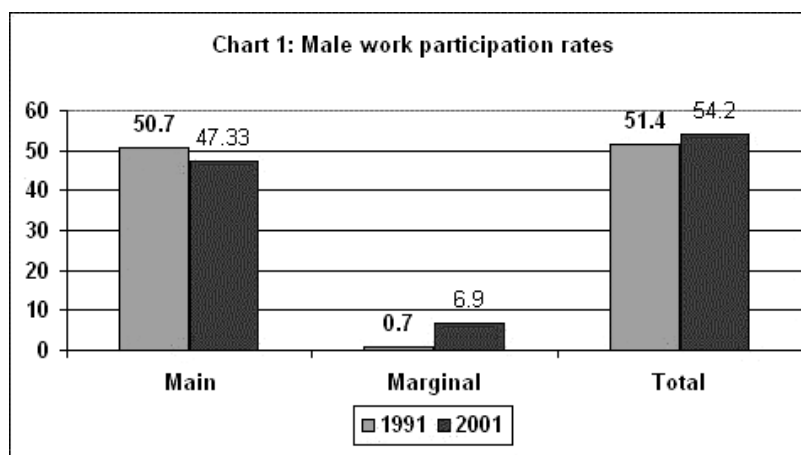
Child worker (age 5-14 years) in W.Bengal districts (000):1991

Districts	Boys (No.)	Girls (No.)
Darjeeling	5.7	4.7
Jalpaiguri	24.3	11.9
Koch Behar	22.9	5.5
Dinajpur	48.5	15.4
Malda	34.7	20.8
Murshidabad	59.2	29.1
Birbhum	22.3	7.6
Bardhaman	30.3	10.8
Nadia		
24 Parganas (N)	34.2	9.9
24 Parganas (S)	31.8	9.5
Hooghly	20.2	7.2
Bankura	17.7	11.1
Puruliya	15.7	20.4
Medinipur	59.3	45.5
Howrah	17.1	3.2
Kolkata	12.8	5.8
West Bengal	487.2	224.5
India	6189.8	5095.5

Employment - West Bengal

Since the early 1990s, West Bengal like other Indian states has seen its employment growth lagging behind output growth, so much so that even a relatively dynamic sector like agriculture has been successful in creating very few additional jobs.

Chart 1 indicates the change in rates of male work participation according to the 1991 and 2001 Census of India. The Census defines 'main' workers as those who participate in economically productive work for 183 days or more in a year. Marginal workers, on the other hand, are those who participate in economically productive work for less than 183 days. While this is a measure of underemployment, obviously it would be an underestimate, since even those with more than 183 days of work could be underemployed.

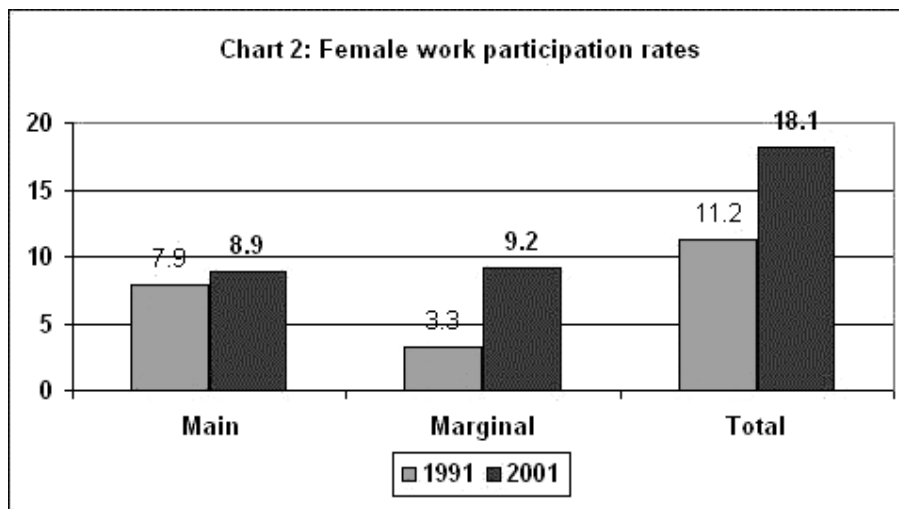


The work participation rate of male workers in terms of main activity fell quite significantly over the decade. Some of this was due to a rise in participation in education, especially for those in the age group of 15-19 years, which is to be welcomed. But this reason is not enough to explain the decline, and it is clear that the absence of productive employment opportunities was dominantly responsible for this. Thus, the decline in the rate of male main workers was countered by the increase in the

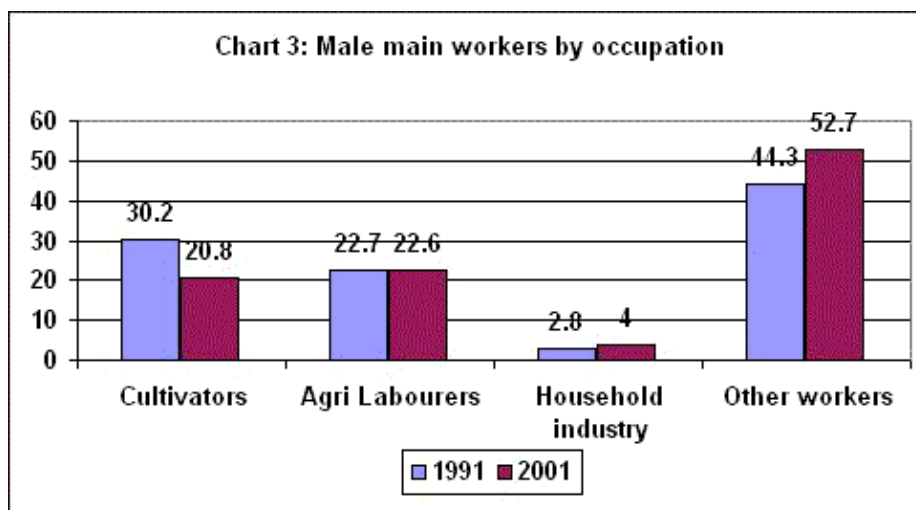
share of male marginal workers, which points to fewer jobs being available over the year. It also suggests that more secure forms of employment may have been replaced by less secure forms—a possibility also reiterated by the NSS data on the type of contracts.

Chart 2 shows the rates of work participation of women. West Bengal has one of the lowest rates of female work participation in the country. However, unlike the rest of the country, these rates have been rising, both for main and marginal workers. It is not clear how much of this is due to better enumeration of women's work and how much is the real trend. Even here, by far the more significant increase is in terms of marginal work. (It should be noted that the Census definitions and coverage of 'economically productive work' are still rather restricted and tend to leave out a range of household related economic activity. This is one of the reasons why women's work participation as indicated by the Census is so low in West Bengal. The coverage by the NSS is slightly better in this regard.)

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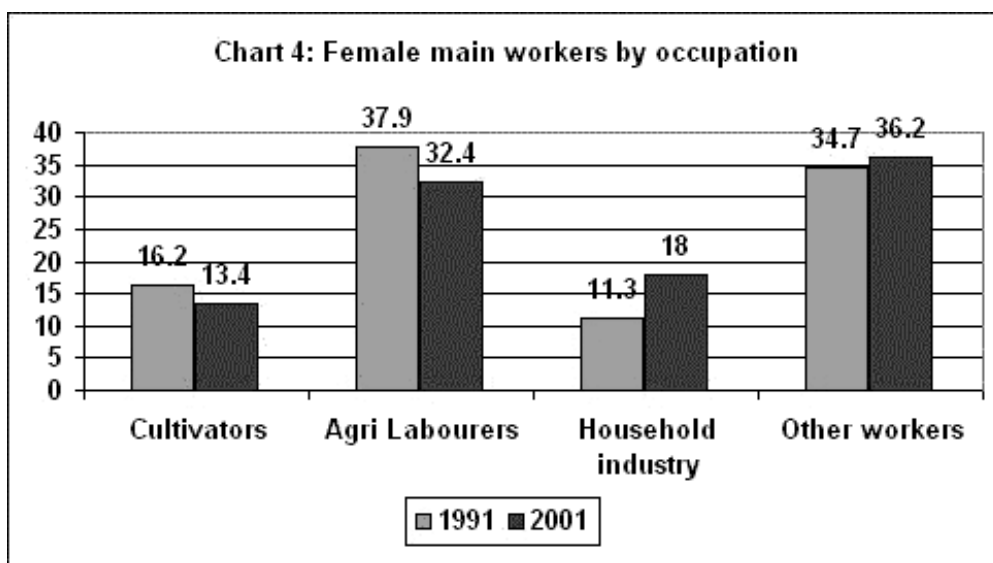


Charts 3 and 4 indicate the changes in terms of main occupation, between 1991 and 2001 for men and women separately. The most significant feature in both cases is the relative decline in agricultural work. For male workers, the shift has been in terms of decline in the share of cultivators (who have also declined in terms of absolute numbers). This may reflect the increase in the share of landless households, which is reported by the NSS, whereby few rural men report themselves as mainly working on their own household plots. By contrast, the proportion of male agricultural labourers has remained broadly stable at around 23 per cent. The proportion of 'other workers' too have increased commensurately.



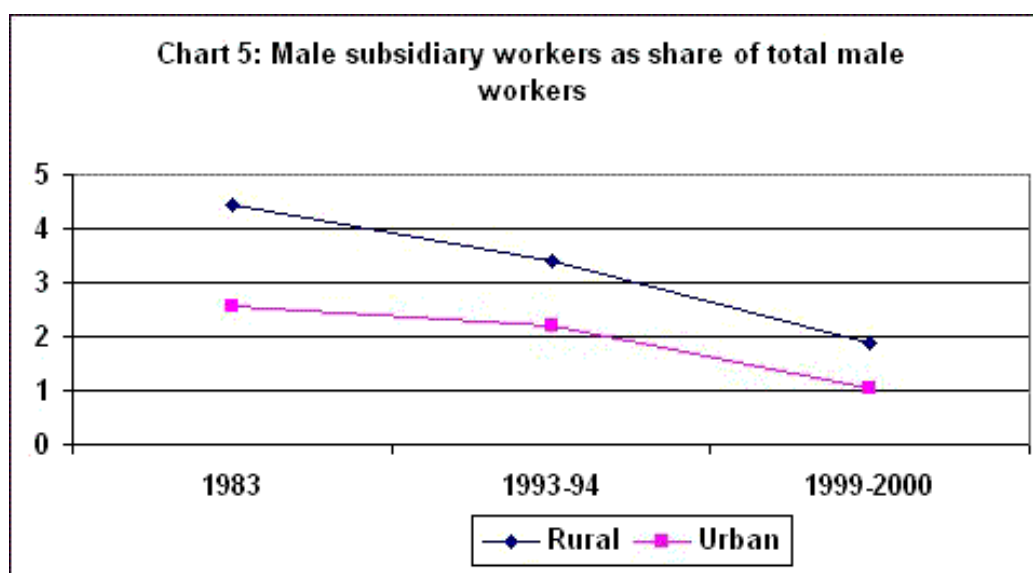
For women workers in West Bengal, the share of both cultivators and agricultural labourers has declined. In this case, the importance of 'household industry' has gone up considerably, probably as part of a survival strategy of working households, given the generally weak employment situation.

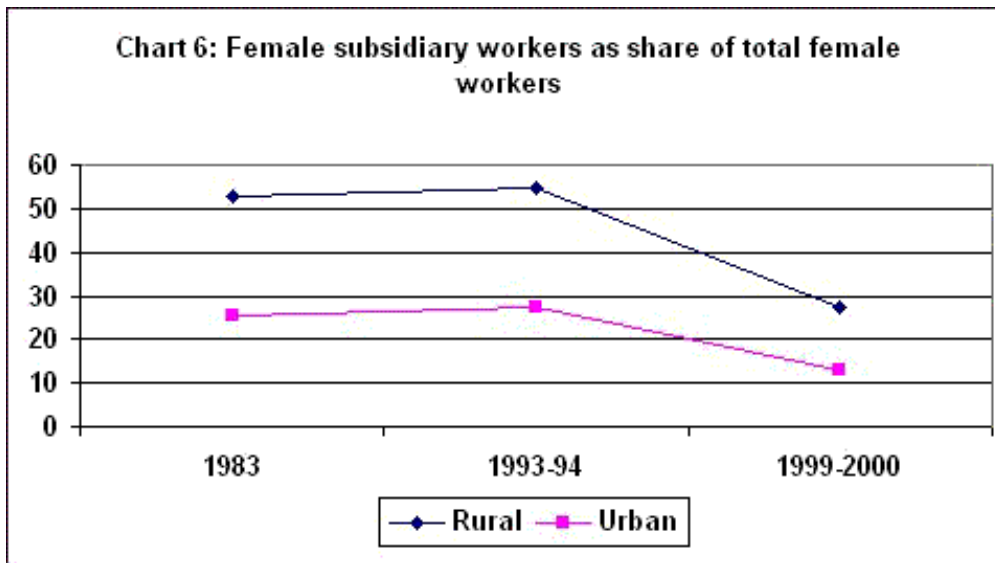
While the Census showed a substantial increase in marginal work for both men and women in West Bengal, the results of the NSS Survey point to a rather different conclusion. The NSS defines 'usual status' activity as one where the person is engaged in an activity for a long period of time in the preceding year. Within this, 'usual principal status' refers to the main activity while 'usual subsidiary status' refers to those who would be characterized as 'unemployed' according to the usual status definition, but pursued some activity in a 'subsidiary' capacity. It is evident that this corresponds approximately (but of course not exactly) to the Census definitions of main and marginal work.



According to the NSS results, which are presented in Charts 5 and 6, the ratio of subsidiary status workers to usual principal status workers, has been going down for quite a long time in West Bengal, and especially during the period 1993–94 to 1999–2000. Such declines are evident for men and women, and for rural and urban areas. For male workers the decline was continuous.

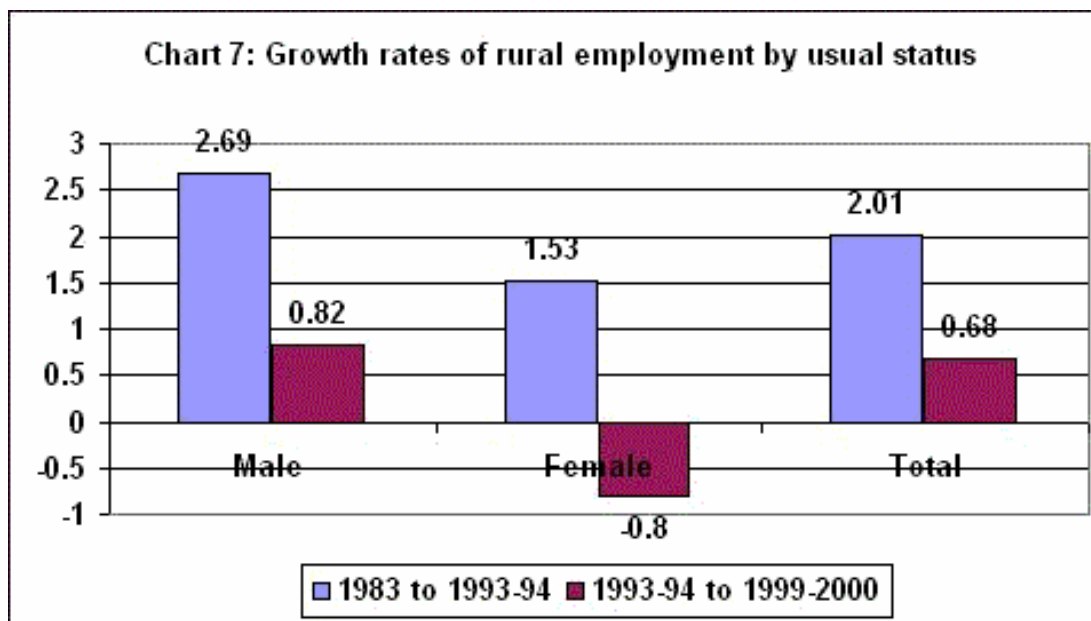
For women workers, while the ratio increased in the decade 1983–1993–94, it went down substantially thereafter.

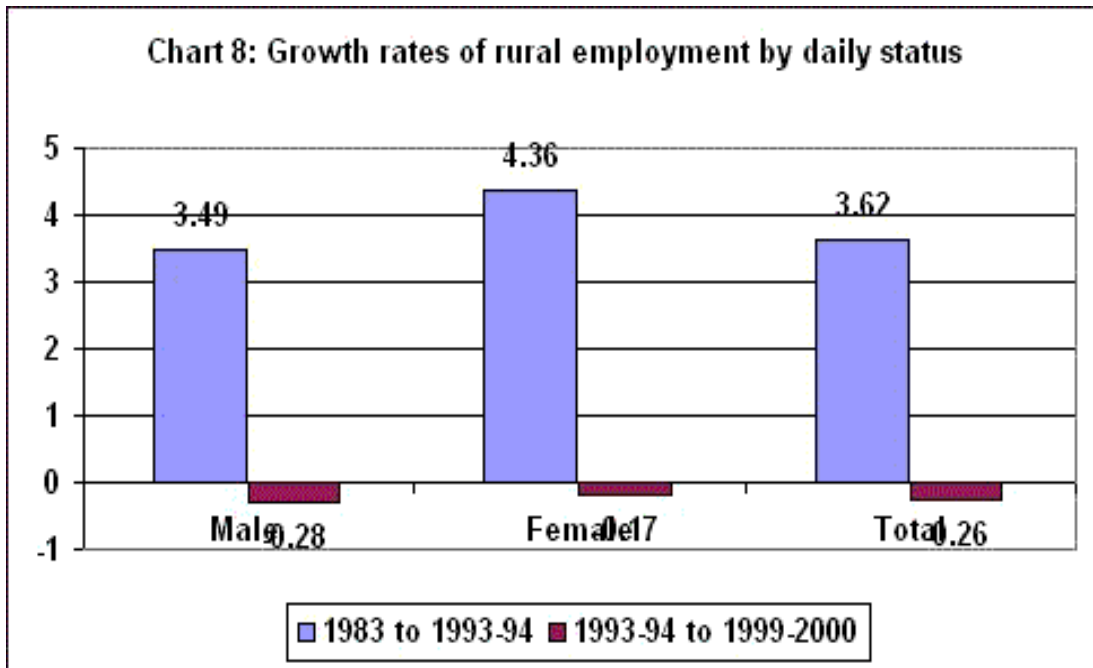




In addition to 'usual status' activity, the NSS has other concepts of employment-the 'weekly status' employment that counts a person as employed if s/he has been engaged in any economic activity for at least one hour on any day of the week preceding the survey and 'daily status' employment that defines a person as employed if s/he has worked for 4 hours or more during the day preceding the survey. The 'usual status' definition may be said to provide a stock estimate of the work available, since it deals with the existence of work over a fairly long period of time. By contrast, the 'weekly' and 'daily' status measures can be seen as flow estimates that also give a sense of the current state of labour demand.

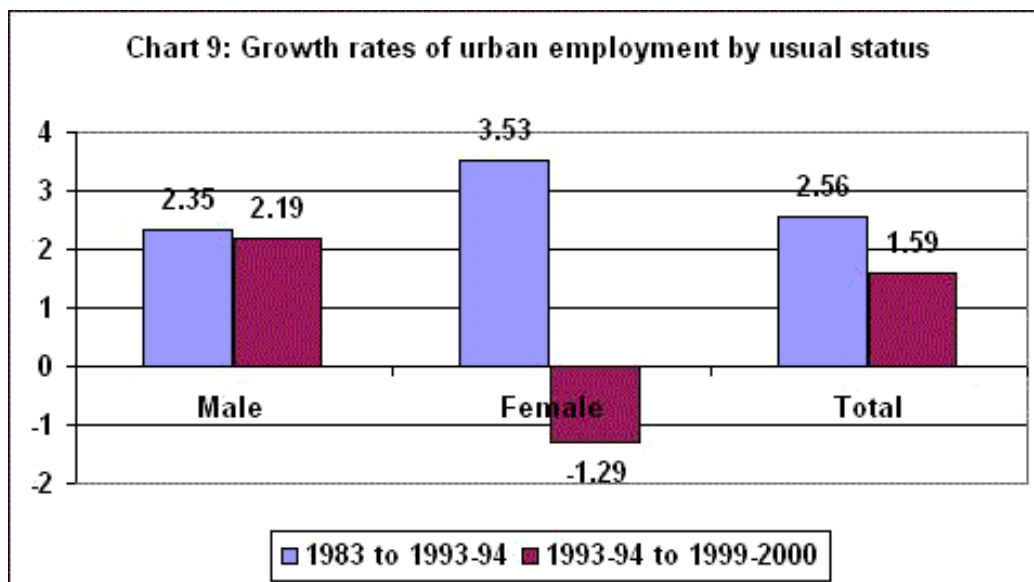
Charts 7 and 8 indicate the growth of rural employment according to the NSS, both by the 'usual status' and 'daily status' indicators. In terms of usual activity, while male employment shows a sharp decline, that for women has actually turned negative during the later period.





In terms of daily status, which possibly captures the real state of the labour market from the point of view of workers more accurately, both men and women experienced a decline in employment, after reasonable growth in the earlier period.

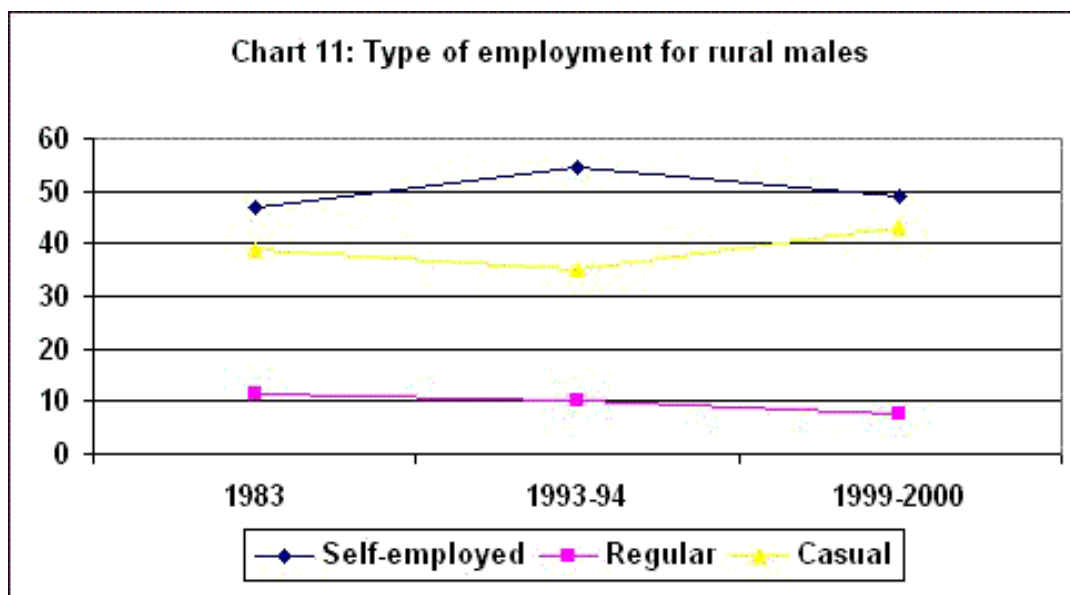
Charts 9 and 10 show the NSS results for the same variables in the urban sector. Here the condition of male employment appears to be slightly better, in that, while there was deceleration in employment by both usual and daily status indicators, it was relatively less and male employment growth continued to increase above the rate of increase in labour force. However, female employment shows a collapse, with absolute declines according to both indicators.

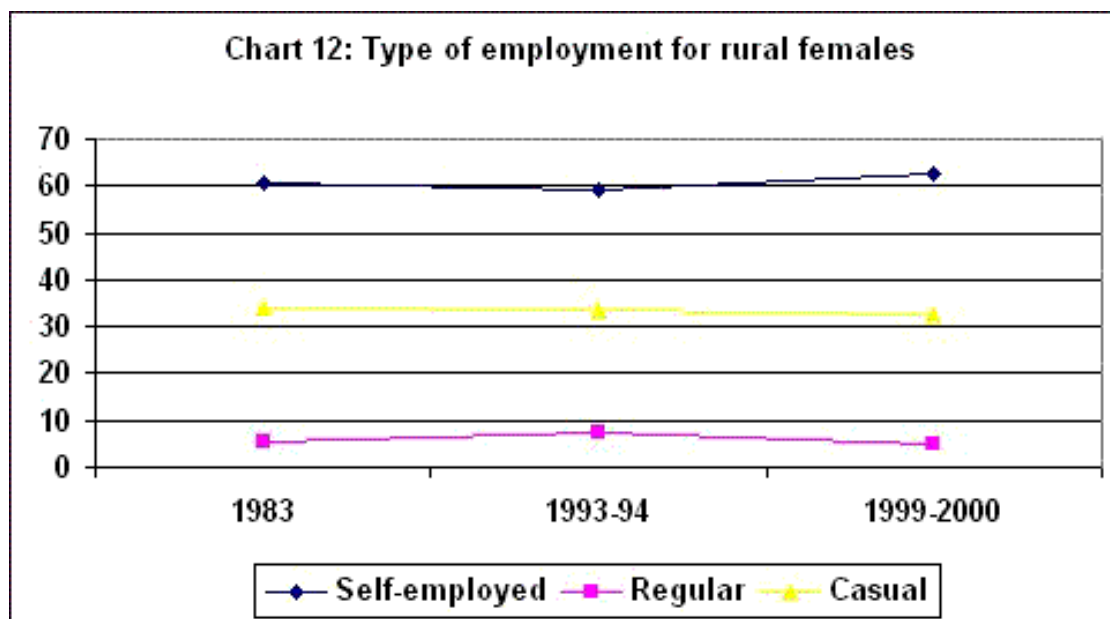




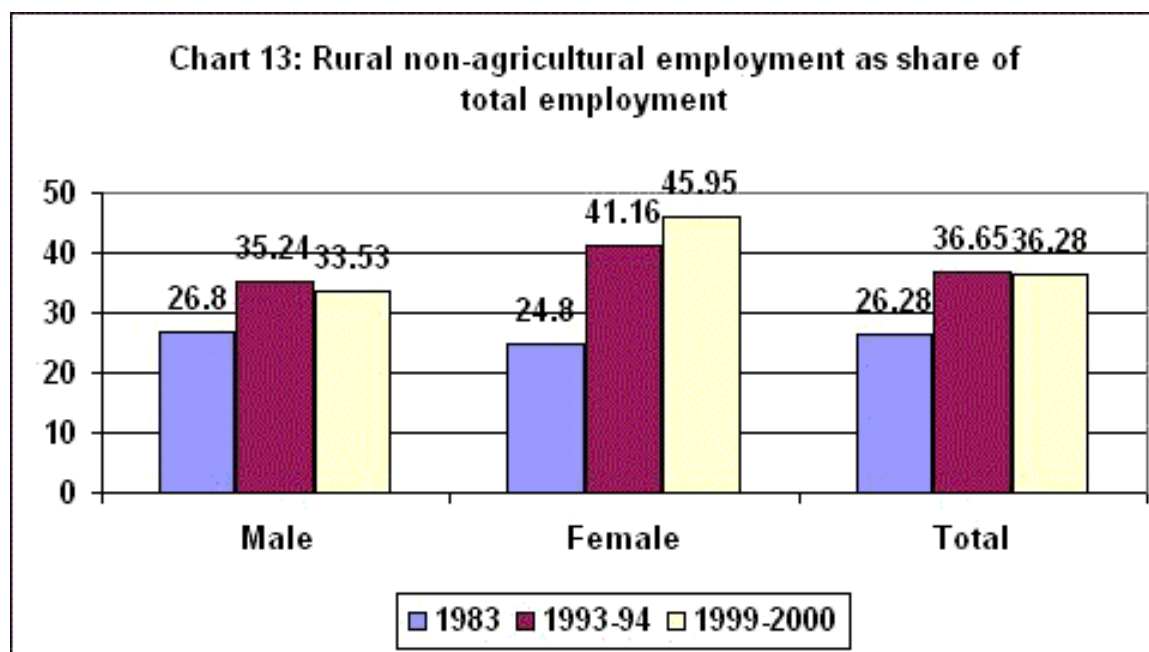
The change in type of employment must be seen in relation to this aggregate employment stagnation, since it defines the broader conditions under which labour contracts change. In what follows, we consider patterns specifically in the rural areas of West Bengal.

Chart 11 shows the changing terms of employment for rural men. It is clear that the most significant changes are decline in regular employment and increase in casual work. While these are part of long-term trends, the recent period appears to have seen an acceleration in these changes. The change in self-employment is more complex, since the share of self-employment increased in 1993-94, only to come down to almost the earlier levels by 1999-2000.





For rural women, as shown in Chart 12, the pattern is rather different. One has to keep in mind that the work participation rate of women in West Bengal is already very low, and that the latest period witnessed an absolute decline in employment. Therefore, the increase in share of a particular type of employment does not mean an absolute increase in such work; rather it indicates that such work declined less than other types of work contracts.



This may be why an increase in the share of regular work and a decline in the share of casual work can be observed for rural women. It is likely that most of the job losses were in the sector of casual work, which is why the share has gone down. The increase in the share of self-employment is likely to reflect disguised unemployment in such a context, since this can be a residual or 'refuge' activity

when other paid work is not available.

It remains to consider the extent of diversification of employment, given the overall stagnation of employment and the changes in types of work contract. Chart 13 describes the share of non-agricultural employment in total rural employment (usual status, principal and subsidiary activities taken together). The trend is clearly for an increase in the share of non-agriculture in total employment, although this is more prominent for women workers.

By 1999–2000, nearly half of the women engaged in some usual status activity in rural West Bengal were not employed in agriculture. Once again, given the overall decline in employment, this suggests that the job losses for women have been greater in agriculture, rather than a significant expansion in non-agricultural jobs. For men, the increase in jobs in the non-agriculture sector was quite sharp till 1993–94, but seems to have reduced subsequently.

Table 1		
Share of non-agricultural workers in total workers, 2001		
	Male	Female
West Bengal	56.6	54.2
Bankura	36.2	29.7
Birbhum	39	42.9
Burdwan	56.9	50.5
Coochbehar	35.9	25.5
Darjeeling	77.4	69.8
Dakshin Dinajpur	32.4	33.7
Uttar Dinajpur	31.9	28.4
Hooghly	62.6	54.6
Howrah	84.2	90
Jalpaiguri	63.9	57.6
Kolkata	99.9	99.8
Malda	41.9	61.8
Nadia	51.4	81.1
Midnapore	40.3	39.9
24-Parganas N	75.1	84.6
24-Parganas S	57.9	58.6
Purulia	40.4	20.8

Table 1 provides a picture of the overall extent of employment diversification from agriculture by districts, using data from the 2001 Census. It needs to be borne in mind that these shares of non-agricultural employment (which refer to both main and marginal workers taken together) include other primary activities (such as forestry and fishing) and also refer to both rural and urban areas. This is why the shares of non-agriculture in total employment are very high, especially for some heavily urbanized districts. While there is almost complete absence of agricultural work in Kolkata, the share of non-agriculture is also very high in Howrah, which is dominantly urban, part of greater Kolkata, and in North 24 Parganas, which is also part of the greater Kolkata hinterland, as well as in Darjeeling, which is dominated by the city of Siliguri.

What is interesting, however, is that very few districts show a domination of agriculture in total employment. Indeed, for male workers, only four districts show a share of non-agriculture in total employment of less than 40 per cent. They are among the districts that are generally considered 'backward': Uttar and Dakshin Dinajpur (with around 32 per cent each), Bankura (36 per cent) and Birbhum (39 per cent). For the state as a whole, well above half of those employed are engaged in non-agricultural pursuits. This is also well above the national average of more than 60 per cent of workers engaged in agriculture, indicating that in West Bengal, employment diversification is relatively more advanced. What are the areas in which such diversification has occurred and which

of these has been more dynamic? It is worth considering this in detail by looking at the relationship between growth and employment.

It is notable that in West Bengal, the period 1993–94 to 1999–2000, which experienced such stagnation and decline in aggregate employment generation, actually showed a higher rate of growth of economic activity. State Domestic Product in constant price terms actually increased at an annual rate of 6.7 per cent, compared to 5.8 per cent in the period 1983–1993–94. However, aggregate employment growth in the later period in West Bengal according to the NSS was only 0.76 per cent, compared to 2.44 per cent in the earlier period. These data reflect employment elasticities in the recent period which are substantially lower for West Bengal than for the rest of India. This suggests that the problem was not growth *per se* so much as the pattern of growth, which became progressively less employment-intensive. This was especially marked in manufacturing and services (other than transport and trade), in both of which employment actually declined, and was despite the fact that in both sectors, output growth was impressive, even double than the rates achieved earlier. The pattern of services employment is surprising, given that the services sector, particularly self-employment, is typically a residual sector that can become a refuge for those unable to find productive employment elsewhere. However, in West Bengal the freeze on new state government employment after 1991 may have played a role in this. This is also reflected in the decline in regular employment in urban areas that was indicated by the NSS data.

While agriculture has been an important source of employment generation in the past, the rate of growth in jobs in this sector has been declining in the recent period. Of course, the situation in West Bengal is better than in the rest of India, where agricultural employment has actually fallen in the period 1993–94 to 1999–2000. This is probably because of *boro* rice cultivation, which has meant increased labour demand because of more intensive cropping in many parts of the state. The few sectors that still show some dynamism in terms of employment generation are wholesale and retail trade, transport and storage, and construction. These are the sectors for which employment elasticity has not declined during the period of 1999–2000.

However, the dynamism in these sectors is more prominent for urban areas; in rural areas the impact on employment appears to be less. Obviously, the lack of adequate employment generation is one of the most pressing economic and social problems in West Bengal at the moment, much as in the rest of India. But the problem seems to be even more acute in this state than elsewhere, given the sharper declines in employment expansion that have been noted. Clearly, this has got to be a critical focus of future policy.

This can be achieved by moving away from those sectors that exhibit low employment elasticity, or by changing the pattern of growth in these sectors. Within agriculture, diversification of cropping pattern as well as the development of improved storage and distribution facilities enhancing cultivators' ability to grow new crops, may lead to more employment generation. In addition, the collapse in formal finance access for farmers, as evidenced for example in the sharp decline in rural credit-deposit ratios of banks, must be reversed.

However, simply encouraging the shift of activities away from employment towards manufacturing and services may not be adequate to cause employment expansion, given the current pattern of growth in these sectors. What is needed is a change in the nature of such growth, which would make these activities also more labour-using than they are at present.

Within manufacturing, the basic problem seems to be that much of the growth has come from large units, which are less employment-intensive, even as many more labour-using small units close down. The pressure of import competition and worsening credit access are, at one level, national problems that are common across the states, and cannot be dealt with through state government policy. But it is still possible to think of methods of encouraging and safeguarding the interests of small and more employment-intensive producers through various state-level incentives.

In services, much of the employment decline has come about because of the ban on fresh hiring by the state government that has affected public employment very drastically. The point is that such declines have not been compensated for by increases in private service employment. While services cannot be treated as one sector for policy purposes as it is such a heterogeneous, catch-all category, it is true that there is scope for expansion of a range of new service activities, especially IT-enabled services which can be provided by educated workers.

The expansion of IT-enabled service activities is a process that has entailed a drop in the proportion

of educated unemployed in urban India in general, but there is plenty of scope to develop such activities (which range from call centers and back-office work to accountancy and other activities) in urban areas of West Bengal. For this, of course, better infrastructural facilities (especially power, communication and connectivity) as well as more systematic and directed training of educated youth are required. On the whole, it appears that there is scope for redirecting economic processes within the state of West Bengal to encourage more employment generation, notwithstanding the overall macroeconomic processes that are currently operating to inhibit the growth of jobs

Source : http://www.macrosan.com/fet/jun03/fet300603West_Bengal_2.htm

CENSUS OF INDIA,2001 Ranking of Districts by percentage of female workers to total female population:1991 and 2001				
	West Bengal	18.32	11.25	
		Female Work Participation Rate		
Rank in 2001	District	2001	1991	Rank in 1991
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Puruliya	36.21	34.61	1
2	Bankura	32.04	19.21	3
3	Maldah	28.29	16.77	5
4	Dakshin Dinajpur	25.14	13.88	7
5	Uttar Dinajpur	23.84	12.48	9
6	Jalpaiguri	23.50	15.64	6
7	Medinipur	22.82	17.50	4
8	Koch Bihar	22.22	9.21	11
9	Darjiling	21.38	20.09	2
10	Birbhum	19.65	12.75	8
11	Murshidabad	16.37	10.33	10
12	Hugli	16.16	8.05	13
13	Barddhaman	16.03	9.01	12
14	Nadia	14.07	5.13	17
15	Kolkata	12.84	6.91	14
16	S24 Parganas	11.83	6.18	15
17	N24 parganas	11.33	5.41	16
18	Haora	9.19	3.73	18

CENSUS OF INDIA,2001 Final Population Totals, West Bengal Ranking of Districts on the basis percentage of working population (main +marginal) to total population : 1991 and 2001				
		Working population (main +marginal) to total population : 1991 and 2001		
Rank in 2001	District	2001	1991	Rank in 1991
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Bankura	44.70	35.91	2
2	Puruliya	44.45	43.15	1
3	Dakshin Dinajpur	40.76	34.89	4
4	Maldah	40.75	34.69	5
5	Medinipur	39.03	35.19	3
6	Kach Bihar	38.99	32.14	11
7	Jalpaiguri	38.31	33.79	8
8	Uttar Dinajpur	38.31	34.25	6
9	Kolkata	37.56	33.01	10
10	Birbhum	37.42	33.15	9
11	Hugli	36.88	31.14	13
12	Barddhaman	35.55	30.66	14
13	Darjiling	35.39	34.22	7

14	Nadia	35.09	29.34	15
15	Murshidabad	34.18	31.51	12
16	Haora	33.67	29.10	16
17	N24 Parganas	33.45	28.78	17
18	S24 Parganas	32.47	28.29	18
	West Bengal	36.77	32.19	

Unemployment

The number of unemployed registering themselves in the Employment Exchanges in the state declined sharply from 4.65 lakh in 2002 to 3.86 lakh in 2003. This same downward trend in the number of unemployed registering themselves continued in 2004. In the first 11 months of 2004, a total of 2.94 lakh unemployed registered themselves against 3.28 lakh registrations in the same period of 2003. In registration of unemployed in 2001, 2002 and 2003 and in different months of 2004 are shown. The number of unemployed on the register at the end of the period is also shown in Table 8.7.

Table 8.7
Registration of the unemployed in Employment Exchange in West Bengal
(No. in thousand)

Year/Month	Registration during the period	On the register at the end of the period
2001	467.3	6180.8
2002	464.9	6433.1
2003	386.4	6716.4
2004		
January	20.5	6733.0
February	19.9	6749.0
March	22.8	6776.0
April	15.6	6769.0
May	11.6	6782.0
June	22.8	6776.0
July	55.0	6850.0
August	52.2	6898.0
September	30.7	6929.0
October	21.7	6947.0
November	21.0	6961.0

Source: Directorate of Employment, Government of West Bengal.

Condition of Women in West Bengal

In terms of personal security, West Bengal is generally considered to be a comparatively safe state in the all-India context. In 2001, for example, the number of cognisable crimes per one lakh population in West Bengal (76.7) was less than half of the All India average (172.3), with only Meghalaya and Mizoram reporting a lower rate. But here the chief concern is one crucial component of the total security scenario in any civilised society; violence against women.

Perhaps the most painful devaluation of women is the physical and psychological violence that stalks women's lives 'from cradle to grave. It can scar the early life of a woman in the shape of child abuse, incest and sexual harassment; it can threaten marriage and domestic life, sometimes culminating in murder or suicide, as so tragically evident in the rising number of such atrocities recorded in crime statistics.

For the first time a large body of national level and state level data related to domestic violence against women has been compiled by the second National Family Health Survey conducted during 1996-98.

Some of its findings are summarized. According to the revelations of this very large all-India survey (addressed to ever-married women of child-bearing age), domestic violence appears to be 'democratic' cutting across age, religion, community, rural-urban divide, even women's employment status.

In West Bengal, 18 per cent of the respondents had experienced beatings and physical mistreatment (lower than the national average of 21 per cent) and in nine out of ten cases this violence had been inflicted by the husband. However, incidence of this type of violence seems to fall appreciably with rise in the standard of living and with women's access to higher education. Illiterate women in West Bengal were almost nine times more likely to experience violence (about 27 per cent) as compared to women who had completed high school (about 3 per cent). These findings have obvious implications for the need to strengthen women's basic capabilities.

The magnitudes of various types of officially recorded crimes committed against women (CAW) provide a rough yardstick of violence against women, specially when these are assessed in the *context* of population growth; but it must be remembered that only a fraction of the actual prevalence of crime is captured in these statistics.

Although women may be victims of robbery or murder, CAW usually refer to a number of specific crimes under the Indian Penal Code (I PC) as noted below. Additionally, there are certain gender-oriented laws under which crime statistics are recorded as SLL (special and local laws) crimes; such as Immoral Traffic Prevention Act of 1956; Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961; Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act of 1979 and Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act of 1986.

Crimes against women under the Indian Penal Code are as follows

1. Rape (Sec. 376 IPC)
2. Kidnapping and Abduction for different purposes (Sec. 363-373 IPC)
3. Homicide for Dowry, Dowry Deaths or their attempts (Sec. 302/304B I PC)
4. Torture Cruelty - both physical and mental - (Sec. 498A IPC)
5. Molestation (Sec. 354 IPC)
6. Sexual Harassment/Eve-Teasing (Sec. 509 or 294 IPC)
7. Importation of girls up to 21 years of age (Sec. 366B IPC)
- 8.

If we look at the information released by the National Crime Records Bureau for 2002, it would be clear that Torture/Cruelty tends to account for the highest share in total CAW in the state; more than half in 2002, as against less than one-third for all-India; in the same year; rape accounted for 10 percent of total CAW here, as against 11 per cent of all India total CAW; molestation constituted 11 per cent of the West Bengal total CAW while in all-India CAW this proportion was more than double at 23 per cent.

Among all offences perpetrated against women, the most heinous are the crimes of

rape and dowry death. "The threat of rape clips the wings of a woman ready to take flight into freedom and achievement. It cripples her mentally and hurts her physically beyond the imagination of anyone. Dowry death, on the other hand, arises out of a mentality that denies the woman unequal status and respect even in supposedly her 'own house'

Only three or four states have figures that are lower than those for West Bengal. This also underscores the fact that the conviction rates for CAW - for example rape - tend to be appreciably lower than those for IPC crimes as a whole. A worrisome trend is the proclivity towards imposition of dowry in communities where it was once conspicuous by its absence.

Table below shows the- rising incidence of sexual assault against women in West Bengal districts in the form of rape(including gang rape), molestation and eve-teasing, together with the numbers persons arrested. According to information available for 2003, prevalence of CAW was more pronounced in the districts of North and South 24 Parganas, Bardhaman, Murshidabad, Nadia, Jalpaiguri and Koch Behar.

Incidence of sexual assault against women in West Bengal Districts : 2003

	Rape Cases				Molestation Cases		Eve-teasing/sexual harrasment cases	
	Custodial	No.of gang Rape	No. of other Rape	Total person arrested	No. of Cases	Total person arrested	No. of cases	Total person arrested
Bankura		1	42	46	31	34	-	-
Birbhum		4	44	38	51	28	-	-
Bardhaman		9	60	97	70	138	1	-
Koch Behar		3	50	48	60	57	-	-
Darjeeling		2	22	27	20	19	-	-
Hooghly		2	35	34	25	20	-	-
Howrah		20	15	13	30	33	1	1
Jalpaiguri		4	56	52	75	60	1	2
Paschim Medinipur		4	46	37	31	20	2	1
Purba Medinipur		6	27	31	11	9	-	-
Murshidabad		8	98	104	131	127	-	-

Malda		4	53	63	67	75	1	1
Nadia		7	101	107	96	101	2	3
24 Parganas (N)		15	76	86	105	91	3	3
24 Parganas (S)		9	80	96	105	109	1	1
Puruliya		2	23	36	34	57	-	-
Uttar Dinajpur		4	20	17	23	24	1	1
Dakshin Dinajpur		1	30	33	40	51	1	1
Total (excluding crimes repta. By Govt. Railway Police)		85	881	964	1001	1047	15	14
2000 (All West Bengal)		82	697	679	905	753	9	23
1996 (All West Bengal)		95	699	777	1150	972	10	8

Source ; WB Commission of Women ,Situational Analysis

Districts – wise incidence of crime against women (CAW) and persons arrested in West Bengal

	Total CAW under IPC		Torture/cruelty by Husbands/relatives			Dowry Death			No. of arrests for CAW	
	2000	2003	1995	2000	2003	1995	2000	2003	2000	2003
Bankura	194	264	59	112	153	9	17	20	258	459
Birbhum	353	367	115	201	219	6	11	13	195	381
Bardhaman	727	739	223	482	107	8	34	30	2062	2526
Koch Behar	336	369	111	189	209	0	3	11	249	538
Darjeeling	133	146	28	64	69	0	1	3	177	182
Hooghly	583	567	320	453	457	4	7	14	457	667
Howrah	267	237	107	175	168	5	22	17	383	409
Jalpaiguri	297	376	108	158	210	1	3	4	263	496
Paschim Medinipur	904	530	558	598	376	28	56	18	675	545
Purba Medinipur	-	402	-	-	267	-	-	37	--	446
Murshidabad	440	814	78	245	468	0	4	17	432	1363
Malda	213	275	43	89	119	1	5	4	389	383
Nadia	595	600	226	370	363	11	22	23	1053	1422
24 Parganas (N)	843	1128	546	589	784	3	21	24	968	1367
24 Parganas (S)	975	1214	469	692	884	2	49	44	930	1759
Puruliya	259	187	107	139	94	0	4	8	443	543

Uttar Dinajpur	225	170	74	113	85	1	5	14	179	233
Dakshin Dinajpur	242	227	37	126	113	-	4	8	193	440
Total (excluding crimes reptd. By Govt. Railway Police)	7586	8872	3319	4785	5603	89	268	312	9330	14176

Source ; WB Commission of Women ,Situational Analysis

Trafficking of Women and Children

Though it is difficult to produce hard data, information collected by NGOs confirm that trafficking in young girls and women is assuming serious proportions in West Bengal, at the inter-state level and also across porous international borders. The districts of Mursidabad, Howrah, North and South 24 Parganas, Medinipur and Birbhum have been identified as trafficking-prone areas.⁵ The geographical position of the state makes it a convenient transit point for child trafficking to other states of India and also to foreign destinations, specially to the Middle-East for camel jockeying and begging. SANLAAP a well-known NGO of West Bengal actively involved in providing a better life for trafficked persons, has reported rescuing about 180 girls and women aged between 13 and 28 years. SEVA, REACH and SLARTC are currently working in Partnership with State agencies towards the Objective of Rehabilitating the victims of Trafficking and Prostitution.

These victims suffer gross violation of Human Rights, physical and Mental trauma and grave risk of STD and HIV/AIDS. Facilities for Rehabilitation of victims are minimal compared to the dimensions of the Problem. Against this backdrop it is only concerted efforts and action at different levels that can bring about perceptible change: the family has to accept and support women who wish to return in normal life. Community leaders have to engage in awareness building regarding trafficking and keep track of suspicious events concerning women at the local level and effective steps have to be taken to ensure economic stability of distressed households that are typically open to the risk of trafficking.

One encouraging trend has been a decline in the number of minor girls forced into prostitution in Kolkata's red light area of Sonagachi - from about 25 per cent. in 1992 to less than 4 per cent by 1998, as reported in a survey carried out by the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health (Kolkata).

During the NGO Meet on Empowerment of Women held in Kolkata on 3rd June 2004, under the joint auspices of the National Commission for Women and the West Bengal Commission for Women, attention was drawn to the evil of witch hunting which still occurs in the districts of Jalpaiguri and Malda specially in areas with scant medical and infrastructure facilities. Speedy introduction of basic facilities in the interior areas of districts with large tribal populations was advocated as a strong safeguard against the atrocity of witch hunting..

The National Commission for Women held an interactive meeting with senior officials of the GOWB in Kolkata on 4th June 2004. The Director General of Police

(DGP) West Bengal stated in this meeting that in view of the rising incidence of crimes against women, top priority was being given to monitoring and controlling offences against women.

Under a new system reports of CAW coming in from all over 'the state are reviewed by the DGP every evening and necessary directions conveyed to the respective district police authorities. The DGP stated that there were no 'mahila ' thanas in the state but there *were* mahila desks' at all urban police stations and apart from the CAW wing at the West Bengal Police Headquarters in Kolkata, there are special cells for CAW in each district.

There are also special Family Counselling Centres run by the West Bengal police - 'Seva' located in the Criminal Investigation Department (CIDL Kolkata) and the recently opened 'Asha' in Siliguri. Presently women under threat of violence can access seven helplines which function with the help of NGOs. Another relevant step taken is the launching of the Missing Persons Website which provides information on missing women, recovery, of such women and unidentified dead bodies.

Women in Panchayats

The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments enacted in 1993 opened a new vista in women's journey towards empowerment; for they paved the way for assured entry of women in grassroots governance through 33 percent reservation for them in Panchayati Raj institutions (PRIs),

West Bengal has the, unique and unbroken record of holding Panchayat elections at the stipulated 5-year intervals . Since 1978. PRIs in the state have a 3-tiered structure, with the basic unit, the Gram Panchayat (GP) serving 10-12 villages. The next tier, the Panchayat Samiti (PS) serves about 100 villages and there is an apex body, the Zilla Parishad (ZP) in each district, its chairperson having the status of a state minister. Reservation for women as office -bearers in the PRIs was introduced in the Panchayat elections of 1998. West Bengal's record compares favorably with the situation obtaining in other states of India, except perhaps Karnataka, where women's share in GP seats was more than 43 per cent and in PSs and ZPs, about 40 and 37 per cent respectively. During the 1990s, the average percentage of women members in PRIs (with respect to nine states) was about 27 per cent.

Certain encouraging trends can be noted in the evolving PRI structure and composition in West Bengal. First, there is growing participation of women belonging to weaker sections of society such as scheduled castes (SC) and scheduled tribes (ST). In 1998, for example, SC women comprised nearly 30 per cent of all women representatives in Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis and Zilla Parishads. Secondly, all-women Panchayats have also emerged and working successfully- such as the Kultikari Gram Panchayat in Medinipur district. Thirdly, it is often found that as compared to their male compatriots, women members of GPs take a more active interest in essential developmental work such as expansion of literacy and convenient access to drinking water. It has further been observed that in West Bengal, women representatives are becoming more self-reliant and by and large they do not _ need to function as 'proxy members', But it is also a fact that. women panchayat members are not always given equal status with their male

counterparts. They are considered less equal' than the male representatives and hence, they are seldom given responsibility of work considered to be important by the PRIs and the chairpersons the important standing committees handling substantial funds are almost always men's .

Source : Women in West Bengal Situational Analysis

Health

Health and nutritional status are two crucial and interlinked aspects of human development, which in turn interact with demographic variables in important ways. While health and nutrition conditions can be related with aggregate economic growth, there is no necessary or linear causation, and policy interventions can play an important role in determining both access to health services and nutrition, as well as outcome indicators in this area.

In West Bengal, several outcome indicators suggest that while average conditions are still inadequate and could have improved more rapidly, there is substantially more equality of access across the population to basic health and nutrition, than in many other states. Certain features like population density, population growth rate, sex ratio and rate of migration to urban areas are directly related to the health and nutrition situations of the community.

Some of these features are described for West Bengal and India as a whole in Table below

		West Bengal	India
Area Sq Km		88,752	32,87,263
Census Population 2001		8,02,21,171	1,02,70,15,247
Decennial Growth Rate of Population	1981-91	24.73	23.85
	1991-01	17.84	21.34
	Per cent Reduction	6.9	2.51
Population Density	1991	767	274
	2001	904	324
Sex Ratio	1991	917	927
	2001	934	933
	Per cent Improvement	1.86	0.65
% of Urban Population to Total Population	1991	27.48	25.73
	2001	28.03	27.78
	Per cent Increase	0.55	2.05

Source: Charaborty (2003) Health on the March West Bengal: Census 2001

In the context of the high population density in the state, the extent of reduction of the decennial growth rate of population in West Bengal has been quite impressive at nearly 7 per cent as compared to the Indian average of 2.5 per cent. This has occurred in a scenario of both birth rates and death rates declining quite rapidly.

The improvement in the sex ratio in West Bengal has been considerable, at the rate of 1.86 per cent as compared to the average Indian improvement of 0.6 per cent, so that the sex ratio is now better in West Bengal than the all-India average. T

he rate of increase of the urban population in West Bengal was less than 1 per cent, which was much less than the Indian average of 2 per cent, indicating that rural to urban migration has been substantially less in the state than elsewhere in the country. Even in terms of reduction over time, between the 1982-1992 period and the 1992-2002 period West Bengal appears to have done much better than India as

a whole, which clearly suggests a gradual improvement in health facilities over the years in the state.

Indicator	West Bengal (India)	Highest among major States	Lowest among Major State	Rank among Major State	Rank among all States
Crude Birth Rate	22.7(26.2)	33.0(UP)	17.9(Kerela)	7	9
Crude Death Rate	8.3(9.7)	12.9(Orissa)	6.0(Kerela)	2	8
Total Fertility Rate	2.49(3.07)	4.31(UP)	2.07(Kerela)	7	9
Neonatal Mortality Rate	31.9(43.4)	54.9(MP)	13.86(Kerela)	3	7
Infant Mortality Rate	48.7(67.6)	86.7(UP)	16.3(Kerela)	3	11

As evident from Chart above both in terms of absolute magnitude and also in terms of rate of reduction West Bengal's performance has been better than that of all-India. This is also the case when IMRs for boys and girls are considered separately; indeed, the gap between West Bengal and India is especially high for female IMR, indicating that West Bengal has a better record of ensuring the lives of girl infants than India as a whole. The total IMR for rural areas also shows a reasonably good trend of decrease over the years. However, although the total IMR for urban areas is much less than that of the rural areas, the rate of reduction in the urban IMR has not been steady. It has not decreased significantly in the last few years, indicating a possible stagnation in the reduction of IMR in urban areas though it is still better than the overall Indian average.

This suggests that the existing health service facilities in the urban areas are possibly getting stretched and that a much greater effort will be needed to bring down IMR further. It is also a well-known fact that as the situation improves, further progress becomes more difficult. Since one of the basic parameters of assessing the health situation of any given population is the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) it is worth considering this variable in more detail.

The IMR of West Bengal, at 51 per thousand, is quite good by aggregate Indian standards. As expected, the IMR in urban areas is much lower than that in the rural areas, indicating better health support and also possibly better infant caring practices in urban areas. As already noted, although the mean decennial growth rate of population has increased, there are significant differences across districts. Sex ratios also show district wise differences, with Medinipur being the best and Kolkata being the worst. Of course, high rates of male in-migration into Kolkata may explain this difference to some extent; however, the sex ratio for 0-6 years is also the lowest in Kolkata.

The crude birth rate, the improvement in West Bengal has been more rapid than for the national average. In terms of relative ranking, West Bengal now has the seventh rank among major states for the crude birth rate as well as the total fertility rate, as indicated in Table.

The crude death rate in West Bengal is much less as compared to the Indian average, indicating that the health system is more supportive in preventing death. It has also improved more rapidly in the recent past than the all-India indicator.

Further, West Bengal ranks third in India with respect to infant mortality rates. Nevertheless, obviously further policy interventions are needed to control fertility and birth, since there is still considerable scope for improvement even in these indicators. In addition, the average age at marriage still remains low in West Bengal, although it appears to have increased in recent years.

Since teenage marriage and pregnancy tends to be associated with low birth weight and higher infant mortality, and also higher maternal mortality, this is an issue that needs to be addressed especially through consciousness-raising measures.

Within aggregate infant mortality, nearly 42 per cent of the deaths occur within the first week. Deaths in the next three weeks account for 15 per cent, while deaths in the remaining 11 months amount to 43 per cent of the total infant mortality. This indicates that the control of early neonatal mortality will lead to a much improved IMR as this appears to be the most critical period.

However, it should be noted that this variable is also the hardest to control: even in Kerala, where the IMR is remarkably low (at 16 in 1998) more than half of the infants die in the early neonatal stage. Though the total neonatal mortality rate of West Bengal is better than the Indian average, the number of deaths is very high compared to some states such as Kerala, and some districts tend to have much higher rates than others. This calls for important critical interventions.

The recent opening (in August 2003) of a neonatal specialty hospital in Purnia is a positive step, since the establishment of such facilities in far-flung districts with relatively poor transport connections to Kolkata, is likely to make a big difference towards reducing neonatal mortality. The district-wise pattern of IMR in the rural areas, for the period 1996-2000, according to the Sample Registration Surveys conducted by the Census of India, is presented in Table.

**Rural IMRs by District 1996-2000
(NUMBER OF Infant Death per 1000 Live Birth)**

District	IMR
Darjeeling	41
Jalpaiguri	54
Kooch Behar	52
Uttar Dinajpur	65
Dakshin Dinajpur	74
Malda	61
Murshidabad	58
Birbhum	49
Bardhaman	57
Nadia	54
N24Pragna	51
Hugli	24
Bankura	61
Purulia	74
Mednipur	49
Haora	34
S 24 Pragna	51
West Bengal	53

Source: Office of Director of Census Operation West Bengal

There are very substantial variations in rural IMRs, ranging from the low of 24 in Hugli to the highest rate of 74 in Dakshin Dinajpur and Purulia, both of which are relatively badly served in terms of health infrastructure and transport networks. Indeed, the SRS data point to substantial variations in IMRs even within districts, often depending upon the availability of basic health infrastructure in the villages.

Districts	Popn with adequate sanitation facilities (%)	Popn. Using improved water source (%)	No. of PHCs per 100000 Popn	No. of hospital beds per 100000 popn.	No. of rural family welfare centers	Couple protection rate (%)	1 year old children with complete immunization (%)
Darjeeling	28.4	75.6	19	151	73	38.8	60.8
Jalpaiguri	17.7	98.1	134	39	527	38.0	62.0
K.Behar	8.6	98.6	16	60	25	50.3	49.8
Uttar Dinajpur	9.3	99.5	11	30	293	21.2	28.5
Dakshin Dinajpur	11.0	99.6	17	54	237	29.6	40.5
Malda	10.6	99.4	14	35	16	21.1	38.9
Murshidabad	13.5	99.4	15	48	30	37.5	39.4
Birbhum	13.9	99.3	26	75	428	42.5	34.9
Bardhaman	32.4	99.3	19	100	768	53.8	51.8
Nadia	25.4	99.2	13	113	28	33.6	68.9
24 Pargs North	39.4	99.0	8	29	779	24.4	65.6
Hooghly	32.7	99.3	14	73	45	34.3	67.8
Bankura	10.0	98.2	27	87	514	43.8	67.3
Purulia	8.1	93.8	28	89	471	42.3	38.0
Purba Medinipur	9.1	99	18	48	70	38.8	46
Pashchim Mmedinipur	-	-	-	-	-		-
Howrah	29.4	99.1	13	80	97	29.8	56.0
24 Pargs South	11.3	99.2	12	22	34	20.0	59.4
Kolkata	75.2	99.5	-	434	92	36.4	82.9

(Purba and Paschim Mednipur is Combined)

Source: WBHDR 2003

Institutional Deliveries

A important thrust of the Reproductive and Child Health Programme is to encourage deliveries under proper hygienic conditions under the supervision of trained health professionals.

For each birth during the three years preceding the survey, NFHS-2 asked the mother where she gave birth and who assisted during the delivery. 40 percent of births in West Bengal took place in health facilities, 46 percent took place in the women.s own homes, and 13 percent took place in their parents homes.

The NFHS-2 estimate of the percentage of births that took place in health facilities is slightly higher than the 1997 SRS estimate for West Bengal (36 percent). Eight percent of births took place in a private health facility, 32 percent took place in public institutions (such as government-operated district, *taluk*, town, or municipal hospitals and Primary Health Centres), and less than 1 percent took place in facilities operated by non governmental organizations or trusts. The proportion of deliveries that took place in health facilities is substantially higher in urban areas (80 percent) than in rural areas (31 percent). The proportion of births occurring in health facilities is much lower for Muslim mothers (16 percent) than for Hindu mothers (51 percent).

Only 20 percent of births to scheduled-tribe mothers are institutional deliveries, compared with 44 percent of births to scheduled-caste mothers, 54 percent of births to mothers belonging to other backward classes, and 40 percent of births to mothers from .other castes/tribes.

The proportion of births that were delivered in a health facility decreases as birth order rises from 1 (61 percent) to 6 and over (11 percent).

Institutional deliveries, particularly in private facilities, increase sharply with education and with standard of living. Literate mothers, in particular, those with at least a complete middle school education are much more likely to give birth in a health facility than are illiterate mothers. Only one-quarter of births to mothers with a low standard of living and 79 percent of births to mothers with a high standard of living took place in health facilities. Institutional deliveries are much more common among births to mothers who had four or more antenatal check-ups (67 percent) than among births whose mothers had fewer antenatal check-ups (32 percent or less). Institutional deliveries are least prevalent among births to mothers who did not receive any antenatal check-ups (14 percent), followed by births whose mothers only received one antenatal check-up (17 percent).

Several factors are likely to contribute to the positive relationship between antenatal check-ups and delivery in a health facility. Women who receive antenatal check-ups are more likely than other women to deliver in a health facility because their antenatal care providers advised them to do so. Conversely, women who register themselves with a health facility for delivery may be called for regular check-ups by the facility.

Another important factor may be pregnancy complications, because women with complications are more likely than other women to have antenatal check-ups and also to deliver in a health facility. Yet another contributing factor may be the growing awareness of the benefits of professional medical care during both pregnancy and delivery, especially among urban, young, and educated women. In addition, women of higher socioeconomic status may have greater access to health facilities and resources. With regard to deliveries at home, the proportion of deliveries in a woman's own home increases and the proportion at her parents' home decreases with age and birth order. Mother's education and standard of living are both negatively associated with deliveries at home.

Deliveries in health facilities have increased in West Bengal from 32 percent at the time of NFHS-1 to 40 percent at the time of NFHS-2. This increase has been due primarily to the increased number of births taking place in public health facilities.

Reproductive Health Problems

Absence of reproductive tract infections (RTIs) is essential for the reproductive health of both women and men and is critical for their ability to meet their reproductive goals. There are three different types of reproductive tract infections for women: endogenous infections that are caused by the multiplying of organisms normally present in the vagina; iatrogenic infections caused by the introduction of bacteria or other infection-causing micro-organisms through medical procedures such as an IUD insertion; and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Endogenous infections and several of the iatrogenic and sexually transmitted infections are often easily cured if detected early and given proper treatment. If left untreated, RTIs can cause pregnancy-related

complications, congenital infections, infertility, and chronic pain. They are also a risk factor for pelvic inflammatory disease and HIV (Population Council, 1999).

A number of studies (Bang et al., 1989; Bang and Bang, 1991; Pachauri and Gittlesohn, 1994; Jeejeebhoy and Rama Rao, 1992) have shown that many Indian women suffer from RTIs. Several researchers have also shown that women in India often bear the symptoms of RTIs silently without seeking health care. RTIs and their sequelae are an important component of programmes for family planning, child survival, women's health, safe motherhood, and HIV prevention. RTIs have profound implications for the success of each of these initiatives, and conversely, these initiatives provide a critical opportunity for the prevention and control of RTIs (Germain et al., 1992). Studies have demonstrated that RTIs are an important reason for the poor acceptance and low continuation rates of contraceptive methods such as the IUD. Bhatia and Cleland (1995) found a higher incidence of gynaecological symptoms among women who had undergone a tubectomy than among other women.

The Government of India recognized the importance of RTIs and STIs in undermining the health and welfare of individuals and couples in a policy statement on the Reproductive and Child Health Programme, which states that couples should be able to have sexual relations free of fear of pregnancy and contracting diseases. (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 1997:2). The Reproductive and Child Health Programme includes the following interventions: establishment of RTI/STI clinics at district hospitals (where not already available), provision of technicians for laboratory diagnosis of RTIs/STIs, and in selected districts, screening and treatment of RTIs/STIs (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 1997).

NFHS-2 collected information from women on some common symptoms of RTIs, namely problems with abnormal vaginal discharge or urinary tract infections in the three months preceding the survey, intercourse-related pain (often), and bleeding after intercourse (ever). Specifically, the prevalence of reproductive health problems among ever-married women is estimated from women's self-reported experience in the three months preceding the survey with each of the following problems: vaginal discharge accompanied by itching, by irritation around the vaginal area, by bad odour, by severe lower abdominal pain, by fever, or by any other problem; pain or burning while urinating or frequent or difficult urination; and (among currently married women only) painful intercourse or bleeding after intercourse. Women who experience one or more of these reproductive health problems could either have or be at risk of getting an RTI/STI.

However, since information on health problems is based on self reports rather than clinical tests or examinations, the results should be interpreted with caution.

Thirty-six percent of ever-married women report at least one type of problem related to vaginal discharge, and 19 percent report symptoms of a urinary tract infection. Overall, 42 percent of women report either problems with vaginal discharge or symptoms of a urinary tract infection. Among problems related to vaginal discharge, severe lower abdominal pain (23 percent) is mentioned most frequently, followed by itching or irritation (18 percent). The prevalence of problems related to vaginal discharge and symptoms of urinary tract infections is the same in currently married women and ever-married women.

Almost half of currently married women (45 percent) report that they have one or more reproductive health problems. Fifteen percent report painful intercourse and 2 percent report bleeding after intercourse. Reproductive health problems are more common among currently married women below age 45 (42.50 percent) than among older women (29 percent). Rural women have a higher prevalence of reproductive health problems than urban women. Twenty-nine percent of currently married women in Kolkata report such problems. The prevalence of reproductive health problems also varies by education, being highest for illiterate women (49 percent) and lowest for women who have at least completed high school (31 percent). Muslim women (55 percent) are more likely to have reproductive health problems than Hindu women (42 percent) or other women (50 percent).

Differences by caste/tribe are small. Women in households with a low standard of living (50 percent) are more likely to have reproductive health problems than women in households with a medium (44percent) or high standard of living (35 percent). Women who are self employed (51 percent) are more likely to report reproductive health problems than are other women (45.47 percent).

Women with only one child are least likely to have reproductive health problems. Women with no children are much more likely than women with one or more children to have reproductive health problems. Among women who report any reproductive health problems, 73 percent have not seen anyone for advice or treatment. The proportion of women who have not obtained advice or treatment is higher in rural areas (76 percent) than in urban areas (60 percent). Among women who have obtained advice or treatment, 53 percent saw a private doctor. A private doctor was seen by two-thirds of these women in urban areas and 48 percent in rural areas. Sixteen percent of women who have obtained advice or treatment were seen by someone in the public medical sector. NFHS-2 results show that although more than two-fifths of ever-married women in West Bengal report at least one reproductive health problem that could be symptomatic of a more serious reproductive tract infection, the majority of them bear the problems silently without seeking advice or treatment. Moreover, women who seek advice or treatment for reproductive health problems do not usually go to government health professionals. These findings highlight the need to educate women regarding the symptoms and consequences of reproductive health problems and the urgent need to expand counselling and reproductive health services in both rural and urban areas, particularly in the public sector.

Some Important Findings of RCH-NFHS Survey

District	Marriage before Legal Age	
	Boys	Girls
Bankura	21.7	54.0
Bardhaman	19.3	59.0
Birbhum	30.5	59.8
Dakshin Dinajpur	13.0	57.6
Darjiling	26.3	21.0
Haora	11.6	25.5
Hugli	20.6	34.9

Jalpaiguri	22.1	38.0
Koch Bihar	20.2	51.7
Kolkata	5.8	13.6
Maldah	30.6	65.9
Medinipur	22.9	53.2
Murshidabad	34.2	54.8
Nadia	24.5	41.0
North Twentyfour Parganas	24.5	37.9
Puruliya	37.1	51.2
South Twentyfour Parganas	30.6	46.7
Uttar Dinajpur	23.0	51.2

Girls married below the legal age is very high in the Districts of Bankura, Birbhum Bardhaman, Dakshin Dinajpur, Kooch Behar, Malda , Mednipur , Murshuidabad Puruliya and Uttar Dinajpur. This is a verimportant indicator as it exposes young girls to the risk of Trafficking Vulnerability.

Maldah, Medinipur South 24 Pragana and Uttar Dinajpur have reported the lowest Institutional Delivery. This is an important indicator of low reportage of HIV at the ANC Sites.

District	No ANC	Full ANC	Visited	Institutional Delivery			Women Access
	Check		by ANM	Govt	Private	Total	Govt for RTI
Bankura	3.8	23.1	6.6	52.9	9.5	62.3	73.4
Barddhaman	6.9	10.1	7.3	42.8	16.0	58.9	25.1
Birbhum	8.8	10.8	23.4	40.1	8.0	48.1	19.5
Dakshin Dinajpur	8.5	14.5	11.0	40.1	4.8	44.9	26.9
Darjiling	14.7	8.9	6.4	31.9	11.1	42.9	43.6
Haora	8.6	17.6	5.9	41.9	14.8	56.7	13.9
Hugli	6.5	26.4	10.4	51.7	23.4	75.2	12.5
Jalpaiguri	5.0	18.0	22.4	30.8	9.4	40.2	5.4
Koch Bihar	8.0	8.3	11.7	27.7	9.1	36.9	36.2
Kolkata	3.8	19.9	4.4	46.9	35.2	82.1	40.1
Maldah	4.9	14.3	37.4	20.9	6.6	27.4	10.5
Medinipur	6.1	13.0	8.3	29.2	14.4	43.7	31.8
Murshidabad	26.0	6.9	4.6	29.8	3.4	33.2	11.9
Nadia	2.7	11.9	16.1	58.1	7.0	65.1	14.8
North Twentyfour Parganas	11.6	20.4	6.9	36.4	13.8	50.2	36.7

Puruliya	13.5	14.9	11.5	40.7	8.2	48.9	33.0
South Twentyfour Parganas	5.7	8.0	19.8	22.1	8.4	30.5	6.1
Uttar Dinajpur	18.6	6.5	27.6	15.8	4.8	20.6	10.8

HIV/AIDS and RTI

The RCH Data as per the NFHS Study has reported the following important Data for the Reproductive Health in the women in West Bengal.

District	Awareness		Symptoms of	Condom
	RTI	HIV	RTI among Women	Usage
Bankura	58.1	34.4	41.9	3.4
Bardhaman	68.3	45.2	39.4	2.7
Birbhum	56.1	31.8	27.9	3.4
Dakshin Dinajpur	79.4	46.3	35.8	4.5
Darjiling	52.5	66.2	36.2	5.7
Haora	79.1	71.9	26.7	4.5
Hugli	70.3	61.7	38.4	3.5
Jalpaiguri	71.0	46.5	29.9	8.4
Koch Bihar	63.2	40.1	44.8	2.5
Kolkata	84.7	87.5	25.2	9.3
Maldah	70.0	27.9	40.9	5.0
Medinipur	80.7	49.3	45.6	2.5
Murshidabad	50.4	33.0	44.7	3.5
Nadia	80.9	62.2	32.5	5.6
N24 Parganas	78.3	67.7	35.3	8.9
Puruliya	42.3	22.5	24.6	3.9
S24 Parganas	70.2	52.8	33.9	4.2
Uttar Dinajpur	72.9	32.0	38.3	1.9

Data Showing the Various Hot Spots in West Bengal in the Year 2001, 2002,2003

State	Site	Hot Spot	2001	2002	2003
			%	%	%

West Bengal	STD	Bankura	1.24		
	STD	Kolkatta	2.4		
	STD	Cooch behar		0.48	
	STD	Behrampur		2	
	STD	Kolkatta		6.32	9.6
	ANC	Kolkatta	0.5	1.25	0.75
	ANC	Midnapur		0.75	

West Bengal Sentinel sites and HIV prevalence				
Sites	Type	Percent Positive	Type	Percent Positive
Baharampur(Murshi)	STD	4		
Balurghat (d dinaj)	STD	1.26		
Bankura	STD	1.6		
Burdwan	STD	0.43		
BSGH Kolkatta			ANC	0.75
Coochbehar	STD	0.48		
Durgapur			ANC	0.5
Haldia	STD	1.61		
Kolkatta	STD	9.6		
Krishnanagar(Nadia)	STD	0.47		
Malda			ANC	0
Midnapur			ANC	0.75
Murshidabad			ANC	0.75
Puruliya			ANC	0
RGKMCH Kolkatta			ANC	0.5
Siliguri			ANC	0.25
Uttar Dinajpur			ANC	0.74
24 Parganas	STD	4		

Baharampur, Balurghat, Bankura , Burdwan ,Haldia and Kolkatta have reported high HIV rates in the sentinel Surveillance in the STD Sites . Kolkata, Midnapur, Murshidabad, and Uttar Dinajpur have reported high rates of HIV Infection in the Sentinel Surveillance in ANC sites. Similarly Kolkatta, Bankura, Behrampur and Midnapur have been reported as the Hot Spot in HIV Infection. Also in the Chart given below it is ver clear that the Rate of HIV Prevalance in Migratory Population has been reported at a High percentage of 4.48.

Profile of HIV +ve, STD Patients West Bengal			
	Male	Female	Total

Migratory population	4.48	0	3.23
Non Migratory population	3.73	2.88	3.26
Urban	5.6	3.79	4.83
Rural	2.3	2.4	2.36
Illiterate	3.9	2.79	3.12
Literate	3.24	2.8	4.13
Total	3.79	2.8	3.25

Profile of HIV +ve, ANC Patients West Bengal			
	Urban	Rural	Total
Migratory population	1.32	0	0.54
Non Migratory population	0.31	0.55	0.44
Illiterate	0.42	0.15	0.26
Literate	0.37	0.52	0.39
Total	0.36	0.52	0.45

HIV Prevalance and Confidence Interval 2003 for ANC Rural Sites	
Site	Percentage
CHC,Manichak,Malda	0.66
CHC,Baruipur,24paragana	0.25
CHC ,Panagarh,Burdwan	0.58
CHC,Mankar,Burdwan	1.23
CHC,SDH,Siliguri,Darjeeling	0.25
CHC,Raghunathpur,Puruliya	0.75

CHC,Kaliaganj, Uttar Dinajpur	0.5
CHC, Mahisadal(Basuliya)Purba Medini	0.56
CHC,Madhyagram,24 Paragna	0.25
CHC,Kurseong,Darjeeling	0.28

HIV Prevalance and Confidence Interval 2003 for TI Sites	
Site	Percentage
Kolkata	9.6
24 Pragna	4.4
Burdwan	8
Jalpaiguri	9.2
Murshidabad	6.05
Purvimidnapur	2
BMSC Kolkatta	5.67

STD Clinics Status in West Bengal WBSAP & CS 2003-2004

No. of Existing STD Clinics	57
No. of STD Clinics supported by NACO	34
No. of Clinics in Medical College	9
No. of existing STD Clinics at district hospitals	18

Year wise STD Cases in West Bengal, 1994-2003

Year	Male	Female	Total STD Cases
1994	15,534	10,796	26,330
1995	18,499	8,515	27,014
1996	17,634	11,563	29,197

1997	33,613	24,351	57,964
1998-1999	31,297	24,351	55,648
1999-2000	19,174	12,640	31,814
2000 (April to December)	10,907	5,928	16,835
2001	16,508	26,915	43,423
2002	28,848	36,219	65,067
2003	31,951	67,192	99,143

The STD infection which has been reported from various Hospitals of West Bengal clearly shows that Rate of STD infection is on the rise and it is an indicator of Unsafe sexual practices. In the year 2002 and 2003 more females have reported STD Infection . From 26,330 cases in 1994 the present total in the year 2003 have gone up to 99,143 cases.

Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of West Bengal

Surveillance report for AIDS Cases in West Bengal (up to October 2004)

No. of Aids Cases Male = 2550 Female = 712 Total = 3262

Yearwise Break-up of Aids Cases by Sex

Year	Male	Female	Total
1988	1	0	1
1989	0	0	0
1990	1	0	1
1991	0	0	0
1992	7	1	8
1993	10	1	11
1994	9	1	10
1995	7	2	9
1996	16	1	17
1997	29	8	37
1998	64	5	69
1999	184	42	226
2000	159	62	221
2001	153	54	207
2002	776	193	969
2003	480	131	611
Upto October 2004	654	211	865
Total	2550	712	3262

% to total

Male 78.17
 Female 21.83

Aids Cases by Locality

	Urban	Rural	Total
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No. of Cases	2017	1245	3262
% to total	61.83	38.17	100

Though 61.83% HIV Infection in West Bengal has been reported from the Urban areas the infection rate in the rural areas is also going up. This is an indicator that the HIV epidemic is slowly spreading into the rural areas Also in the Table below 88.93 % infections have been reported in the Sexual Route.

AIDS Cases by Risk / Transmission Categories

Routes of Transmission	No. AIDS Cases	Percentage to Total
Sexual	2901	88.93
Infected Needle Syringe	67	2.05
Through Blood or Blood Products	68	2.09
Other not specified	226	6.93
Total	3262	100

AIDS Cases by Marital Status

	Married	Unmarried	Total
Number	1988	1274	3262
Percentage to total	60.94	39.06	100

Epidemiological situation (HIV Seropositive status) in West Bengal

Sero-serveillance for HIV infection (Since inception i.e. 1986 to October 2004)

Number of HIV sero – positive cases

Male=5349

Female = 1592

Total = 6941

Yearwise Break up of HIV serpositive Cases in West Bengal during 1996 to 2004 (upto October)

Year	No.
1996	303
1997	370
1998	276
1999	502
2000	675
2001	905
2002	1,130
2003	1,690
2004 (upto October)	1,090
Total	6941

Probable Routes of Transmission of HIV Positive cases

(upto October 2004)

Routes of Transmission	No. of Positive Cases	%
Sexual	5,662	81.57
Blood and Blood Products	206	2.97
Injecting Drugs	404	5.82

Perinatal	103	1.48
Others	566	8.15
Total	6,941	100

Districtwise break up of HIV +ve cases since inception i.e. 1986 to October 2004

	Number of Cases found
Kolkata & Suburbs	3295
Paschim Medinipur	580
Purba Medinipur	335
Bankura	80
Darjiling	391
Birbhum	88
Barddhaman	186
Puruliya	74
North 24 Parganas	445
South 24 Parganas	348
Nadia	155
Murshidabad	141
Hugli	108
Kochbehar	196
Malda	82
Uttar Dinajpur	91
Haora	108
Jalpaiguri	125
Dakshim Dinajpur	113
Total	6941

Age distribution of HIV positive Cases in West Bengal since inception (upto October 2004)

Age Group (in Years)	Number	% Positive
0-14	424	6.11
15-29	3285	47.33
30-49	2611	37.62
49+	61	8.95
Total	6941	100

47.33% HIV infection in West Bengal has been in the age group 15-29 Years. Most no of Infection has been reported from Kolkata,Medinipur, Darjeeling, North and South 24 Paragnas .81.57% of infection reported in West Bengal has been reported through the Sexual Route.Also the No of Infection reported every year since 1994 has seen a continous increase.

HIV Matrix West Bengal With Hot Spots and High Risk Areas

	No of Red	No of Sex	No of HIV	ANC Sentinel	STD Sentinel	Hot Spot	High Risk
District	Light Area	Workers	Cases	2003 CR	2003CR	2003 CR	
Bardhaman	6	2681	186	0.5(Durgapur)	0.43	Yes	Yes
Birhum	1	391	88				
Bankura	1	396	80		1.6	Yes	Yes
Medinipur	5	2104	915	0.75	1.61(Haldia)	Yes	Yes
Howrah	5	922	108				Yes
Hooghly	4	1126	108				Yes
24 Parganas (N)	7	1393	445				Yes
24 Parganas (S)	10	3751	348		4	Yes	Yes
Nadia	2	476	155		0.47		Yes
Murshidabad	2	589	141	0.75	4(Behrapur)	Yes	Yes
Uttar Dinajpur	2	515	91	0.74		Yes	Yes
Dakshin Dinajpur	Nil	73	113		1.26(Balurghat)	Yes	Yes
Malda	1	314	82				Yes
Jalpaiguri	2	4787	125				Yes
Darjeeling	1	1151	391	0.25(Siliguri)			Yes
Cooch Behar	3	1589	196		0.48		Yes
Puruliya	Nil	132	74				
Kolkata	21	26700	3295	0.75	9.6	Yes	Yes

West Bengal is one of the High Risk States in the Country ,Though the Rate of HIV Infection is comparatively low. The high Risk of the Stae is due to its having Red Light Area in almost all districts and also having a large no of Flying Sex Workers.

The West Bengal State AIDS Control Society has in its mapping has identified more tha 50,000 sex workers. Only Purulia and Dakshin Dinajpur have no Brothels. With a large migratory Population and a large no of Sex Workers the HIV infection rate has shown increase in the last ten years.

With more than 80% infection through the Sexual Route West Bengal continues to remain in the High Risk Category.

Migration -West Bengal

Inter State Migration from West Bengal

Sl No	State	No of Migrants
1	Andhra Pradesh	23000
2	Assam	12100
3	Bihar	113000
4	Gujarat	12200
5	Haryana	1900
6	Karnataka	13200
7	Kerela	2000
8	Madhya Pradesh	78500
9	Maharashtra	164000
10	Orissa	156300
11	Punjab	23800
12	Rajasthan	36600
13	Tamil Nadu	25800
14	Uttar Pradesh	214000
	All India	1901200

Source : NSS Report No 470: Migration in India,1999-2000

Inter State Migration to West Bengal

Sl No	State	No of Migrants
1	Andhra Pradesh	30800
2	Assam	69200
3	Bihar	831300
4	Gujarat	5700
5	Haryana	3000
6	Karnataka	13500
7	Kerela	18100
8	Madhya Pradesh	13100
9	Maharashtra	24000
10	Orissa	142000
11	Punjab	33700

12	Rajasthan	72900
13	Tamil Nadu	87300
14	Uttar Pradesh	199600
	All India	931800

Source : NSS Report No 470: Migration in India,1999-2000

Foreign In migrants to West Bengal

Sl No	Countries	In Migrants
1	Bangladesh	878600
2	Nepal	30900
3	Pakistan	64600
4	Sri Lanka	0
5	Bhutan	10200
6	Gulf Countries	0
7	Other Asian Countries	12500
8	USA	-
9	Other Countries	2200
10	Total	999000

Source : NSS Report No 470: Migration in India,1999-2000

TABLE 3.2 : TOTAL NUMBER OF STITES/LOCATIONS AND ESTIMATED SIZE FOR MIGRANT LABOUR IN WEST BENGAL

Sl.No	District	No. of sites	Estimated number (median)	Range	
				Lower limit	Upper limit
1	Bankura	23	1068	1005	1149
2	Purulia	20	1314	1220	1415
3	Nadia	19	4461	4200	4720
4	Birbhum	7	2325	2109	2635
5	Maldah	6	477	410	545
6	Dakshin Dinajpur	7	425	320	530
7	Uttar Dinajpur	21	3324	2532	4019
8	Midnapore Paschim (West)	17	24921	23230	26615
9	Midnapore Purba (East)	27	30434	28260	32615
10	24 Parganas (South)	41	47522	45463	49595
11	24 Parganas (North)	40	68426	66570	70137
12	Hooghly	24	2768	2615	2928
13	Howrah	25	32435	31420	33450
14	Murshidabad	14	579	530	645
15	Jalpaiguri	16	2642	2245	3042
16	Burdwan	18	3981	3797	4150
17	Coochbehar	9	986	910	1065
18	Darjeeling	23	6479	5527	7436
19	Kolkata + Salt Lake & Lake Town	278	283237	212138	379038
Total		635	517804	434501	625729

Source West Bengal State AIDS Control Society

The Analysis of the Migration Data brings out the following Important Points which is very important for the TAHA Programme.

1. There are 6,25,729 migrant labour working in the State of West Bengal.

2. There are more than 8,78,600 inmigrants in the State of West Bengal from Bangladesh.
3. Citizens of Nepal and Pakistan constitute another 95,500 persons.
4. About 1901200 Bengalis have migrated out from West Bengal
5. A total of 931800 migrants are staying in West Bengal

TRAFFICKING IN WEST BENGAL

TOTAL NUMBER OF SITES/LOCATIONS AND ESTIMATED SIZE FOR FEMALE SEX WORKERS IN WEST BENGAL BY DISTRICT WISE

Sl.No	District	No. of sites	Estimated number (median)	Range	
				Lower limit	Upper limit
1.	Bankura	29	396	358	435
2.	Purulia	16	132	113	151
3.	Nadia	16	476	433	507
4.	Birbhum	17	391	359	422
5.	Maldah	11	314	284	344
6.	Dakshin Dinajpur	10	73	62	82
7.	Uttar Dinajpur	29	515	484	557
8.	Midnapore Paschim (West)	28	428	382	474
9.	Midnapore Purba (East)	33	1766	1554	1841
10.	24 Parganas (South)	42	3751	3548	3954
11.	24 Parganas (North)	23	1393	1306	1478
12.	Hooghly	21	1126	1055	1193
13.	Howrah	14	922	885	951
14.	Murshidabad	25	589	528	635
15.	Jalpaiguri	29	4787	2674	6901
16.	Burdwan	30	2681	2439	2908
17.	Coochbehar	22	1589	1512	1699
18.	Darjeeling	19	1151	1071	1224

19.	Kolkata + Salt Lake & Lake Town	171	26700	21610	30796
Total		585	49180	40657	56552

Source :WBSACS

The West Bengal State AIDS Control Society has identified a total of 49,180 sex workers operating in the State.

Commercial Sex workers in West Bengal

Commercial sex trade is quite rampant in the state. It exists in different forms, some of which are carried under covers. It is difficult to get exact estimate of sex workers because the number of sex workers fluctuates from time to time and from one place to another. The sex workers often change places both intra district and inter districts.

Commercial sex trade in West Bengal has observed influx of Bangladeshi women into the bordering districts of West Bengal. A large number of women from Nepal and Bhutan also infiltrate the brothels of North Bengal.

Jalpaiguri

There are two important brothels in the district, one in Jalpaiguri town and the other in Alipurduar town. Of late, the number of sex workers is dwindling in the Alipurduar Samajagar brothel. These apart, sex activities are run mostly by flying sex workers in the district. The site at Malbazar, Randhamali and Salugara have quite a few sex workers. The most interesting feature of sex trade in Jalpaiguri town is Jaigaon. A large number of sex workers residing in the nearby villages cater to a large clientele comprising business men and local residents. Sex activities are carried in almost all the hotels in the area.

Darjeeling

There is only one brothel in the district of Darjeeling, popularly known as Khalpar Brothel. Women from different North Bengal districts come to earn their living there. Many Nepali girls operate from the brothel. Apart from these brothel based sex workers, there are quite a few flying sex workers in Siliguri Town, seen on the Hillcart Road, Regulated Market Area and Khaprail More. A few sex workers are also operational in Panitanki border area, but they operate from Nepal and clientele is both from Nepal and India.

The scenario is different on the hills. Though Darjeeling is one of the busiest tourist spots, CSWs were not much visible in the town. The business is operated very secretly and it is difficult to encounter a CSW in Darjeeling town. The presence of CSWs in the other hill towns like Kurseong, Kalimpong and Darjeeling are also low. The notion of sex work amongst the tea garden workers is often heard of but it was learnt that there is not any organised sex trade amongst the tea garden coolies. There is possibility of promiscuity amongst the workers but evidence of commercial consideration could not be found.

Coochbehar

There are three brothels in Coochbehar, one in Coochbehar town, one in Dinhata and the other in Changrabandha of Mekhligunge. Some flying sex workers are also operational in the district. The most prominent among those is the location in Gitaladah. The CSWs at Bazaar Chowpatti service their clients at the adjacent hotels. The CSWs in Maruganj Bazaar cater to truckers and operate from the dhabas on the high way. Flying sexworkers were reportedly low in the district.

Uttar Dinajpur

In Uttar Dinajpur, the most prominent brothel is at Islampur known as Champabagh. It is on the Bihar border. There is another brothel at Panjipara in Goalpakhar block., primarily a Muslim dominated area. Apart from these two brothels there are flying sex workers catering to the truck drivers plying on the NH-34 Road. Commercial sex activity takes place at Dalkhola where NH-34 and NH-1 meet. The presence of sex workers in other parts of the district is low.

Dakshin Dinajpur

There is no brothel in the district. 5-6 years back there was a brothel at Payratala at Hili check post. Now the sex workers have moved away from the area. Some flying sex workers operate from the place where once there was a permanent abode for the sex workers and majority of them are Bangladeshis. These apart there were a few sites from where the flying sex workers operated. The sites were on the way to Balurghat and Hili check post.

Maldah

Purituli brothel in Maldah town is quite a renowned site. The clientele includes frequent travellers, truckers, labourers and also local residents. There are few flying sex workers who wait for clients in the private bus stand, government bus stand, Rathbari more and Maldah Railway station. Apart from Maldah town there is hardly any urban pocket and hence presence of sex workers is restricted in other parts of the district. A few sex workers were identified in the Kaliachak area.

Murshidabad

Brothels were found in Samshergunj, Domkal and Lalgola block. Some of the CSWs from Bangladesh cross over the border and operate in Lalgola brothel.

There are flying sex workers in the Beharampur bus stand. They service the client in the hotels near the bus stand and almost all the hotels offer such opportunity. A lot of CSWs are operative in the Farakka area. The clients are mostly truck drivers and sex activities happen in the daytime too. The dhabas and the hotels in the area are used for sex activities. The other important halt points are Udaipur and Moregram on the high way. The sex workers service the clients in dhabas and the 'line hotels' or take them away to relatively quiet and uninhabited area

A large number of female bidi workers are there in Suti, Dhulan and Aurangabad. It is reported that they have illicit relation with brokers and dealers but that is mostly without any financial consideration. Even if there is a monetary exchange, it is difficult to consider them as commercial sex workers, though they are vulnerable.

Since Hazarduari in Lalbagh is a tourist spot, sex activities take place in all the hotels in the area.

Midapore- East

Excepting the brothels at Mahishadal and Contai there is a huge population of flying sex worker in the district. There are three hotels on the highway from Haldia

to Nandakumar where sex workers are sometimes brought from Calcutta. They stay for a week and get back to Calcutta.

A large number of flying sex workers were observed in Haldia town. Digha , one of the busiest tourist spots in West Bengal is a hub of commercial sex activities. A number of flying sex workers were found in the area who were local residents but it was found that majority travelled to Digha from Calcutta or else where. Commercial sex activities happen in almost all the hotels. A large number of hotels denied such activity happening in their hotels.

Midnapore –West

There are two brothels in Moirapukur, Ghatal and Kuosalya, Kharagpur. A large number of sex workers assemble in the Midnapore bus stand, Kharagpur Bus stand and Kharagpur railway Station. There are also flying sex workers on the highway at locations like Balibasha and Lachimpur. The map provides the details of other sites.

Bankura

Brothel based sex workers were found in Bishnupur. Apart from this site, all sex workers operated as flying sex worker.

Purulia

No established brothel was found in Purulia. Sex trade was a low key affair in the district.

Nadia

A brothel was found in Krishnanagar. Commercial sex activity was noticed in Shantipur, Nabadweep and other peri-urban areas. There are several truckers' halt points on the NH-34 road and CSWs service the truckers in some of the sites.

There are any brick fields in and around Majher Char. This apart, visits were made to Dakshinpara/ Kanchrapara where migrants were found to be working. Commercial sex workers were not visible in those areas.

Burdwan

Quite a few established brothels are there in Burdwan district. Mahajan Toli in Burdwan town is an important brothel within the town. The largest brothel is in Lachipur in Kulti block. The other two brothels in the vicinity of Lachipur brothel are Sitarampur and Chabka. In Sitarampur brothel sex workers are hired for weeding ceremony to dance and sing. They are likely to travel to far off places.

The brothel at Kada Road in Durgapur is another brothel. There are also some flying sex workers operating from the area The brothel at Kalna –Kadamtala has also sufficiently large number of CSWs. These apart, there are many sex workers operating in the district. A large number of trucks assemble in Amra, a place close to Burdwan town and only a few sex workers operate who are regulars in the area. A large number of flying sex workers operate in the Curzon Gate area in Burdwan town.. The flying sex workers solicit with clients in bus stands and cinema halls.

Birbhum

There is a brothel in Seuri station area. Other than this brothel, all involved in sex trade operate as flying sex worker. The women in the Seuri station brothel belong to low socio economic group. There are a few flying sex workers sex workers in Bolpur station. Some flying sex workers were also found in Santiniketan who cater to students and local businessmen. Flying sex workers were also observed in Nalhati, Saithia, Sriniketan & Sarul, Mohammed Bazar and in a few more places.

Hooghly

Four brothels were identified in the districts at Seorafully, Dompara, Chanditala-II and Chapadanga. There were no brothels in rest of the sites.

Howrah

Brothels were found in Narkelbagan, Salkia, Ghoradanga, Rajganj (Andul station) and Ghosh para (Domjur). Flying sex workers were found in Tarikhana Sadar, Howrah Rly Station, Bangabasi Cinema, Shalimar Rly station, Amta, Bagnan, gadiara, Deulti.

South 24-Parganas

Sex trade has different forms in different parts of the district. Diamond Harbour is the hub of sex trade. A large number of local sex workers are operational in the area, mostly flying but they outnumber those coming from outside. There are several lodges and hotels in Diamond Harbour and they are well known for availing sex workers to tourists and travellers. Women are also found in the brothel at Kalibazar, Diamond Harbour. With increase of tourist inflow during winter months, sex trade also flourish during the season.

There are around 12-13 resorts in Bhasa and commercial sex takes place in almost all the resorts. With the advent of winter season the commercial sex activity increases. These resorts are frequented by known sex workers who would be coming twice or thrice in a week but there are also many new comers to the resorts. These resorts are also used for non commercial sexual activities by young men and women.

Brothels are located in Amtala, Bagirhat and Baruipur. Majority of the sex workers is permanent resident of the area but some flying sex workers also come for sex work in the area. The clientele consist of labourers, small businessmen and local people. There is a small brothel beside Birlapur Jute Mill. In the southern part of the district, there is a brothel each in Canning and Kakdwip. Ghutariasharif in South 24-parganas is a important site so fa as sex trade is concerned.

North 24 Parganas

Brothels were identified at Thakurpara Road (Naihati) and at Talpukur (Barrackpore). Home based commercial sex activities were noticed at Shyam nagar. Some medium sized and small brothels were found in Basirhat. Flying sexworkers were found soliciting with clients from Baguhati More to No-3 Air port gate. The

investigators visited a large number of brickfields. Commercial sexual activity could have been present but mostly without any financial consideration.

Flying sex workers were found in Petrapole and Bongaon who cross the border and go back to Bangladesh after earning their living from this side of the border.

Kolkata

Calcutta has a long history of sex trade. Large brothels are in Calcutta as well as there are innumerable 'flying zones'. The sites have demarcated in the map.

Sl. No.	Site Name	Tehsil /Taluk/ Block	Urban / Rural	Range			Nearest Town
				Estimated No. (Median)	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	
	Bankura						
	Bishnupur	Bishnupur	Urban	95	90	100	Bishnupur
	Nadia						
	Santipur Bara Bazar	Santipur (M)	Urban	165	160	170	Santipur
	Teli Para Nabadweep	Nabadweep (M)	Urban	28	25	30	Nabadweep
	Birbhum						
	Suri Station Taltala	Suri	Urban	42	40	45	Suri
	Malda						
	Puratuli Brothel	Maldah English Bazar (M)	Urban	213	200	225	Maldah
	Uttar Dinajpur						
	Champabag Brothel	Islampur (M)	Urban	163	160	165	Islampur
	Panjipara Brothel	Goalpokhar	Rural	87	85	90	Kishangunj
	Midnapore Paschim						
	Moyra Pukur Ghatal	Ghatal (M)	Urban	110	100	120	Ghatal
	Kaushala Kharagpur	Kharagpur (M)	Urban	65	60	70	Kharagpur
	Chutki More (Narayangarh)	Narayangarh	Rural	5	4	7	Narayangarh
	Midnapore Purba						
	Hatabari Contai.	Kanthi-I	Urban	160	150	170	Kanthi
	Mahishadal Hospital More	Mahishadal	Rural	55	50	60	Mahishadal
	24 Paragna (South)						
	Ghutiary Sharif	Canning	Rural	1125	1100	1150	Canning
	Jalpol (Garia)	Sonarpur	Rural	585	570	600	Garia
	Budge Budge (Natun Bazar)	Budge Budge	Urban	213	200	225	Budge Budge
	Baruipur Para Brothel	Baruipur (M)	Urban	130	120	140	Baruipur
	Kalibazar "BR" Diamond Harbour	Diamond Harbour (NM)	Urban	90	80	100	Diamond Harbour

Dighir Par "BR" (Canning)	Canning (NM)	Urban	85	80	90	Canning
Birlapur Ghat Brothel	Birlapur (Chara Rajpur) (NM)	Urban	75	70	80	Near Birla Power House
Bagirhat	Bishnupur-II	Rural	75	70	80	Bishnupur
Amtala Pan Bazar	Bishnupur	Rural	65	60	70	Bishnupur
Kakdwip Paschim Para "BR"	Kakdwip	Rural	40	35	45	Kakdwip
24 Paragna North						
Thakurpara Road (Naihati)	Naihati	Urban	310	300	320	Naihati
Talpukur (Barrackpore)	Barrackpore (M)	Urban	213	200	225	Barrackpore
Matia Bazar (Bashirhat)	Bashirhat	Rural	212	200	225	Bashirhat
Kalinagar (Sandeshkhali)	Sandeshkhali	Rural	35	30	40	Sandeshkhali
(Bashirhat) Bowbazar	Bashirhat	Urban	32	30	35	Bashirhat
Baduria	Bashirhat	Rural	11	10	12	Bashirhat
Kholapota (Bashirhat)	Bashirhat (M)	Urban	11	10	12	Bashirhat
Hoogly						
Sheorafully	Shreerampore	Urban	725	700	750	Sheorafully
Chanditala	Chanditala-II	Rural	68	60	75	Chanditala
Dompara	Mogra	Rural	55	50	60	Mogra
Chanpadanga Nimtala	Mogra	Rural	55	50	60	Mogra
Hhowrah						
Ghoshpara (Domjur) "BR"	Domjur	Urban	355	350	360	Domjur
Narkelbagan "BR" (Salkia)	Salkia	Urban	155	150	160	Salkia
Rajgunj (Andul Station) "BR"	Banipur	Rural	73	70	75	Andul
Uluberia Jetty ghat "BR"	Uluberia Panchala	Urban	53	50	55	Uluberia
Ghoradanga "BR"	Howrah Town	Urban	53	50	55	Howrah Town
Murshidabad						
Samshergunj Ferighat Brothel (Dhulian)	Samshergunj	Urban	45	40	50	Samshergunj
Lalgola	Lalgola	Urban	28	25	30	Lalgola
Jalpaiguri						
Dinbazar Brothel	Jalpaiguri (Sadar)	Urban	488	425	550	Jalpaiguri
Alipurduar Samajnagar Brothel	Alipurduar	Urban	103	80	125	Alipurduar
Burdwan						
Lachhipur	Kulti	Rural	900	800	1000	Asansol
Kalna – Kadamtala	Kalna	Urban	363	350	375	Kalna
Chabka	Kulti	Rural	325	300	350	Asansol
Kada road	Durgapur ward no. 34	Urban	312	300	325	Durgapur

Sitarampur	Kulti	Rural	275	250	300	Asansol
Mahajan Toli	Burdwan-I	Urban	110	100	120	Burdwan
Cooch Behar						
Priyagunj Brothel	Coochbehar (M)	Urban	525	500	550	Coochbehar
Dinhata Brothel	Dinhata (M)	Urban	415	400	425	Dinhata
Changrabandha Brothel	Mukhligunj	Rural	75	70	80	Mukhligunj
Darjeeling						
Khalpara Brothel	Siliguri	Urban	613	600	625	Siliguri

Site-wise Estimated Size Of CSWs Vulnerable To HIV/AIDS – Kolkata, West Bengal

Sl. No.	Site No.	Ward No.	Site Name	Type	Range		
					Estimated No. (Median)	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
1	1	Ward 18	Sonagachhi	B	12000	11000	13000
2	2	Ward 83	Kali Temple	B	2000	1200	2400
3	1	Ward 26	Ram Bagan	B	1200	1100	1300
4	1	Ward 75	Khidderpore	B	1000	300	1500
5	2	Ward 75	Munshigunj	B	1000	400	1500
6	1	Ward 20	Rabindra Sarani / Ahiritola	B	700	650	700
7	1	Ward 82	Chetla	B	600	550	650
8	1	Ward 48	Prem Chand St.	B	500	200	800
9	3	Ward 26	Seth Bagan	B	500	400	600
10	1	Ward 21	Jora Bagan	B	450	425	475
11	2	Ward 135	China Goli	B	375	350	400
12	2	Ward 21	Dal Poti	B	250	200	300
13	2	Ward 84	Manohar Pukur Road	B	250	205	305
14	2	Ward 100	Mahua Cinema	B	150	100	200
15	1	Ward 135	Bichali Ghat Road	B	125	100	150
16	1	Ward 76	Khidderpore	B	120	100	140
17	2	Ward 82	Chelta Hat Road	B	100	100	101
18	6	Ward 47	Badam tala (B)	B	65	62	68
19	1	Ward 84	Locker Math	B	50	48	53
20	4	Ward 47	B B Ganguly Street	B	30	20	35
21	3	Ward 47	Conductdu Lane	B	22	15	24

West Bengal Mukherjee

State	Govt / Police/SACS	Sex Worker groups.	Average
West Bengal	350000 - 50000	275000	367058
India			2827534

Source: 'Girls/ Women in prostitution in India, Mukherjee 2004

State	% of prostitute entry before 18 years of age
West Bengal	36.7%
India	

Source: 'Girls/ Women in prostitution in India, Mukherjee 2004

State	Total Female population	Total female 15-35 yrs	Estimated number of prostitutes	% of prostitutes
West Bengal	38733477	8908700	367058	4.12
India	495738169	113853547	2827534	2.48

Source: 'Girls/ Women in prostitution in India, Mukherjee 2004

Number of Districts of origin and operation of sex workers West Bengal			
State	Number of districts of origin	Number of areas of origin	Number of places of operation
West Bengal	19	151	13
India	378	1794	1016

Source: 'Girls/ Women in prostitution in India, Mukherjee 2004

The Mukherjee Report has identified a average of 367058 Sex Workers . Also it has identified 19 District of Origin in West Bengal and 151 areas of origin.

Interstate trafficking for CSE in & from West Bengal			
Trafficking into West Bengal (Mukherjee)	Trafficking out from West Bengal to (Mukherjee)	Trafficking out from West Bengal NHRC Report)	Trafficking into West Bengal (NHRC Report)
Assam	Assam	Assam	Assam
Bihar	Bihar	Bihar	Bihar
Chandigarh	Chandigarh		
			Chattisgarh
		Goa	
Jharkhand			
Maharstra	Maharashtra	Maharashtra	Maharashtra
Manipur			
Orissa	Orissa		Orissa
Punjab			
Rajasthan		Rajasthan	
Sikkim			
Tamil Nadu		Tamil Nadu	
Uttar Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh
	Karnataka		
	Daman & Diu		
	Delhi	Delhi	
	Gujarat		
	Meghalaya	Meghalaya	
	Nagaland		
	Uttranchal		
			Nepal
			Bangladesh

West Bengal is one of the very sensitive state in Terms of Trafficking. It is a source Transit as well as Destination and both the Mukherjee and the NHRC has reported large scale Trafficking of Bengali women and Children in various Red Light Areas of India. Also West Bengal is Transit as well as Destination Place for Cross Border Trafficking from Nepal and Bangladesh.

Bangladesh shares a 4,156 km border with India that has 20 official check posts and out of its 32 districts, 30 districts are on the Indo-Bangladesh border. In Bangladesh, the collection points for trafficked women are usually far from border points. Women rescued in Dinajpur (north) were from Cox's Bazaar (south). Girls from the southern part of Bangladesh are usually trafficked across northern borders. Illegal migration, trafficking and smuggling exist in varying degrees along the border. One study estimates that almost half of the trafficking to India takes places through Benapole in Jessore District. Entry points like Thakurbairi Chandurila, Kaiba Sultanpur, Chodarpur, Chapainaababgunj, Hili Akhwara, Chuadanga and Poladanga are other commonly used entry points to India.

West Bengal has nine districts adjoining the border that are mostly different from one agriculturally, e.g., Nadia, where farmers primarily grow jute and betel leaves,

is a prosperous area. The Sundarbans area of south / north 24 parganas is very weak agriculturally, and thus trafficking is a much more common economic activity for communities. Crossing between Bangladesh and West Bengal becomes a daily routine for many people as they may live in either of the countries and earn their living in the other. Thus, keeping a check of those being trafficked, married off, infiltrating, and immigrating illegally or irregularly is an uphill task and has to be achieved through innovative methods and day to day vigilance.

Crossing the border takes not more than Rs.50/- per person. Having crossed the border, the trafficked victims are mainly kept in West Bengal, and in some cases also in the state of Orissa. They are sorted and graded and sent to different destinations such as Middle East, Delhi, Mumbai, and Agra. Often, they are sold to pimps who then sell them to brothel keepers in red light areas of Kolkata such as Sonagachi, Kalighat, Bowbazar. Some are sent to Bashirghat in the neighboring district of 24 Paraganas.

Initially young married women were trafficked from Bangladesh to Mumbai but in the past eight years demand for the young unmarried and minor girls has increased. Many Bangladeshi women are the victims of polygamy. If not, divorced they have so called husbands who live off their earnings. In return, they have the status of being a married woman and a hope that they would return home. In many cases, the husbands are the pimps. Trafficked women prefer to stay away from the conventional red lights areas by renting in smaller tenements at Ray Road, Saat Road and such other places perhaps because of the fear of raids and police harassment. A number of women claim to have maintained regular family connections and state that they visit their family in Bangladesh occasionally.

A study conducted in West Bengal reported that ten per cent each of the prostitutes in Calcutta were from Nepal and Bangladesh in 1997. These girls are generally drugged while they are trafficked from villages to the destination. A fraud marriage help escape from police mechanism which demands money and the share of pimps and traffickers goes down Kakarvitta, Jogbani, Pashupatinagar, Koshi Barrage and Bhadrapur are the entry points for getting into India from Nepal (Sinha, 1997:4,11-12). Most of the trafficked women from Nepal are reported to be involved in commercial sex market especially in New Delhi in Delhi, Mumbai in Maharastra and Calcutta in West Bengal. The sex markets in UP and Bihar states Varanasi, Kanpur and other red-light areas of Indian big cities. There is an inter-state and the demand of sex market in India (Rozario, 1988:103). Studies on Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar have shown some prevalence of Nepali women however, other states have no Nepali women or have them in a very insignificant number.(Source ADB Report)

Major causes of Sex work in %					
State	Economic distress	Family tradition	Social custom	Ill Treatment at Home	Domestic Violence/ Desertion
West Bengal	70.18%	6.31	1.03	10.32	6.65
India	61.67	12.36	3.39	5.62	13.22

Source: 'Girls/ Women in prostitution in India, Mukherjee 2004

Reason of Continuance

State	Poverty	Unemployment	Illiteracy	No OTHER Option	Family acceptance	Lack of Option	Non implementation of Law / No Rehabilitation
West Bengal	21.22	14.33	9.75	31.54	8.37	7.20	0.57
India	44.14	7.89	5.62	18.05	8.37	18.05	2

Source: 'Girls/ Women in prostitution in India, Mukherjee 2004

The Mukherjee Report has identified that 70.18 % of Women in Sex Work have been in the Profession due to Poverty. It also states that Poverty ,Unemployment and no other options are major reasons for continuance in the Trade.

NHRC West Bengal

Trafficking Destinations	Transit Points in West bengal
Delhi	Kolkatta
Rajasthan	Howrah
Uttar Pradesh	Siliguri
Maharashtra	Jalpaiguri
Tamil Nadu	Nadia
	Bardhman

Source: Trafficking in Women and Children in India: NHRC Report 2005

West Bengal			% of children untraced to those reported missing		
% of adult female untraced to those reported missing					
1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
71%	64.5	72.5	62.9	56.9	56.4

Source: Trafficking in Women and Children in India: NHRC Report 2005

Missing women and children in West Bengal- NHRC Report 2005						
Reported Persons	Missing	1996	2001	Total for 6 years	Yearly average for 6 years	2001 over 1996
Female adults West Bengal		187	193	1113	186	3%(+)
Female adults India		20,494	24,034	1,34, 870	22,480	17%(+)
Female adults continue to remain missing West Bengal		143	140	768	128	2%(-)
Female adults continue to remain missing India		4,627	6,181	32, 935	5,452	34%(+)
Children West Bengal		415	379	2955	493	9%((-)
Children India		41,410	46,347	2,66,847	44,476	12%(+)
Children continue to remain missing West Bengal		260	214	1762	294	18%(-)
Children continue to remain missing India		10,406	10,589	66,024	11,008	2%(+)

Source: Trafficking in Women and Children in India: NHRC Report 2005

Analysis of Data on Missing persons as per the NHRC report is a clear indicator of Trafficking activities taking place in West Bengal . 71% (1999) 64.5% (2000) and 72.5% (2001) of those women reported missing have not been traced. Similarly when we analyse the Missing Children data it is found that 62.9% (1999) 56.9% (2000) and 56.4% (2001) continue to remain missing .

Cross Border Trafficking Affected Districts

	Cross Border Trafficking Districts	
	Borders with Bangladesh	Transit area for Nepal
Bankura		
Birbhum		
Bardhman		
Kooch Behar	Yes	
Darjeeling	Yes	Yes
Hoogly		
Howrah		
Jalpaiguri	Yes	Yes
Kolkatta		
Paschim Mednipur		
Purba Mednipur		
Murshidabad	Yes	
Malda	Yes	
Nadia	Yes	
24 Paragna(N)	Yes	
24 Paragna(S)		
Puruliya		
Uttar Dinajpur	Yes	Yes
Dakshin Dinajpur	Yes	
Others		

West Bengal Trafficking Vulnerable Points

	Cross Border Trafficking Affected Districts	Mukherjee		NHRC		TII Report Operation	SACS	Vulnerable	High Risk
		Origin	Operation	Origin	Operation				
Bankura		Yes - 2		Yes			Yes	Yes	
Birbhum		Yes - 1				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bardhaman		Yes - 13		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kooch Behar	Yes					Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Darjeeling	Yes	Yes - 4			Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Hoogly		Yes - 7				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Howrah		Yes - 9	Yes - 1	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Jalpaiguri	Yes			Yes			Yes	Yes	
Kolkatta		Yes - 36	Yes - 9	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Paschim Mednipur		Yes - 10	Yes - 1	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes
Purba Mednipur			Yes - 1	Yes			Yes	Yes	
Murshidabad	Yes	Yes - 3		Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Malda	Yes	Yes - 3				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nadia	Yes	Yes - 11				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
24 Paragna(N)	Yes	Yes - 26	Yes - 1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
24 Paragna(S)		Yes - 11		Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Puruliya		Yes - 1				Yes	Yes	Yes	
Uttar Dinajpur						Yes	Yes	Yes	
Dakshin Dinajpur							Yes	Yes	Yes
Others		Yes - 9							
		Yes - 151	13	10	1				

State Initiatives in Anti Trafficking

REPORT AS ON MARCH 2006

GOVT. HOME	SANCTIONED	PRESENT STRENGTH
	UNDER J.J.ACT	CAPACITY
19	2595	1194
	NGO HOME UNDER J.J.ACT	
20	990	855
	COTTAGE	
271	6775	5504
	SWADHAR	
14*	650*	232
	UNDER ITP ACT	
SMM HOME		
Rescue	80	16
After Care	175	98
** Nadia	25	13
** Malda	30	23
** Burdwam	25	22
Calcutta Rescue Home	50	23
Total	385	195

Details of Short Stay Home may be obtained from West Bengal Social Welfare Advisory Board

SWADHAR

* (7 Nos. are not yet operated)

** CWCs also send children below 18 year in Shelter Home.

Details of initiatives taken by the district authorities :

(1) Cooch Behar

A district level seminar and two Block level awareness camps were held. Anganwadi workers are holding mother's meetings every month on these social issues.

(2) Jalpaiguri

4 (Four) district level seminars have been organised in collaboration with North Bengal University and NGOs. Seminars in 140. In all i.e.2424 Anganwadi centres, these issues are discussed in mother's meetings.

(3) Darjeeling

One focus group discussion and one workshop were held at the district level. Block level capacity building and awareness programmes of elected women panchayat members and members of SHGs have been organised . Local counseling centres with the help of Police, NGOs and Panchayat members have been formed.

As regards dowry, in 2004, 56 cases were registered under 498A IPC and 131 arrests made. In 2005 till December , 29 cases have been registered and 77 arrests

made. As regards trafficking, in 2004, 4 cases were lodged and 9 males and 10 female were arrested.

(4) Uttar Dinajpur

One NGO in association with "Action Aid" is organising street dramas in 5 Blocks viz. Karandighi, Hemtabad, Kaliaganj, Raiganj and Itahar. Block level SHG conference on the issues have been held in four Blocks so far.

In October, 2005, Anganwadi workers held 1525 meetings which were attended by 25238 mothers.

(5) Dakshin Dinajpur

2 (Two) district level workshops were organised in 2005. 24 meetings in Kushmandi Block, 24 meetings in Kkumarganj Block, 10 meetings in Gangarampur Block and 10 meetings in Hill Block at the GP level were held with drama, road show, rally etc.

(6) Malda

Two district level seminars were held 1893 village level meeting were organised in 14 Blocks along with folk songs and drams. Video-on-wheel programme with audeo-visual programmes on the social issues will be launched in January, 2006 to cover all 2008 Gram Sansads. Two video film shows were conducted at Habibpur and Gajole ICDS project offices.

2 (Two cases of child marriage have been resisted.

(7) Murshidabad

Workshops and rallies have been organised at district, subdivision, block and GP level One Family Counselling Centre and one Child Line are functioning to reduce the social menace. Public hearings on these issues were held in 4 Blocks with the support of the West Bengal Commission for Women in November, 2005. Campaigns against crossborder trafficking were held in 3 Blocks. "Shishu Mitra" Project is under implementation in collaboration with UNICEF for providing a child-friendly environment.

(8) Nadia

3 (three) district level workshops were held in 2005. Block level meetings on these issues are being held with NGOs, Panchayat functionaries and officials. One NGO is conducting sensitization meetings in 10 (ten) Blocks.

(9) North 24 Parganas

In every Block, project level sensitization workshops have been held with panchayat functionaries, ICDS officials, NGO members, and VEC members and leaflets have been distributed. In November, 2005, 30 (thirty) mother's meetings have been held in 3604 Anganwadi Centres and these social issues aere discussed.

(10) South 24 Parganas

66 awareness generation programmes were held in 21 Blocks in collaboration with NGOs. 3 such programmes will be held in january, 2006 in Pathar pratima. Jaynagar – II and Kultali Blocks. Posters on these issues are displayed at prominent places.

(11) Howrah

3 (Three) district level workshops and 4 block level seminars were held during last 6 months. 13638 mothers meetings have been held with average attendance of 15-20 mothers. The SGSY groups have lodged complainst with the local police stations in dowry cases. Seminars covering all Blocks have been planned during January – April 2006.

(12) Hooghly

The district authorities have developed big posters, printed leaflets and flip charts, and arranged audeo-visual shows and drama. So far,50 awareness generation programmes have been conducted at the village levels. It is proposed to complete 1000 such h +++n

3 (three) special AGPs were held at the district head-quarter and were attended by about 700 participants. In 4831 Anganwadi Centres, these issues are discussed with mothers in monthly meetings. Nivedia Women Cell has been established in Burdwan, Durgapur, Asansol, Kalna & Katwa police stations for giving adequate security and protection to victims of these social evils.

(13) Birbhum

About 900 participants attended theworkshops held at district and sub–divisional head- quarters.Till date,800 village level meetings with prior informations and sufficient publicity have been conducted with folk–songs (Boul) and local drums, leaflets, posters, booklets highlighting the social issues.About 40,000 people participated in the meetings. Another 1200 such meetings are proposed to be conducted within 31st March, 2006.

(14) Bankura

2 (two) district level and 12 Block level seminars held so far were attended by 4450 participants. 274 cases relating to the these social issues have been recorded and dealt with by the concerned authorities.

(15) Purulia

Block level seminars have been organised in all Blocks under theKishori Shakti Yajana. Under the Swayamsiddha programme,Block level,and GP level awareness programmes have been conducted in 7 Blocks with members of SHGs and panchayats.The remaining Blocks and GPs will be covered by 31st March, 2006. In addition, legal and camps are organised to make women aware of their rights.

(16) Pashim Medinipur

3 (three) workshops with participation of 950 members were held in 3 Blocks. 4512 village level meetings were held with participation of about 61,584 mothers and other village.

(17) Purba Medinipur

Seminars have been organised in 7 Blocks which are prone to these social evils. 5 NGOs are conducting such programmes in other Block as well.

BIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF IMPLEMETATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

	Recommendations	Action taken by the state/UT
1	Prevention	
	Long term training cum-income generation projects taken up under IRDP, Development of	Various departments have been implementing programmes relating to economic and social empowerment of women. In the department of women and

<p>Women and children in rural Areas , capart Schems, Khadi and villages Industries Commission Scheme, STEP, Socio- Economic programe, NOYRAD, Rashriya Mahila Kosh, Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana,, Swaran Jayanti Shahi Rozgar Yojana and other such existing schemes of the central / States, for women and child victims of prostitution</p>	<p>Child Development and Social Welfare we are implementing SWABALAMBAN (NARAD) and SWAYAMSIDDHA, Step</p> <p>In West Bengal, 1.25 lakhs Self Help Groups have been formed by the Panchayat and rural Development Department, 1.3 lakhs SHGs have been formed by NABARD.CARE is supporting 15 NGOs for assisting microcredit through their SHGs. Besides this, social Eempowerment inder UNICEF and CARE for better practices of health care of children mother is continuing.</p> <p>In small Scale & Cottage Industries and Sericulture Directorate lot of women groups have been formed and under UNDP project / tribal women of Purulia, Bankura, scheduled caste and tribal women in Coochbehar, Jalpaiguri have been given training in different kinds of silk-worm rearing which helped generate income of women, under Rashtriya Sama Vikas Yojana, District magistrates have been taking care of women in rural areas for their gainful employment.</p> <p>In West Bengal three tier Panchayat system is followed strictly. Representation of women in 1/3rd seats as well as office bearers in all tier have been a reality.</p> <p>Some NGOs have been directly getting help from Rashtriya Mahila Kosh for their economic rehabilitation. The Government of India is now universalized Kishori Shakti Yojans, Government of West Bengal has been given stress for vocational training for adolescent girls of the village under KSY</p> <p>Proposal of schemes under STEP for trafficked prone pockets have been sent to the Government of India for approval.</p> <p>KVIC also held meeting with Swayamsiddha blocks recently and we are also trying to tie up beneficiaries of Swayamsiddha with KVIC.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Studies/ Surveys sponsored to created a reliable and relevant database on the high supply areas, routs, destinations causes causes of commercial sexual exploitation, the magnitude of the problem.</p> <p>The three Universities viz Kolkata Burdwan and North Bengal have conducted field studies and focus group discussions in all districts of West Bengal being sponsored and funded by Governement of West Bengal in respect of child hood marriages, dowry and trafficking.</p> <p>They will submit final reports latest by 31st March, 2006 highlighting (i) The factors responsible for the incidence of he said social evils, (ii) the areas prone to these evil practices and will suggest remedial measures on strategies to be adopted for curbing the social menace.</p> <p>Independently, SANLAP, Jay Prakash Institute of Social Change, Save the children, Jabala, Seth Bagan, Bhoruka Public Trust and other NGOs have conducted</p>

		<p>independent survey and publish documents for the specific areas and particular area of interest, Interviews of the trafficked women have been published in respect of source, transit, destination areas have been conducted by many NGOs as well as by State Aid Prevention and Control Society. At different levels, pre and post traffic areas survey are being done by various NGOs. In this respect three universities gave presentations on 31.8.2005 and 27.02.2006 stating the degree and magnitude of the problems and interlinked issues involved.</p> <p>The Website on missing persons http://kolkata.wb.nic.in/missing has been developed jointly by West Bengal Police in collaboration with NIC.</p> <p>West Bengal Police has already taken initiative to uplink the website with international search engines like Yahoo. Google etc.</p>
3.	<p>Number of the Family Education Counselling Centres and Short Stay Homes set up in high supply areas.</p>	<p>At present 29 (twenty nine) Family Counseling centres and 24 (thirty four) nos. of Short Stay Homes have been functioning in the State.</p> <p>The C.I.D. West Bengal has set up a Family Counseling Centre viz SEVA. Six prominent NGO group have involved in the process of counseling to the girls and women under difficult circumstances as well as their families too. Free legal Aid is also being provided to the affected women. Besides National Aid and State Legal Services Authority have been sensitizing adult areas in remote and reierine areas of Sunderban through NGOs</p>
4.	<p>Number of the committees formed for the Protection of Rights of women and children at District Block/Mohalla level/formation of watchdog committees/community surveillance group/Neighbourhood Policing / Village Sakshrata Samities etc.</p>	<p>Workshops and seminars have been conducted at the Block level, subdivision level and district level to sensitize three tier of Panchayat. Self help Groups have also been sensitizes. District Social Welfare officer and Black Welfare officer have been assigned to function at Dowery Prohibition officer. Self Help Groups with the help of Panchayats have been able to keep tab on traffickers. Hoardings have been erected at subdivision level and district level Stress has been given to train Anganwadi workers So that they are able to sensitize mothers at the Mother's Meetings,. In the Monthly Progress Rreport of AWWs, a new information has been asked for " Number of girls married in the last one year and how many of them getting in touch with their families". Anganwadi Workers are sensitized to train mothers and adolescent girl to know the address of the groom before</p>

		<p>marriage. State Women's Commission are vigilant. Village level units of city based NGOs as well as rural based NGOs are vigilant to track down traffickers.</p> <p>Five Child Welfare Committees and two Juvenile Justice Boards are functioning as per provision of Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2000 and Government has sanctioned further four CWCs and three Juvenile Justice Board.</p>
II	Trafficking	
1.	Appointment of Anti – Trafficking Police officer under ITP Act.	All officers of and above the rank of Inspector have been authorised to investigate crime under section 13 (I) ITP Act vide Notification No.45566 – SW/SW/O/3W – 25/96 dated 25.09.1996
2.	Issue of instructions to immigration Officers/ Border Police authorities and local police in the transit areas for keeping a vigil on the entry of young girls in international Border States. Whether Helplines established for women through Short Stay Homes, NGOs.	<p>Orientation on the issues like Gender Sensitization, Trafficking as well as investigation of offences against women are the part of in-service training curriculum of all ranks of Police Scheduled at Police Training Academy.</p> <p>All rank of police officials are being oriented on the issues by NGOs as well Government initiatives.</p> <p>It has been stated by the police that at thana (P.S) level it is very difficult to book traffickers under ITP Act as Sub Inspector are not empowered under 13 (i) ITP Act. Therefore, Law Department is to re-consider empowering Sub-Inspector also for investigating the crime under Section 13 (i) ITP Act. B.S.F. officers have been given training on different aspects to prevent trafficking. B.S.F. demanded Short Stay Home near Border areas as some times police stations are far away from Border. In several meeting, seminars, workshop BSF officers are requested to remain preset and issues involved are discussed.</p> <p>Five toll free Helpline (10921 to 10925) are in operational in the district of North 24 Pargans, South 24 Pargans, Howrah and Hooghly since 2003.</p> <p>Seven (7), Child lines (1098) are in operational in the district Jalpaiguri, Paschim Medinipore, Purba Medinipore, Murshidabad, Kolkata, Howrah, South 24 Pargans.</p> <p>Mahila Help Desk have been set up during 2004 at prominent Railway Stations like Howrah,</p>

		Sealdah, Siliguri and also at Kolkata Airport.
III	Awareness Generation and Social Mobilisation	
1.	Awareness Generation Campaigns taken up on gender discrimination/ projection of prostitutes images of girl children and women through print/ electronic media.	<p>(i) 20 ft. x 10 ft. hoardings with message on the three social issues viz. Child marriage, Dowry and Trafficking of children and women have been erected in the district hospitals and collectrate of all the districts in audition to two hoardings in each sub-division.</p> <p>(ii) Radio jingles on the social issues were broadcasted for three months in the year 2005.</p> <p>(iii) Awareness generation programs in the form of seminars, processions, street dramas,rallies and folk songs are continuing in all the districts. Details of initiatives taken by the district authorities are annexed herewith (Anes.1)</p> <p>(iv) Anganwadi Workers are holdings monthly mother's meeting highlighting on these social issues.Besides above, funds have already been released to District magistrate to organize more AGP at village and G.P. levels by engaging folk cultural groups and holding street drama. Hoarding with messages on social issues have been erected in sub -division headquarters also.</p> <p>(v) Six lakh leaflets are being distributed in Bengali and Nepali highlighting three social issues like childhood marriage, dowry system and trafficking.</p>
IV	Health Care Service	
1.	Providing of health services, whether health cards are being issued to women and child victim. Setting up health Care Centre in or near red light areas by State Governments or by NGOs with assistance from Central / State Government.	<p>(i) The state Government runs ICDS project exclusively for the Red Light Areas of Kolkata for disseminating the package of services like feeding, immunization and health check-up , pre school education, nutrition, and referral services to the Victims as well as their children too.</p> <p>(ii) Government Hospitals and primary health centres are also provides free medical care and treatment to the victims.</p>

		<p>(iii) NGOs are also running medical care and treatment centres.inn and near Red Light Area.</p> <p>West Bengal State AIDS Prevention and control Society has been working in the Red Light Area for preventing and use of condom. Several NGOs have been helping State AID Control Programme.</p>
2.	Educational Campaigns about the risks of unprotected sex.	West Bengal State Aid Prevention and Control Society have been giving wide publicity especially in urban society areas through Radio and Television highlighting risk of unprotected sex. Educational campaigns through posters, print media, electronic media, have been taken up by the Department of Health and Family Welfare, West Bengal for wide publicity on the issue. NGOs are also actively involved in the programme.
3.	Setting up separate shelter homes for women victim suffering from terminal stages of AIDS	NGOs have been maintaining home for the AIDS affected person. SANLAAP and OFFER have sheltered AIDS affected children
V	Educational and Child Care	
1.	Providing free and compulsory education to child victim / children of women victim in Government / Municipal school.	<p>Anganwadi Centres at Red Light Areas provide free pre- school education to the children of women victim.</p> <p>Government aided and Muncipal/ Corporation schools provide free education up to Madhyamik level to all children and women in the state.</p> <p>Under state budget Government of west Bengal have been assisting 9000 children in the age group of 6 years to 18 years under Cottage Scheme programme. Children of women in commercial sex and other destitute have been getting advantage of this programme. This measures have been taken for the boys and girls who are destitute, but either of the parent is surviving, considering the limited capacity of Homes under JJ Act.</p>
2.	Steps taken to ensure that the name or consent of the father/ male guardian not to be insisted upon for the purpose of admission of children of prostitutes in any school or hospital.	<p>The State Government/ Muncipal Corporation have issued circular to all schools (Government aided/ Private / Municipal) to ensure the guardianship of mother in school enrollment.</p> <p>Role of the state Government and activities of NGOs have helped to such extent that school authorities do not insist for father's name while admission of children and women in commercial sex. .</p> <p>We have been developing system of pinpointing drop outs at initial level and at different age</p>

		level and ensure that such children are brought to school.
3.	Steps taken to institutionalizing the children of women victims in boarding homes/ hostels	Children of women victims are being admitted into nineteen Government run and twenty NGO run children's Home under JJ Act, and seventy nos. of NGO run 271 cottages under Cottage scheme
4.	Keeping a few seats in private schools / boarding homes for children of women victims and child victim.	No separate seat has been kept reserved but they are always given priority.
5.	Project for continuing education, non-formal education and vocational training for the victims under	Non-formal education and vocational training are being provided to the vulnerable groups of girls and women by implementing different schemes like SARMO SIKSHA ABHIJAN, KISHORI SHAKTI YOJANA, SWABALAMBAN SWADHAR etc.
6.	Anganwadi Centres in known areas of trafficking	About 80 Anganwadi Centres have been set up at different RLAs of Kolkata. In the districts at the sub-divisional/block levels most of the Anganwadi Centres are functioning at the source areas of trafficking
VI	Housing Shelter and Civic Amenities	
1.	Inclusion of victims names in the electoral rolls and issue of electoral photo identity cards to the women victims	Inclusion of victim names in the electoral rolls are considered as normal process in the State and most of the victims have photo identity cards for putting their voting rights.
2.	Issue of ration cards to women victims under the Targeted Public Distribution System as a separate eligible category	No separate category in respect of issue of Ration Cards to the women victims have been made.
3.	Preferential allotment of sites and houses reserved for Economically Weaker Sections in urban and rural areas under the Central/ State Government's Schemes	This is a normal of the State Government to allot khash land to the economically weaker section of the society. Panchayat Samity is the authority to allot land. Joint Pattas were provided in favour of women.
4.	Setting up new juvenile Homes for child victims and strengthening the existing ones	Strengthening the existing juvenile homes (both Government and NGO runs) are a continuous process
VII	Economic Empowerment	
1.	Formationa of self help groups for women victims to take up savings and credit activities. Assistance by RMK/Banks/ Cooperative Banks etc. for Micro-credit for Income generating activities.	SHGs are created through SGSY, SWAYAMSIDDHA, NABARD CARE etc. They are taking loan from Bank. Interloaning have also helped them to meet primary needs in the family

2.	Taking up Training-cum employment projects in red light/ high supply areas to train women and child victims under the Central and State Government schemes for financials assistance.	About 20 organizations are working in the RLA/ high Supply areas to training the women and child victims to the cause of their economic empowerment and social reintegration .
3.	Involvement of NGOs for the rehabilitation of victim of prostitution	SANLAAP, JABALA, WOMEN INTERLINK FOUNDATION, WOMEN ASSOCIATION, BHORUKA PUBLIC TRUST etc. have been working for rehabilitation of women,.
VIII	Legal Reforms and Law Enforcement	
1.	Strict enforcement of the existing legal provisions against commercial sexual exploitation of women and children	<p>Women Grievance Cells have been set up in all districts to handle the investigation of cases relating to offences against women. The cells are manned by lady SI, ASI, Constables and Home Guards in Addition to a few male police personnel of all ranks.</p> <p>All police officers of and the rank of Inspector have been authorized to investigate the crimes under Section 13 (I), ITP Act, vide notification No. 4466-SW/SW/0/3W-25/95 dated 25.9.1996.</p>
2.	Setting up Anti-trafficking and Prevention cells and its officers to be notified as Special police officers under the ITP Act in major cities/district which are identified as high supply areas	<p>Deputy Commissioner of Police, Detective Department Lal Bazar is the Nodal Officer of the Anti- Trafficking and prevention Cell, Kolkata.</p> <p>It has also been decided that the DIG,CID Special West Bengal will act as the Nodal Officer for the coordinating the police initiatives on trafficking issues in the district of West Bengal.</p> <p>Inspector in Kolkata Police and West Bengal Police have been designated special police under provisions of ITP Act.</p>
3.	Advisory Board of Social Workers and NGOs which are notified under Section 13 (3) of ITP would be reconstituted with experienced and since members.	Apropos under Section 13(3) of ITPA, the advisory Board of Social Workers and NGOs have already been constituted vide GO No. 2154-SW/3W-50/03 dated 3 rd July,2003 and revised under GO No. 311-SW /3W-50/2003 dated January 31,2006.
4.	Regular raids to be conducted by the Police	Copy of the report from West Bengal Police is enclosed
5.	Setting up Task Force headed	A state level Advisory Committee under the

	by the Secretary, Women and Child Development and Social Welfare of the state Governments in major cities to coordinate activities among the various agencies involved for the prevention, suppression, rescue and rehabilitation and reintegration of women victims.	Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, West Bengal has been formed vide Resolution No. 997-SW/3W-59/2001 dated 25-3-2003 to coordinate activities among the various agencies involved for the prevention, suppression, rescue and rehabilitation and social reintegration of women victims.
6.	Steps taken to eliminate child pornography in all medias including prohibiting its possession	Regular raids at different cinema halls, book stalls etc. are being conducted by the West Bengal Police.
IX	Rescue and Rehabilitation	
1.	Setting up of Rehabilitation Centres for Women and children to provide education, health, counseling vocational training guidance for recovery and rehabilitation and for institutionalization of victims of prostitution	Eight nos. of Shelter Homes under SWADHAR scheme have been running by different NGOs to provide education, health, psychological counseling, vocational training and guidance for recovery and rehabilitation of victims of prostitution. 5 nos. proposals are sanctioned by Government of India recently, 3 nos of proposals though sanctioned have not yet got grant.
2.	Upgrading the services in Remand, juvenile, Protective, correctional and destitute homes to be manned by well qualified and specially trained and committed social workers.	During the year 2005-06 up to February 6 nos. of State level in service orientation training programmes have been conducted for upgrading the services of the staff in Remand, Juvenile, Protective, correctional and destitute homes.
3.	Involvement of women's organisations in the monitoring of remand, protective and other homes.	Constitution of Home Inspection Committee involving the women's organisations for monitoring the Remand, protective and other Homes, are under process.
4.	Action taken by the State Government with NGOs to provide proper shelter, travel arrangements medical and psychological treatment and reintegration with humane treatment	There are no dearth of shelters, Medical treatment is done by doctors in Home itself. In some Homes pharmacists, nurses are also posted. Besides medical facilities are provided through hospitals. There are no problems of travel for inmates and accompanying government staff and police. Psychological counseling is done by NGOs.
5.	Setting up a system of coordination through inter-country NGO networks for safe passage, rehabilitation and reintegration in their	The State Government has set up a network involving NGOs viz SANLAAP, SOCIO LEGAL AID RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTRE, Kolkata, for smooth and safe repatriation of women and child victims to their community at

	community in their home countries for women and child victims from foreign countries.	native states/countries.
X	Caste/Tribal/Religious Sanctions/Traditional practices as Devdasi/Jogin etc.	
1.	Does your State have pockets of traditional practices of prostitution / trafficking	Nachni a traditional practice of prostitution exist in Purulia belt. They are considered traditional dancers and kept. They are not trafficked.
2.	<p>Measures taken by your State Government to prevent prostitution</p> <p>(a) Legislation</p> <p>(b) Preventive</p> <p>(c) Scheme to Educate and Rehabilitate the victims</p>	<p>.</p> <p>Awareness generation programmes in the form of Seminar, procession, street drama, and rallies have been organised at all Blockes under Swayamsiddha.</p> <p>Anganwadi workers are holding monthly mother's meeting highlighting on the curce of social prejudice.</p> <p>The implementation under Kishori Shakti Yojana have been strengthened for the large number of SHGs are formed. They are sensitized (I) Billboards have been erected in sub-divisions and districts (ii) Radio jingles are played (iii) Police has been trained (iv) NGOs are encouraged to sensitize people. Ppanchayat are also working for empowerment of adolescent girls in the district.</p> <p>5400 nos. of SHGs, have been set up under SWAYAMSIDDHA scheme.</p> <p>Victims are trained through various vocation like cloth making, stitching, Jari work etc.</p>

Vulnerability Matrix for HIV and Trafficking

District	Poverty Line 1997 - 1998		Per Capita GDP	HDI 2001	HDI Rank	GDI 2001	GDI Rank	ISI	ISI Rank	2001 Literacy		SC	ST	Sex Ratio		Vulnerability
	Male	Female								1991	2001					
Bardhaman	51.9	43.2	17537	0.64	5	0.54	7	0.528	6	79.3	61.9	6.2	27.5	917	934	Vulnerable
Birhum	50.4	40.3	12791	0.47	14	0.42	14	0.157	13	71.6	52.2	7.0	30.7	899	921	High Vulmerability
Bankura	55.5	62.6	15742	0.52	11	0.46	10	0.5	7	74.2	49.8	10.3	31.4	946	949	Vulnerable
Medinipur (purba)	39.7	40.5	15526	0.62	7	0.55	5	0.357	8	83.7	64.6	8.3	16.3	951	953	Vulnerable
Medinipur (Paschim)																
Howrah	35.9	40.8	15591	0.68	2	0.56	3	0.757	2	79.9	70.9	0.3	15.8	944	955	Vulnerable
Hooghly	47.8	38.7	16280	0.63	6	0.56	3	0.728	3	77.2	67.7	4.0	24.1	881	906	Vulnerable
24 Parganas (N)	45.8	48.4	14768	0.66	3	0.55	5	0.3	10	84.4	72.1	2.3	21.5	917	947	Vulnerable
24 Parganas (S)	43.4	43	13630	0.6	8	0.51	8	0.314	9	83.1	59.7	1.2	34.4	907	927	High Vulmerability
Nadia	43.5	47.1	16211	0.58	9	0.49	9	0.257	12	72.7	60.1	2.3	29.0	929	938	High Vulmerability
Murshidabad	40.5	37	13392	0.46	15	0.41	15	0.3	10	61.4	48.3	1.3	13.4	936	947	High Vulmerability
Uttar Dinajpur	47.1	40.5	11182	0.51	13	0.46	10	0.128	14	59.3	37.2	9.8	2.9	943	952	High Vulmerability
Dakshin Dinajpur	56.3	-	14579	-	-	-	-	0.128	14	73.3	55.1	-	-	921	937	High Vulmerability
Malda	47	46.5	14777	0.44	17	0.39	17	0.028	15	59.2	41.7	6.5	18.1	944	950	High Vulmerability
Jalpaiguri	33	49.9	16749	0.53	10	0.45	12	0.271	11	73.6	52.9	21.0	37.0	938	948	High Vulmerability
Darjeeling	34.2	73.9	18529	0.65	4	0.57	2	0.571	5	81.3	63.9	13.7	16.2	927	941	High Vulmerability
Cooch Behar	34.2	63.1	13855	0.52	11	0.45	12	0	16	76.8	57	0.6	51.7	914	943	High Vulmerability
Puruliya	68.5	70.7	15742	0.45	16	0.4	16	0.614	4	85.3	37.2	19.2	19.4	935	949	High Vulmerability
Kolkata	-	-	33300	0.78	1	0.59	1	1	1	84.1	78	0.2	6.5	947	953	Vulnerable

Indicators for District Vulnerability has been taken by comparing, Poverty line, HDI, GDI , LOW Literacy of Womren ,High % of SC ST Population

HIV Matrix West Bengal With Hot Spots and High Risk Areas

	No of Red	No of Sex Workers	No of HIV Cases	ANC Sentinel 2003 CR	STD Sentinel 2003CR	Hot Spot 2003 CR	High Risk
Bardhaman	6	2681	186	0.5(Durgapur)	0.43	Yes	Yes
Birhum	1	391	88				
Bankura	1	396	80		1.6	Yes	Yes
Medinipur (Purba)	5	2104	915	0.75	1.61(Haldia)	Yes	Yes
Medinipur (Paschim)							
Howrah	5	922	108				Yes
Hooghly	4	1126	108				Yes
24 Parganas (N)	7	1393	445				Yes
24 Parganas (S)	10	3751	348		4	Yes	Yes
Nadia	2	476	155		0.47		Yes
Murshidabad	2	589	141	0.75	4(Behrapur)	Yes	Yes
Uttar Dinajpur	2	515	91	0.74		Yes	Yes
Dakshin Dinajpur	Nil	73	113		1.26(Balurghat)	Yes	Yes
Malda	1	314	82				Yes
Jalpaiguri	2	4787	125				Yes
Darjeeling	1	1151	391	0.25(Siliguri)			Yes
Cooch Behar	3	1589	196		0.48		Yes
Puruliya	Nil	132	74				
Kolkata	21	26700	3295	0.75	9.6	Yes	Yes

West Bengal Trafficking Vulnerable Points

District	Mukherjee		NHRC		TII Report	SACS	Vulnerable	High
	Origin	Operation			Operation			Rsik
Bardhaman	Yes - 13		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Birbhum	Yes - 1				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bankura	Yes - 2		Yes			Yes	Yes	
Paschim Mednipur	Yes - 10	Yes-1	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes
Purba Mednipur		Yes-1	Yes			Yes	Yes	
Howrah	Yes - 9	Yes - 1	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Hoogly	Yes - 7				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
24 Paragna(N)	Yes - 26	Yes - 1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
24 Paragna(S)	Yes-11		Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nadia	Yes - 11				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Murshidabad	Yes - 3		Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Uttar Dinajpur					Yes	Yes	Yes	
Dakshin Dinaj						Yes	Yes	Yes
Malda	Yes - 3				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jalpaiguri			Yes			Yes	Yes	
Darjeeling	Yes - 4			Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Puruliya	Yes - 1				Yes	Yes	Yes	
Kooch Behar					Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kolkatta	Yes - 36	Yes - 9	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes

TAHA VULNERABILITY MATRIX

District	Vulnerablity Matrix	HIV High Risk Details	Trafficking High Risk	TAHA Priority
	Details		Details	
Bardhman	Vulnerable	Yes	Yes	High
Birbhum	High Vulmerability		Yes	High
Bankura	Vulnerable	Yes		Medium
Paschim Mednipur	Vulnerable	Yes	Yes	High
Purba Mednipur				
Howrah	Vulnerable	Yes	Yes	High
Hoogly	Vulnerable	Yes	Yes	High
24 Paragna(N)	Vulnerable	Yes	Yes	High
24 Paragna(S)	High Vulmerability	Yes	Yes	High
Nadia	High Vulmerability	Yes	Yes	High
Murshidabad	High Vulmerability	Yes	Yes	High
Uttar Dinajpur	High Vulmerability	Yes		Medium
Dakshin Dinajpur	High Vulmerability	Yes	Yes	High
Malda	High Vulmerability	Yes	Yes	High
Jalpaiguri	High Vulmerability	Yes		Medium
Darjeeling	High Vulmerability	Yes	Yes	High
Puruliya	High Vulmerability	Yes		Medium
Kooch Behar	High Vulmerability		Yes	High
Kolkatta	Vulnerable	Yes	Yes	High

