
Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur

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Abstract: India is the 2nd largest populated Country which has socio-economic, political and cultural variations but the Global Warming, Increasing Population, Public Activities have greatly affected the public health policy. As a result, Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime -minister of India has launched the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan on 2nd April,2014 which has greatly reflected upon the Ward No-15, Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur, West Bengal. Although this kind of activities were continued from the Colonial Period by Lord Wavell with the “Health Survey and Development Committee” headed by Joseph Bhore. Then a gradual process has been continued and the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has come into limelight. This field survey of 20 houses with 78 family members of Ward No-15, Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur district has find out the educational status, occupational details, public health policy, toilet system, garbage clearing etc. to highlight the socio-economic conditions as well as sustainable development of the concerned area.

Keywords: Development, Digital India, Global Warming, Swachh Bharat Mission.

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Introduction

India is the second largest populated country in the world. It has also socio-economic, political and religious variations which makes the country as a multi-lingual, multi-cultural country. We have seen a very constructive and well- developed civilization from the Harappan Civilization

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur

to the present Ultra-modern Civilization. But the increasing population, public activities, global warming etc. have greatly affected the natural resources like the air, water, soil which has reflected upon the public health policy. So, the public health policy has faced a challenge due to some malpractices of the people, avoid the public health policy, open defecation which is not good for the mankind. So, the central government has launched a national awakening programme to clean roads and infrastructure of 4041 cities in all over India in 2014. Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India has launched the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan on 2nd October, 2014 in which about 30 lakhs government employees and students across the country joined. He also flagged off a walkathon at the Rajpath and surprised people by joining is not just for a taken few steps, but marching with the participants for a long way. While leading the mass movement for cleanliness, the Prime Minister exhorted people to fulfil Mahatma Gandhi's dream of a clean and hygienic India. The campaign aims to achieve the vision of a "Clean India" by 2nd October, 2019. As a result, a sense of responsibility has been evoked among the people through the "Clean India" movement. This Clean India movement and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is continuing till now in various aspects like Swachh Bharat Mission for Urban Areas, Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), Swachh Vidyalaya Abhiyan, and Rashtriya Swachhata Kosh. It is in this back-drop, I have taken a survey related work on Swachh Bharat Abhiyan at the area of Ward No.-15, Balurghat Municipality, West Bengal. Balurghat is the district headquarter of Dakshin Dinajpur district which played an important role in the August Movement in 1942 against the British and occupies a place of pride in history of freedom movement of India.¹ So, I have taken the work to highlight the environmental consciousness and the socio-economic condition as well as sustainable development of the concerned area.

Review of Literature

The Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has a long background from the Colonial India to the Present India. Although this kind of activities was continued in another name and norms in Colonial India. Lord Wavell preferred the public health, communication, and education during the Second World War. So, he formed the "Health Survey and Development Committee" under the leadership of Joseph Bhore to work on the enquiry of public health of Colonial India.² The committee stated that, "the accommodation, hygienic environment, pure drinking water, nutritious food and health consciousness is the social is the social medicine".³ Undoubtedly,

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur

the proposal of the Bhore Committee brought a social change in the field of the public health policy, social consciousness, hygiene system, medicine medical system in very well. After Independence, the Rural Public Health Programme was taken in 1954. But, it was not fulfill the goal. The 1981 Census Report proved that only 1% people got the benefit of this programme. So, the government gave the importance upon this scheme in between 1981 and 1990 and also tried to give a definite shape in the project in 1999. So, we can say that, the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has a long background which was started from 1st April, 2012 and finally Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India launched the campaign of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan on 2nd October, 2014 and is aimed to accomplish various goals and fulfil the vision and mission of “Clean India” by 2nd October, 2019 which is the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, “Father of Nation”.⁴ Therefore, it is a great gesture and an apt tribute to the Mahatma that the ‘Swachh Bharat Campaign’ is launched by the government on his birthday i.e., on 2nd October.

- To eradicate the system of open defecation in India.
- To convert unsanitary toilets into pour flush toilets.
- 100% collection and scientific processing/ disposal/ reuse/ recycle of solid waste to eradicate manual scavenging.
- To bring about the behavioural change in the people regarding health sanitation practices.
- To link people with the programmes of sanitation and public health in order to generate public awareness.
- To build up the urban local bodies strong in order to design execute and operate all systems related to cleanliness.
- To completely start the scientific processing, disposal reuse and recycling of the municipal solid waste.
- To provide require environment for the Private Sector to get participated in the Capital expenditure for all the operations and maintenance costs related to the clean campaign.

Methodology

Universe:

The field survey of twenty houses of Ward No.-15, Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur district.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur

Sample Size: Twenty Houses.

Sampling: Random Sampling Method.

Method of Data Collection: Data Collection through Questionnaire System.

Tools of Data Collection: Questionnaires which are given bellow :

1. Head of the family
2. Family members
3. Sex
4. Age
5. Educational Qualification: Illiterate/ I-IV/ V-VIII/ IX-X/ X and above.
6. Have any Latrine :Yes/ No; If yes, then the type of the Latrine :- Own/ Government grant.
7. Domestic- waste:Vegetables/ Food/ Cartoon/ Carry bags.
8. Waste bin at Kitchen:Yes / No.
9. Where the Garbage through away:Dustbin/ Road Side/ Van.
10. Monthly Income of the family.
11. Earning Status: Service/ Business/ Others.
12. Type of House:Kuccha/ Pukka/ half-pukka.
13. House made by: Own/ Government grant.
14. Who clean the road in front of the house :Own/ Municipality.

Data Collection and Analysis

I have done a field survey at the Ward No. 15, Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur district to find out the actual socio-economic and cultural life of the people by this Swachh Bharat Mission Project on the concerned area. I have seen some relevant information in this regard which are given bellow:

1. Total number: 78;
Male: 36, Female: 42
2. Member details:

Number of Family(s)

2

Family Member(s)

2

**Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat
Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur**

5	3
9	4
2	5
1	6
1	7

3. Educational Qualifications:

Illiterate -	7
I-V -	39
V-VIII -	4
IX-X -	11
X and above -	13
Total -	74
Children -	4
Total -	78

4. Have any toilet :- 18 Family(s)
Have no toilet :- 2 Family(s)
Own made :- 13 Family(s)
Government grant :- 5 Family(s)
Waiting for Government grant :- 2 Family(s)

Types of toilet :-

- a) Ring – 15 Family(s)
b) Pukka – 1 Family(s)
c) Kuccha – 4 Family(s)

5. Practice of hand-washing after toilet : 100%

6. Throw away the garbage:-

Road side –	6 Family(s)
Van -	7 Family(s)
Dustbin -	3 Family(s)

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur

Road side & Van - 4 Family(s)

7. Income details :-

<u>Family(s)</u>	<u>Income (Rs)</u>
4	3000/-
8	4000/-
7	5000/-
1	15000/-

8. Waste bin at Kitchen : Nil.

9. Occupation details :

Others : 19

Retired : 1

10. House details :-

Kuccha : 6

Half Pukka : 10

Pukka :4

Own made :17

Government grant made : 3

11. Road cleaning in front of the house :

Only municipality : 3

Self-cleaning : 4

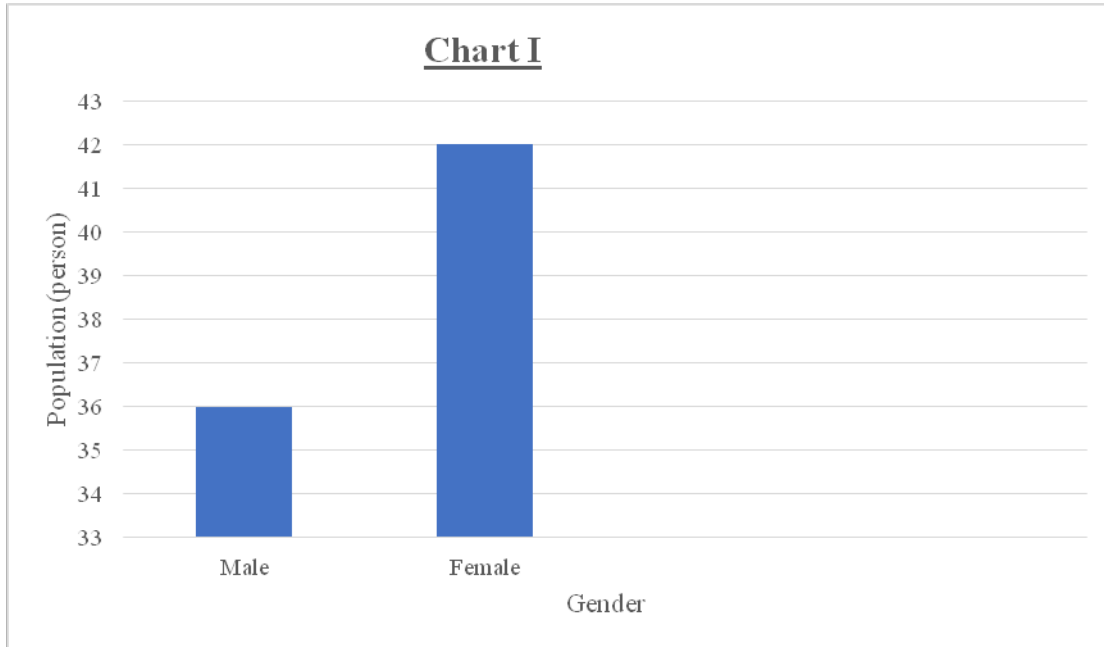
Both cleaning : 13

Gender-Based Classification of the Family Members

<u>Gender</u>	<u>Family Member(s)</u>
Male	36
Female	42

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur

The gender-based classification of the twenty houses family members of the Ward No.-15, Balurghat Municipality shows that, the male and female family members are 36 and 42 respectively. The chart is given bellow:

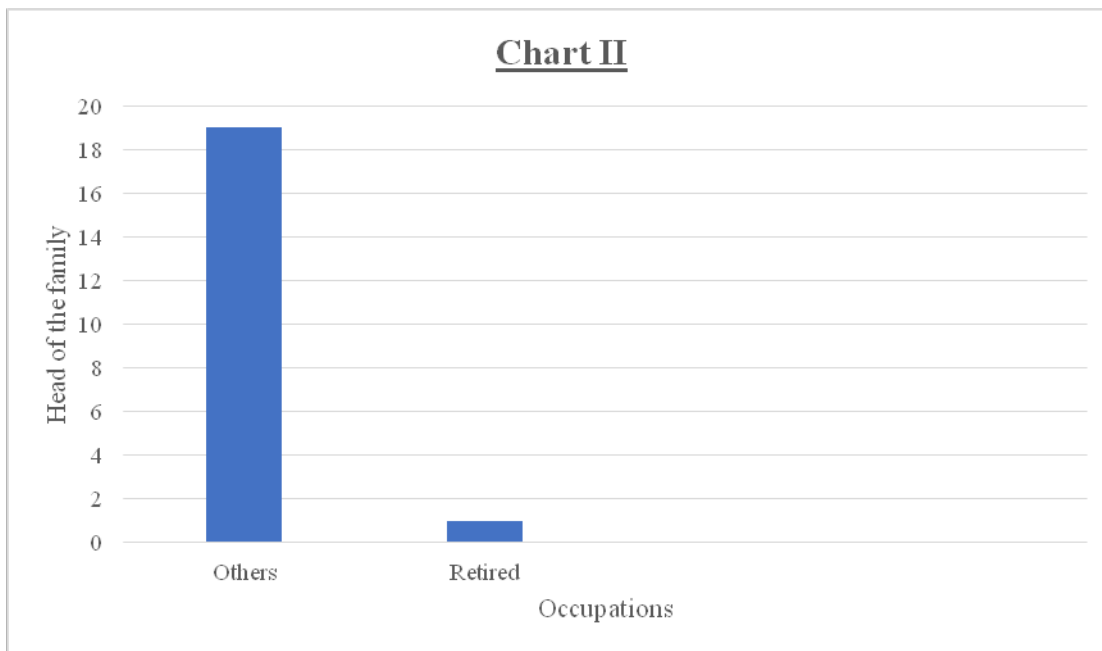


Classification by Occupation

<u>Occupation(s)</u>	<u>Number of the Family(s)</u>
Others	19
Retired	1

The occupation wise classification of head of the family of Ward No.-15, Balurghat Municipality shows that, the 19 people are engaged in other occupations like business, labourers and any other works and only one is a retired person. The chart is given bellow:

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur



Family Details

Number of the Family(s)

Family Member(s)

2

2

5

3

9

4

2

5

1

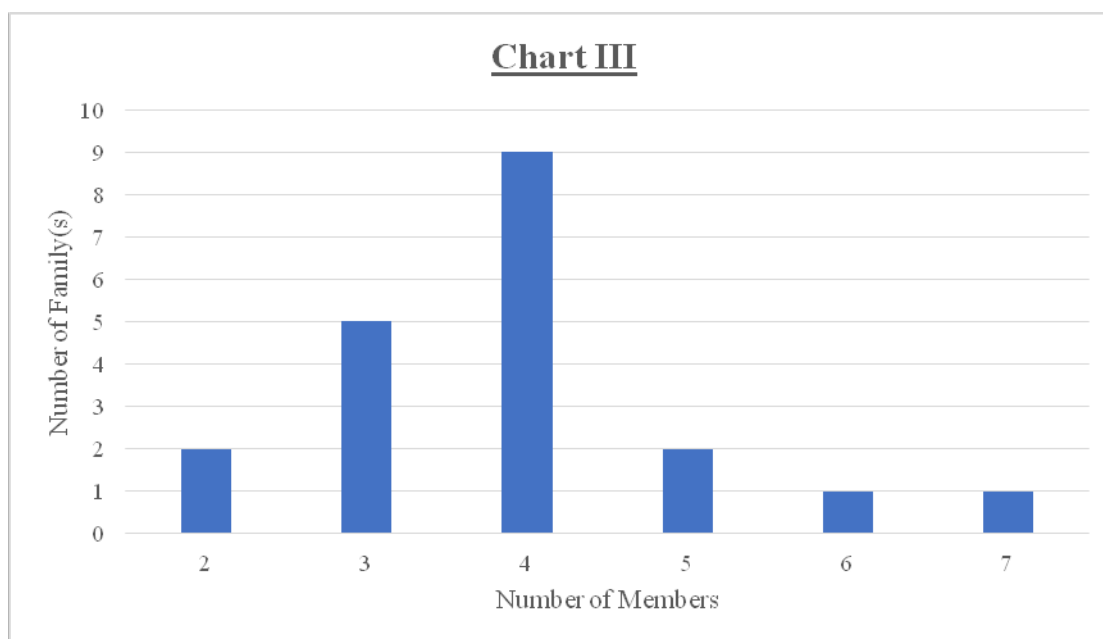
6

1

7

The field survey of Ward No.-15, Balurghat Municipality with 78 members of 20 families show that, the 2 families contain each with 2 family members, 5 families contain each with 3 members, 9 families contain each with 4 members, 2 families contain each with 5 members, 1 family contains with 6 members and the last one contains with 7 members. The chart is given bellow:

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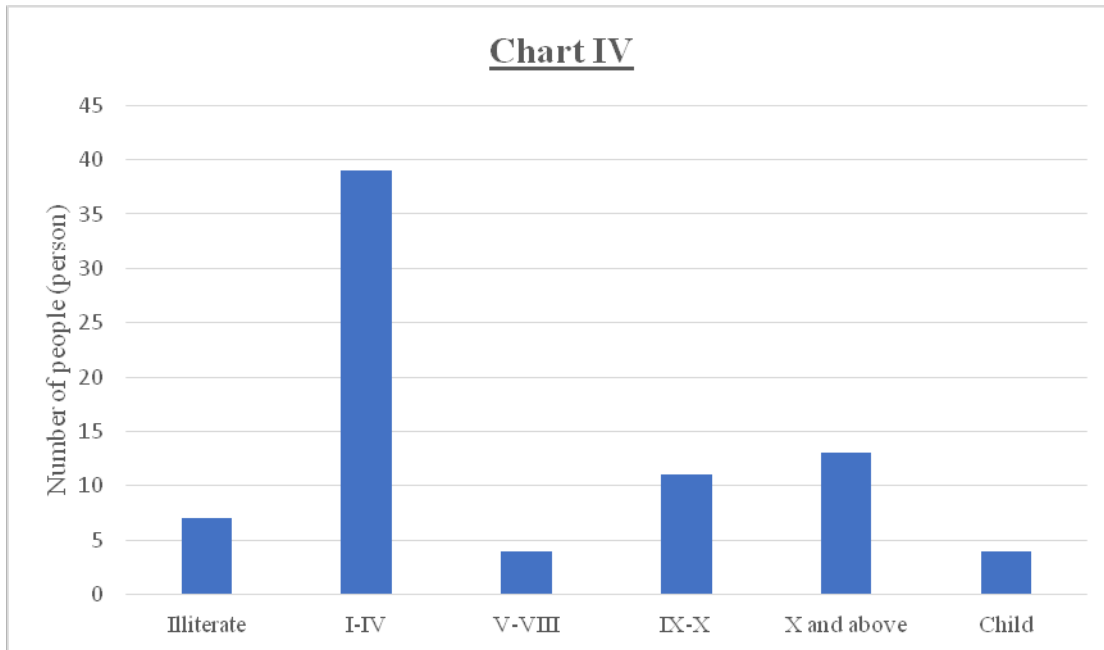


Educational Survey

<u>Type of Education</u>	<u>People</u>
Illiterate	7
I-IV	39
V-VIII	4
IX-X	11
X and above	13
Children	4

The field survey shows the educational status of ward No.-,15, Balurghat municipality in a very constructive way. It shows that, the 7 people are illiterate, 39 are I-IV pass, 4 people are V-VIII, 11 people are IX-X, 13 people are X and above and there have also 4 children. The chart is given bellow:

**Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat
Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur**



Classification by Income

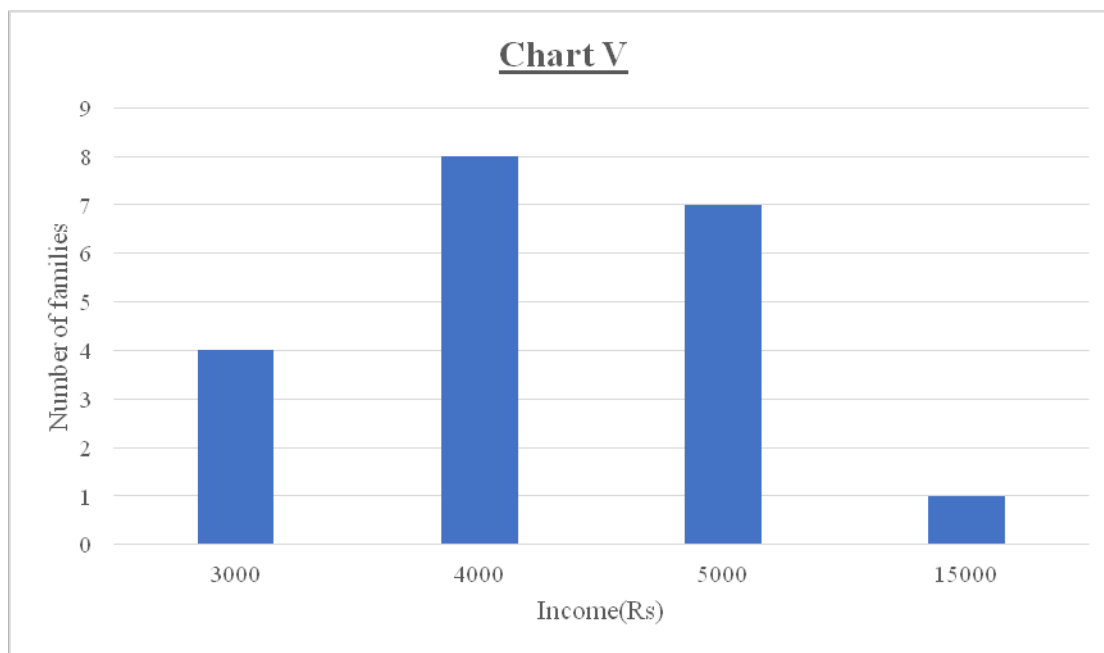
Head of the family(s)

Monthly income(Rs)

4	3000/-
8	4000/-
7	5000/-
1	15000/-

The survey shows that, the 4 head of the family's monthly income is Rs. 3000/-, 8 head of the family's monthly income is Rs. 4000/-, 7 head of the family's monthly income is Rs. 5000/- and only one family's monthly income is Rs-15000/-. The chart is given bellow:

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Classification by Toilet

Number of the family(s)

18

2

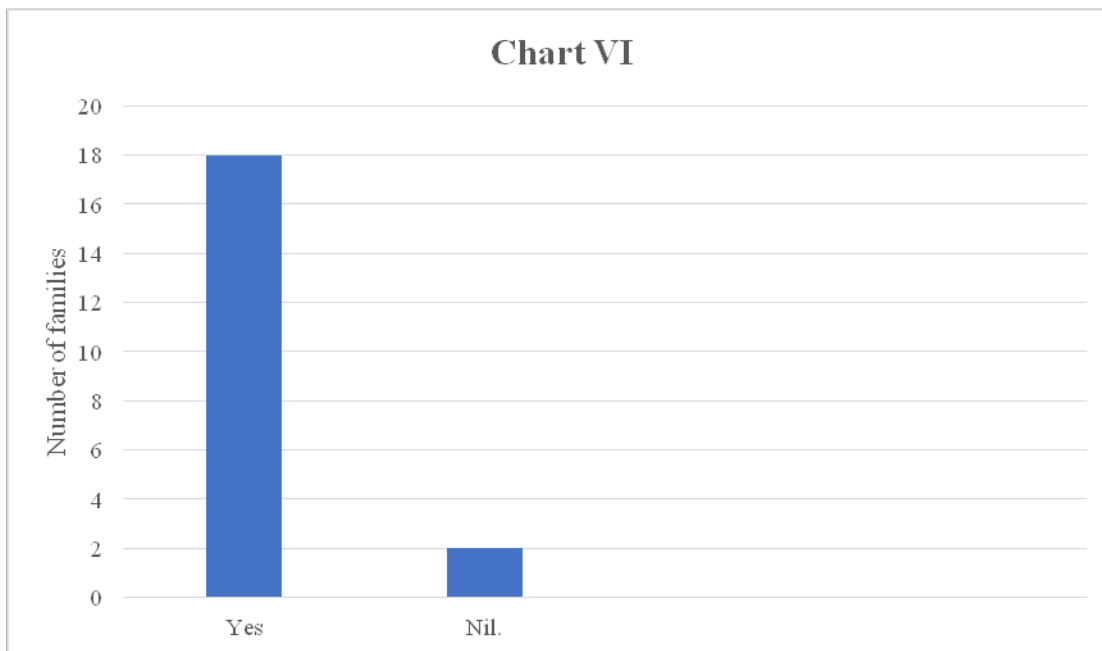
Toilet(s)

Yes

Nil.

The field survey of Ward No.-15, Balurghat Municipality on toilet indicate that , the 18 families have toilets and the rest of two families have no toilet. The chart is given bellow:

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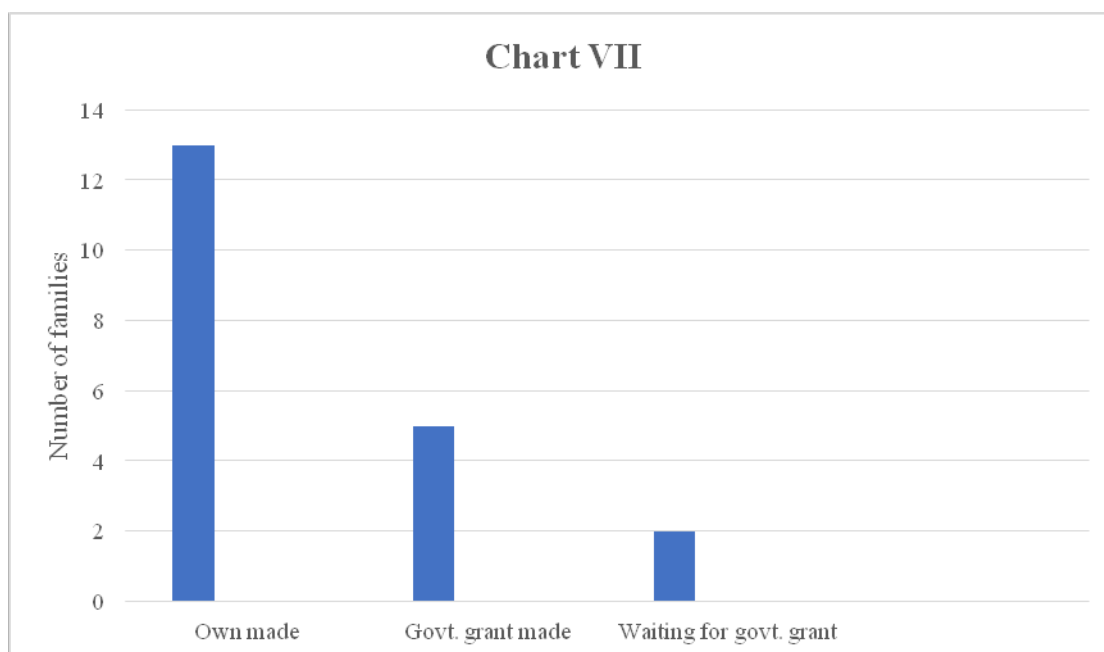


Classification by Toilet Making

<u>Number of family(s)</u>	<u>Toilet making</u>
13	Own made
5	Govt. grant made
2	Waiting for govt. grant

The field survey of Ward No.-15, Balurghat Municipality shows that, the 13 families have own made toilets, 5 families have government grant made toilets and 2 families are waiting for government grant for toilets. The chart is given bellow:

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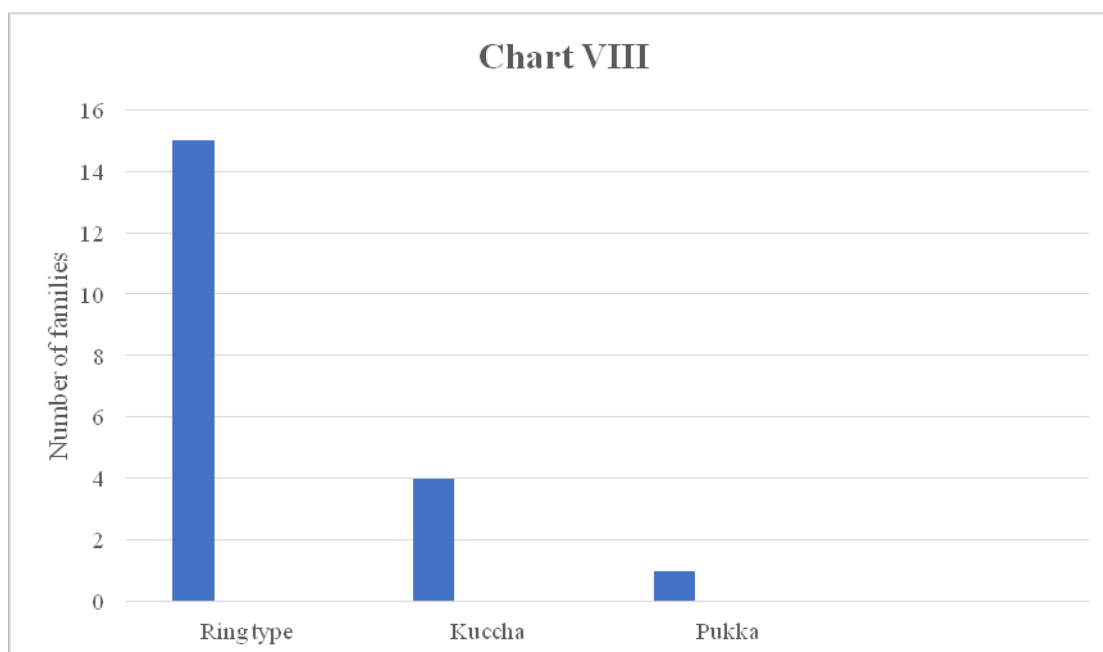


Classification by Toilet Type

<u>Number of family(s)</u>	<u>Toilet Type</u>
15	Ring type toilet
1	Pukka
4	Kuccha

This survey indicates that, the 15 families have ring type or ring made toilet, 1 family has pukka toilet and 4 families have kuccha toilet. The chart is given bellow:

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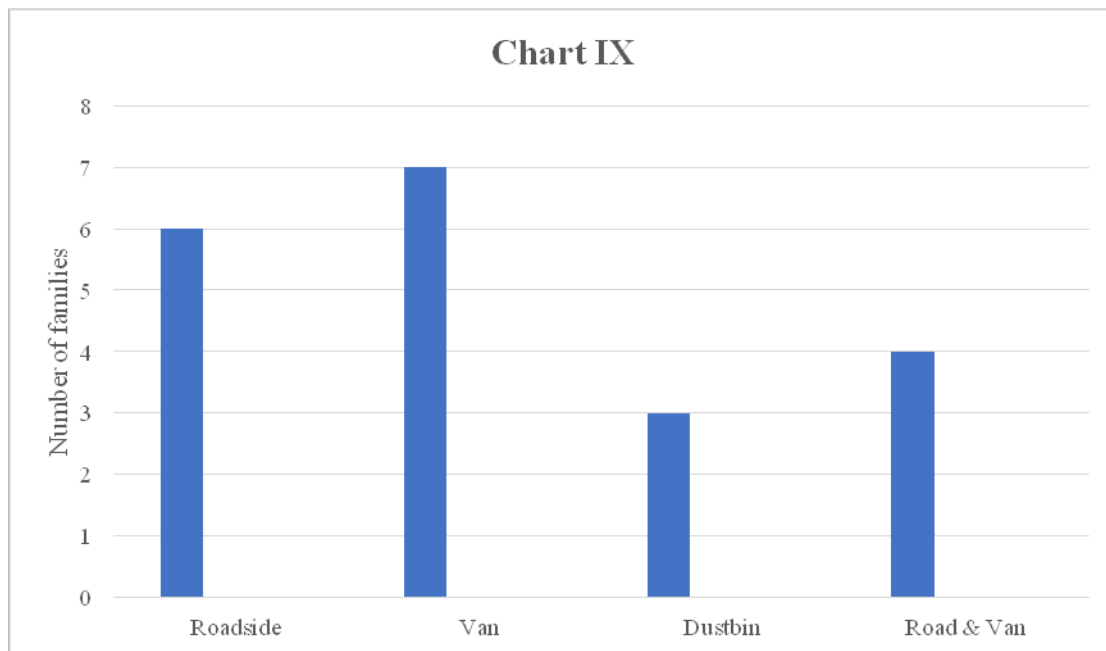


Garbages throw away Classification

<u>Number of family(s)</u>	<u>Types of garbages thrown away</u>
6	Road side
7	Van
3	Dustbin
4	Road and Van

The field survey of 20 families of Ward No.-15, Balurghat Municipality shows that, the 6 families have thrown away the garbage in the roadside, 7 families have thrown away in Van, 3 families have thrown away in dustbin and 4 families have thrown away in both roadside and van. The chart is given bellow:

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House classification

Number of house(s)

6

10

4

Type of House(s)

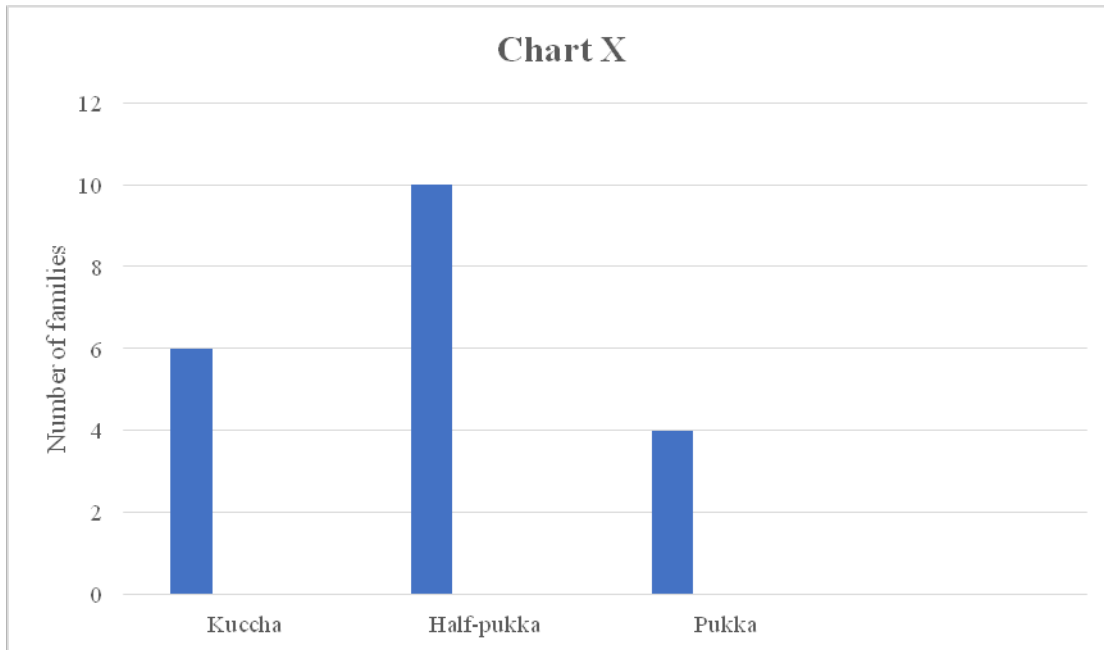
Kuccha

Half-Pukka

Pukka

This survey shows that, the 6 families have kuccha, 10 families have half-pukka and 4 families have pukka houses. The chart is given bellow:

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Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur**

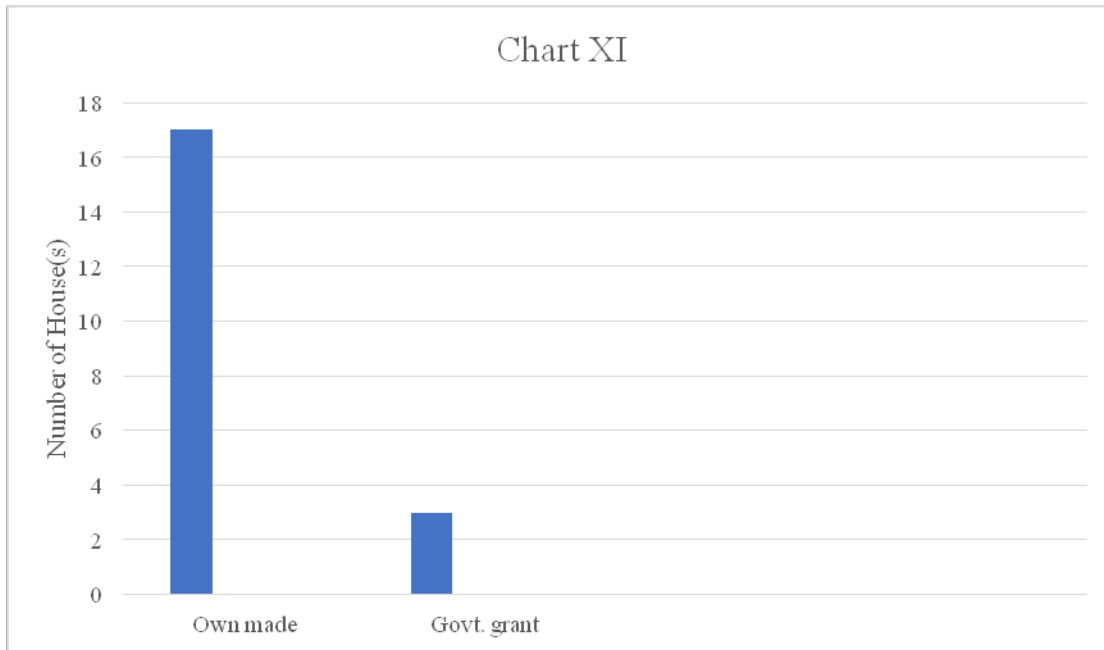


Classification details by House Grants

<u>Number of House(s)</u>	<u>House grant</u>
17	Own made
3	Govt. grant

This survey shows that, the 17 families have Own made houses and 3 families have government grant houses. The chart is given bellow:

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur



Classification details by Road Cleaning

Number of the family(s) house(s)

Road cleaning in front of the

3

Municipality done

4

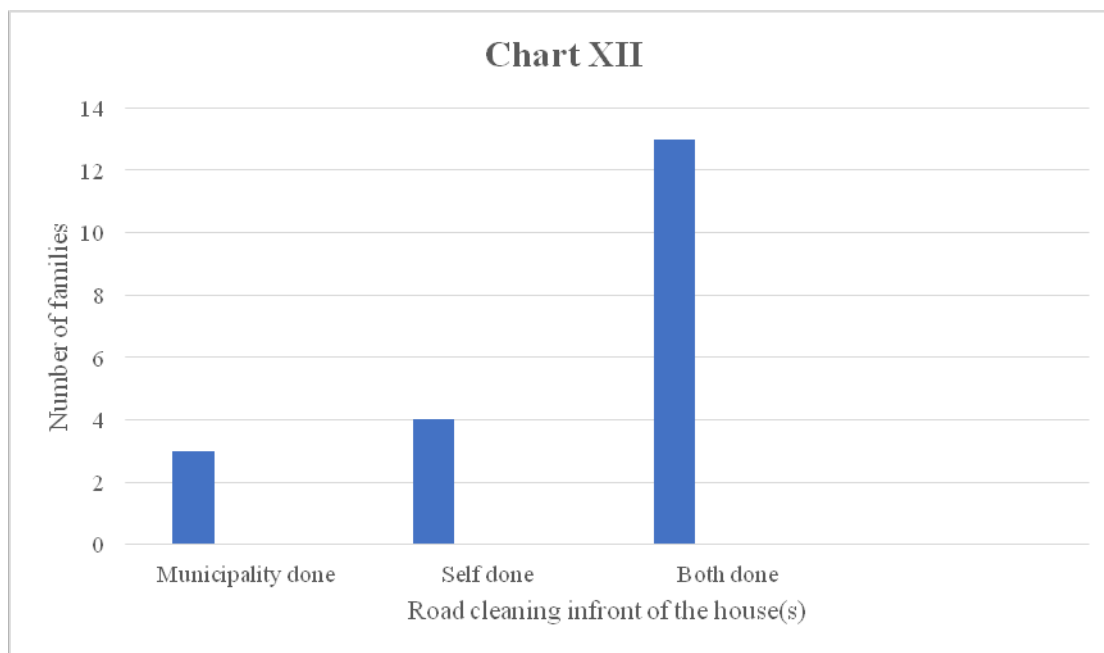
Self done

13

Both done

The field survey of the families of Ward No.-15, Balurghat Municipality indicates that, the municipality has done cleaning operation in-front road of the 3 families, 4 families have done self- cleaning and they both have done the cleaning operation in front road of 13 families in very well. The chart is given bellow:

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur



Limitation of the Statements

The Swachh Bharat Abhiyan at the Ward No.-15, Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur district has greatly influenced the public health, social consciousness, cleaning the garbage, supplying drinking water etc. in very well. So, we can see a massive change in their livelihood along with a healthy and hygienic environment. In other words, this project report indicates the sustainable development at the concerned area. Instead of all some minor limitations have seen here, like-

1. After 2nd October 2019, different elected bodies, district administration, NGOs always are trying to make clean and healthy city to the pandemic situation has broken down the chains of work.
2. The whole municipality area or Wards are not covered up with survey due to Covid-19 issue. So, we have to justify the socio-economic and environmental condition on the basis of the only Ward No.15 survey report.
3. Some of the people are not agreed to come in close contact to give more necessary information in this regard.
4. The monthly income of the head of the family has rapidly decreased due to the covid issue and

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur

some of them intentionally have hidden their actual income to get more government benefit in the present situation. So, it is one of the most important limitation to justify the actual development of the concerned area.

5. The
another most important is the Covid-19, the state and central governments are busy to control the pandemic situation. So, the public welfare programmes like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Namami Ganga, Digital India, Smart India, Smart City etc. are slowly going now. It is one of the most important limitation of the concerned survey work.

Conclusion

Despite the limitations as well as present situation the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has brought the environmental consciousness and sustainable development in India in very well. Healthy India, sustainable environment and eco-system is well appreciated by everyone after knowing Swachhata objectives and goal.⁵ Swachh Bharat Mission has positive impact on India's health care sector. Healthy body results in healthy mind which is directly proportional to the productivity of an individual.⁶ Balurghat Municipality is not apart from this programme. Now, the municipality area is a smoking free zone which is a good sign for mankind. Part from cleanliness and disease prevention, the Clean India campaign also leads to notable economic development of the country.⁷ Balurghat Municipality is also following the path of cleanliness and public health policy in very well for the sustainable development goals. Besides, the Panchayat body, Zilla Parishad, District Administration, NGOs are unitedly trying to continue the cleanliness activity, health awareness programmes, supplying the drinking water, toilet construction etc. to fulfil the aims and objectives of the mission which is reflected in the field survey of the concerned area in very well.

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Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: An Outlook on Ward No.15 Balurghat Municipality, Dakshin Dinajpur

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