
**Role of Bengali Tea–Industrialist and Eminent Persons in
Expansion of Education in Jalpaiguri District**

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Abstract:*After the arrival of the British in Jalpaiguri they involved themselves in the tea trade. This tea business was quite profitable. In the later phase many Bengali entrepreneurs attached themselves to this tea business.The Ghosh family Rahut family katham family respectively came forward with the establishment of many tea gardens in this phase. Satyendra Prasad Roy, Birendra Chandra Ghosh and NilkantaMukhopadhyay played important role in this phase. Through their initiatives the touch of education came across the whole Dooars.*

Keywords:*British,Darjeeling,Education,Gajoldoba,Plantation,TeaGarden,etc.*

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Introduction

After coming district, under the touch of education in Jalpaiguri many eminent personalities came forward. In fact, the issue of private enterprise was unimaginable in the banded district towns. Nevertheless, when urbanization began to occur Settlements developed. Many people realized the needed need for education after the formation of this settlement. As a result, many educational institutions were established. Before discussing matters related to educational institutions several issues needed to be discussed. In this love we have to go back quite a bit. The first tea–garden was established in Darjeeling before the establishment of Jalpaiguri district, where within a few tea–gardens in day's 24 limited Companies with to own ownership tea– gardens were built within a few days the lack of

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land was noticed. After that, when the Search for new land Started, attempts were made to create a tea garden in Jalpaiguri. Statistically available in formation show's that an English plant named Bruham established the first tea plantation in Gajaldoba in 1874. Gajaldoba tea garden was the first tea-garden in the district¹. Within few days of the establishment of the first tea-garden at Gajaldoba, several tea-gardens were established in the surrounding area's which is given below².

Name of the Tea-Garden	Year of Establishment
Fulbari	1875
Dalimcoat	1876
Bagracoat	1876
Kumlai	1877
Damdim	1877
Washbari	1877
Manabari	1877
Manihope	1878
Patabari	1878
Ranichera	1878

That 16, the Statistics, now that many tea gardens were established within a span of Just a few years. Although, it can be seen that between 1906-1907 more tea Plantations were established, the number of west lands gradually decreased. After that attempts were made to convert the agriculture come into tea plantation again. I feel it necessary to give a list of the tea were developed in the next phases gardens³.

Name of the Tea-Garden	Year of Establishment
Dima	1909
Dalimore	1909
Ramjhora	1909
Damdim	1910
Debpara	1910
Goalpara	1910
Nimtjhora	1913
Palashbari	1913
Patkabari	1913
Saraswatipur	1915
Sunny Valley	1917
Satali	1918
Mathura	1919
Barron	1919
Red Bank	1919
Ethelbari	1922
Batabari	1924
Madhu	1926

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Gopimohan	1930
Nepuchapur	1933
Surendranagar	1933

In the first phase, European tea-companies have to be mentioned in developing tea-plantations in the district. Among them Duncan Brothers, Gillander Abutonourt, Octavious Stell company, Andrew will company. Williamson Magor, Mackloyed & Company, Walles. James Finley etc are to be mentioned. Dalgaon, Dalsingapara. Dalmore etc tea-gardens were developed by the hands. of these companies. A brief list of all the estates that were subsequently developed is given below -

Year	Name of the Tea- Estate
1887	New Glanko Tea Company
1888	Haldibari Tea-estate
1889	Carron Tea-Estate
1896	Kumargram Tea-Estate
1897	Garganda Tea-Estate

One thing is true that the role of the British in producing the 'Tea in this country was one of them, to discuss the matter, we need to look back a little. Researcher Supam Biswas researched the matter and pointed out that Warren Hastings had a singular dream of tea which took fifty years to come to fruition.

After the formation of Assam Tea Company in 1839, the first tea-estate of Gajaldoba was formed in Jalpaiguri district. The main initiative was taken by Mr. Bhuham. Sometime after the formation of Dhootria tea estate in Darjeeling in 1859, large scale efforts to develop tea-Plantations in Dooars began⁵ Just like this, one after another tea-Plantations started to develop, and in the meantime Jalpaiguri district was formed in 1869. Meanwhile, in the tea-Plantation of the Dooars region, the need was increasingly felt. Meanwhile, a large number of people were required to run the tea-Plantations, which availed employment opportunities to the educated youth. It can be seen that they gradually accumulate experience by working in tea Plantation.

Based on this experience, many migrant Bengalis started to develop tea-gardens. Let me discuss how and how important this educated immigrant community became. Meanwhile the year 1879 was a memorable year for Bengali traders in North Bengal. The Mogalkata tea-garden was first developed under Jalpaiguri Tea- Company limited. During this episode Bhagwan Chandra Bose, father of renowned scientist Jagadish Chandra Bose, was assigned to the Deputy Magistrate group of Jalpaiguri district, who was enterprising enough to build a tea garden on Indian initiative. Meanwhile, between 1879 - 1910, about 11 tea-gardens were established in North Bengal with the investment of domestic capital. The picture that Bengal emerges when we look at North Bengal as well as Bengal as a whole is very much like this: -

The tea-estates under foreign and indigenous colonial Bengal⁷.

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Company Type	Year 1911		Year 1921	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Companies With European Directors	158	65.8	184	54.1
Companies With Indian Directors	18	7.5	82	24.1
Companies With Mixed Boards	-	-	11	3.3
Companies Privately Owned by Europeans	46	19.2	36	10.6
Companies Privately Owned by Indian	18	7.5	27	7.9
Total	240	100.0	340	100.0

Meanwhile, after the tea- Plantation were established, workers started to be employed in them. Both men and women were engaged as laborers in this phase. Although the main objective of this study, is to discuss the rule of tea entrepreneurs, we of I felt the need to provide statistics on how much money workers were found as wages after they were world in the plantations. In this case, it can be & how on the basis of the Statistics obtained that⁸ –

Year	Classification of Labours	Main Attendance + Additional Work	Total
1939	Male	4 ana + 4	8 ana
	Female	3 ana + 3	6 ana
1941	Male	4 ana + 4	8 ana
	Female	3 ana + 3	6 ana
1944	Male	4 ana + 4	8 ana
	Female	3 ana + 3	6 ana
1945	Male	6 ana + 6	12 ana
	Female	5 ana + 5	10 ana
1947	Male	6 ana + 6	12 ana
	Female	5 ana + 5	10 ana
1948	Male	6 ana + 6	12 ana
	Female	5 ana + 5	10 ana
1951	Male	6 ana + 6	12 ana
	Female	5 ana + 5	10 ana
1953	Male	6 ana + 6	12 ana

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	Female	5 ana + 5	10 ana
1955	Male	6 ana + 6	12 ana
	Female	5 ana + 5	10 ana

From the above figures an idea is obtained about the picture in the pre-independence and Post independence period. In this context, men and women were employed in the tea-plantations for very low wages. Naturally they were not financially found and the regions were very backward in terms of education, so expansion of education was very important- Meanwhile, several tea gardens were early day's due to the initiative of the as a town established in native industrialists. Meanwhile, Jalpaiguri began to prosper. It can be seen that within a Short-period of time several wealthy Bengalis engaged themselves in the construction of tea plantations. It should be added that these Bengal' entrepreneurs had to face a lot of hard suites in the beginning. However, let' s get back to the main discussion, I think there is a need to talk about the Bengal entrepreneurs who came forward in the foul- phone. Among who came forward this time to help financially those were Gopal Chandra Ghosh, Joy Chandra Sanyal, Yadav Chandra Chakraborty, Bhawanicharan Ghatak, Hridaynath Bagel, Mahimchandra Ghosh, Keshabchandra Ghatak, Madanmohan Bhowmick, Ramchandra Sen and others were important⁹. Among them, Gopal Chandra Ghosh had extraordinary Knowledge about tea-plantations. Later, two groups formed under the initiative of Tarani Prasad Roy were and Gopal Chandra Ghosh. Supporters of these two groups Several tea gardens were planted with the initiative of each tea-gardener, and in the next city of Jalpaiguri one by one, the Ghosh family, Roy family, Chatterjee family, Katham Family and Rahut family were been to emerge. The members of their families not only invest in the tea industry but also realized the need to expand the education of the Dooars. It can be seen how gradually one school after another was built by their initiative.

Their great initiative was quite admirable. At one time Dooars and its vast territories were plunged in darkness, when the light of education did not penetrate these plantation tea enterprises remedied not only involved themselves in the business side but also realized the need for large number of laborers to manage the tea-plantations. At the same time, Keeping the needs and demands of the local people in front, they took the initiative to setup the school. This time. I will discuss the rate of prominent families of the district. Before discussing the rate of prominent families, one more thing need to be discussed. After the establishment of Jalpaiguri district, at least in the initial phase female education was confined to the home. Meanwhile, The Spread of education English gradually increase, the social system changes rapidly, from this time many people felt the need for girls' education. Notable personalities who came forward for the purpose of spreading education were Late Tarini Prasad Roy, Late Jogesh Chandra Ghosh, Late Subhasini Ghosh (wife of Jogesh Chandra Ghosh), Late Birendra Chandra Ghosh, Late Satyendra Prasad Ray, Late Rajendra Kumar Neoyogi, Late Bidhubushan Samadder etc¹⁰.

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So, one thing at least clear that private initiative was widely reflected. Based on which, the expansion of education was seen to happen in the remote areas of the city of Dooars. In this case, I will discuss about family based and Personal initiative issues.

Roy family

To discuss about the city of Jalpaiguri, from a far, we have to highlight the Roy family. The Roy family was one of the families that emerged early after the formation of the district, The role of this family in the development of culture was outstanding. In this regard, the names of Prominent industrialist – Tarini Prasad Roy and his son Satyendra Prasad Roy are Prominent. Among them, this time I will discuss Tarini Prasad Roy.

Tarini Prasad Roy, known as a prominent tea. Industry icon, established himself after his arrival in Jalpaiguri. Within few days he established the Atiabari Tea Co. Ramjhora tea-co. and many himself tea-gardens in Dooars. He also involved again in advocacy with the establishment of tea. Plantations. Meanwhile after the I.T. P.A was established in 1915. he was elected as its president. He also developed five tea-gardens between 1925–1928¹¹.

His illustrious Son Satyendra Prasad Roy later played a role in carrying forward the work that Tarini Prasad Roy did. Needless to say, Satyendra Prasad Roy is a much talked about personality in Dooars and the town of Jalpaiguri. He was noted for his outstanding contribution in spreading the culture, sports and education, he was also known as S.P. Roy.

Ghosh family

Like the Roy Family, Ghosh family came to the city as a prominent family. In a way, the prominent roles played by two prominent figures in the Roy family and namely Tarini Prasad Roy Satyendra Prasad Roy were significant, we shall discuss later the roles they played building in educational institutions. The Prominent figures in the Ghosh family were Yogesh Chandra Ghosh and Birendra Chandra Ghosh. These two figures acquired considerable Knowledge of Tea and were seen to develop the art of Tea hand in hand. A look at the career of Yogesh Chandra Ghosh among them reveals that he spent a long period of time as government employee. Later his illustrious son and Jalpaiguri's progeny Birendra Chandra Anosh established Tea-Plantations in Dooars and Assam in Jalpaiguri District. Most importantly, he provided financial Support to the educational institutions that were established in many Parts of the district. Not only that he managed the Positions of secretary, vice chairman and Chairman of I.T. P.A very efficiently.

The Presence of Roy family, Ghosh family Katham family and Rahut family was noted. Most of them come again forward with the aim of establishing tea Plantation's in the district. It has been mentioned before that they have acquired considerable knowledge of Tea by doing a lot of research. Using this knowledge, they started to establish many tea-gardens but the most important thing was that they did not limit themselves to establishing only tea-gardens. They realized that vast areas of the district and the Dooars were educationally

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backward. Extension of education was especially important in these backward areas. Keeping this issue in front they tried to build educational institutions. On the basis of which the issues of support financial assistance and aggradation were started. The keenest educationalist tea-planter family in the contemporary Society of Jalpaiguri town was the Rahutfamily. Their commencement in the field of education was Stared under the auspicious leadership of Kaminikanta Rahut¹².

Many educational institutions were established with the help of Rahutfamily. It can be sad that the Rahut-family emerged as a distinguished academic family. Ananda Chandra Teacher's Training College was established by Rahutfamily which was the first Teacher's trainingcollege in North Bengal. Also, Ananda Chandra College, Ananda Chandra College of commerce etc was established under their initiative. Needless to say, in the Construction of Ananda Chandra College, one of the educational institutions of the district, the Ranul-family received four Area and Rs 25000/- as financial assistance¹³. These things prove that they were not expansion the educationdistrict but also realized the need forin the higher education.

This time, I will discuss about the rale of prominent people in these families. The font person whose name comes to mind is the divine Satyendra Prasad Ray.

Satyendra Prasad Roy

Sure, Satyendra Prasad Roy was one of the Pioneers in the expansion of the educational System in Jalpaiguri District and Dooars. This Nobel person known as Tea-Planter played an important rale in the expansion of education in the district. Being a tea planter as well as as a member of the Rajya Sabha, he was also lboing elected able to Support the School's financially in many cases. Apart from the education system, his contribution in the field of schools in the district- was also noticed. Anyway, into that content, let's focus on the issue related to the education system.

Birendra Chandra Ghosh

Along with Satyendra Prasad Roy, Birendra Chandra Ghosh emerged as an in Jalpaiguri district. Having important-figure extensive knowledge about tea Plantation, he became quite proficient and skilled within a short period of time. It was mainly through his initiative that tea plantations were established in Dooars and Assam Not only that, the Indian Tea Garden association was formed under his initiative Birendra Chandra Ghosh, known as the Complete Tea-Industrialist, was quite a pioneer in the mattes of educational expansion. In Jalpaiguri town at that time the number of schools was few and the Dooars where practically bleak Schools were non-existent. Eminent- tea-Industrialist Birendra Chandra Ghosh in his essay .entitled The Development of Tea Industry in the district of Jalpaiguri (1869-1968) have shownthat¹⁶

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Year	Number of Schools	No. of Pupils	Average Daily Attendance
1941	150	6732	4218
1942	146	6723	4569
1943	149	5130	3423

The figures he presents for the 1940's show now many primary school students attended. Although now almost every tea-garden has a primary School. In some cases, more schools have been built based on local demands. The most important point is that at the time this report was prepared, not a single school at the higher secondary level had been established in the tea-plantation areas. A discussion on the basis of the entire district shows that a handful of girls' education like Jalpaiguri Sadar Girls High School, Kadamtala Girls High School. Maynaguri Girl's High School were established at that time. Meanwhile, due to the plantation of tea plantation. the need of educate the children of the labours and their families became important.

Both Satyendra Prasad Roy and Birendra Chandra Ghosh gave some impetus to the process of building the school at this time. It can be seen that Satyendra Prasad Roy and Birendra Chandra Ghosh built Birpara High School by 1957. This was a ground breaking Step as no high school had been built in Birpara at that time. Due to his association with tea plantations, he also built a Junior Basic School at Gopalpur Tea-Plantation as well as a higher secondary school at Kadambari Tea-estate. Also, his contribution was particularly important in building the primary School building Called Sishu Mahal. However, not only in the school and building Construction. Mr. Birendra Chandra Ghosh gave considerable help in financial terms. In this case, I am giving an example When the process related to the construction of the school continued, Mr. Ghosh donated 26,000/- for the purpose of improving technical education. In fact, the cost of land in Jalpaiguri at this time was much lower than in other district of West Bengal and he paid for the land required to build the Engineering college¹⁷ Undoubtedly it is significant that he was determined to active the overall improvement at common man.

A Part-from Satyendra Prasad Roy and Birendra Chandra Ghosh, the Niyogi family has to be mentioned in this context. Nimitjhora High School was Setup at the initiative of Niyogi family. That is to say, it appears that Mr. Roy I and Mr. Ghosh came together in some cases and sometimes personally build one School after another in Dooars, Niyogi family was not left behind. Nimitjhora High School should bear its identity. Meanwhile, along with the Niyogi family, Samaddar family & in Alipurduar was not far behind. Alipurduar Newtown High School was founded by this distinguished family. However, Nilkanta Mukhopadhyay came forward as a prominent figure in setting up the school. It is true that in the entire Dooars a great work began which resulted in the education of girls and the establishment of educational institutions.

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I have already mentioned that the school building program was undertaken on the initiative of the Tea Industrialist. The initiative of the girls was also worth, noting. As an example, it can be said here that Subhasini Ghosh, wife of Yogesh Ghosh came forward in this episode. Meanwhile a primary school was established by 1927 with the help of Hemaprabha Chanda and Suniti Niyogi. Also, in this content. Begum Rahimuneceha's name mentioned Rahimuneceha, daughter of Prominent-tea Industrialist Khan Bahadur Rahim Box. realized the need for women's education. Later by 1924neighbourhood built a primary school named Mosaraf Hussain,Rahimuneceha.

So, it appears that the need for education was realized by people from all fields. Along with the men, the also came forward equally. In this case, obstacles were encountered, but they did not stop. Which was undoubtedly a Sign of progress. In this context, Prassana Dev Raikat's Wife Ashrumati Devi personally a supporter of women's education. In memory of her husband, she established the P.D. Women's College which Started on 81st August 1950¹⁹. The Journey started with 10-11 people in the initial phase and today it is known as one of the educational institutes of North Bengal. Thus, it appears that the main objective was not only to setup schools but also to realize the need for Expansion of higher education, one example of which was P.D. Women's College.

The Study would not be complete without mentoring the name of NilkantaMukhopadhyayas one of the pioneers in the spread of Education in Dooars. NilkantaMukhopadhyay is equally important in this regard, as the renowned Personality of Satyendra Prasad Roy, Birendra Chandra Ghosh who played his unflattering role. Eminentessay int Bijay De notes that he was an eminent educationist and his contributions to the spread of education and sports. His contribution to the spread of education in the city was memorable, in order to expand the education system and the build educational institutions, Personalities live Rahut-family, Raikot family. Rangoli bazar's Yogeshwar Roy. Jatindra Singha Sarkar of Tufanganj, BirendraNath Ray of Siliguri, Birendranath Banerjee of Balurghat played an important rate, but NilkantaMukhopadhyaywas the rarest personalities²⁰

NilkantaMukhopadhyay

In fact, when NilkantaMukhopadhyayarrived, the entire Dooars was plunged into darkness. The light of education did not Spread much,NilkantaMukhopadhyayrealized that there was a great need to Spread education. among the common people. On the other hand, the entire Dooars was still not Sufficiently developed, covered by tea-Plantations and forest and the entire region was in a State of Stagnation. Meanwhile being a teacher by profession, he realized that it would be possible to bring everyone back to the mainstream by Imparting education.

However, one by one Schools were seenComing up in different parts of the Dooars at the same time by 1937, the Mac William School was established in the Court area of Alipurduar. Meanwhile Statistics show that around 99% of the people of Alipurduar were illiterateat that time. This illiteracy was a big obstacle in the Path of Socio-economic development. Of course, NilkantaMukhopadhyay understood how to overcome this obstacle.

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It can be seen . that within a few days after joining MacWilliam School in 1937, it gradually changed from Junior school to semies and Higher Secondary School . Needless to say, this process of change was actives at a very rapid face .

It is true that NilkantaMukhopadhyayhad vision everywhere after developing MacWilliam School, he realized the need to build a school for girls, it is Significant—that from this time the population of the city began to increase and the need to build new schools was been in order to educate the people . of this increased population . It is pertinent to mention that the Journey of the girls' school started withthe MacWilliam School as its base²¹ .

NilkantaMukhopadhyayis generally considered to be the principal is identity of MacWilliam School . However, wis contribution to the spread of higher education was particularly important not only in the schools he established . Meanwhile in the greater Jalpaiguri district, only two colleges were established, one was Amanda Chandra college and the other was Prasanadev . Women' s' College . The common people of Dooars had to travel a long way to Jalpaiguri town . to get higher education . NilkantaMukhopadhyayrealized the need, because no college had yet been established in Alipurduar and its surrounding areas . Realizing the need for higher education, AlipurduarCollege was established in 1957 . I think it is important to discuss some things about AlipurduarCollege, which is one of the educational institutions in Alipurduar .

The land on which the AlipurduarCollege built was owned by MakimSaheb and Jamanuddin . who were Jotedars . When NilkantaMukhopadhyaycontacted them, the Pious Makim Saheb donated 30 bigha of land for setting up the college . Later, Calcutta University was asked to set up a college while 4-5 Lakh rupees were required for setting up the college . It was not Possible to called such a large amount of moneyfrom Alapurduar under the circumstances of thattime .

Meanwhile, NilkantaMukhopadhyay had to face a lot of political problems . Because the ruling State Govt . was not very interested to established college . NilkantaMukhopadhyayinstead applied wis diplomate acumen in this case he applied for central govt and got Central Govt . Sponsored College in Alipurduar .

Thus,itis been how earnest he was in the case of expansion of higher education . He took great care to make the people of Alipurduari . e . , the Dooars region education Oriented . In a ward, NilkantaMukhopadhyay' s initiative was really commendable . This man not only established the college but also established the Aravinda Nagar Boy's school,girls' school and the senior basicschool in the vicinity of the college . He also setupschool in Chepani and Putimari²³ . That is, he was eager to bring the light of education to the dark areas . NilkantaMukhopadhyay was an eminent-person of Dooars . He played a leading role to established AlipurduarMacWilliam School and AlipurduarCollege in Dooars .

The Dooars which was once darkened the effects of Malaria and black water fevers by was so great that it was impossible for ordinary people to enter . Other hand Mr . W . W . Hunter . also pointed outthatJalpaiguri District was bekind of education system in early period . The Situation began to change with the arrival of Tea-Entrepreneurs and several educationalists The names of Birendra Chandra Ghosh, Rahut family, along with NilkantaMukhopadhyay

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Were Particularly notable in this content. The contribution of these great men was Particularly important behind the wave of education seen in the present day Dooars. Instead of devoting themselves to the hope of profiting only by cultivating Tea-Plantations, they realized the urgent need for education of tea-workers and girls. It can be said that the massive expansion of the education system was mainly due to their initiatives.

At the end of the discussion of the chapter, it should be mentioned that all the Tea-Entrepreneurs who once came forward with their own efforts, many tea gardens were built due to their hard work, those gardens started to face out of hands. Lookouts and retrenchment of worker's have been seen in most of the tea estates. Due to this, many tea-gardens have been transferred or closed today. Most of the plantations where tea-plantations were once established by the hands of the fallen have either been closed down for have been transferred. In this ease, it is a matter of Judgement whether loss or depression worked. A short list of the gardens that were handed over is given²⁴:

No .	Name of The Tea-Garden	Previous Ownership	Current Ownership
1.	Kathalguri Tea-estate	S . P . Roy	Darjeeling Planetary Industries Limited
2.	Daina	Nawab (Jalpaiguri)	Sanjeev Singhanian
3.	Kalabari	S . P . Roy	Mr . R . S . Bachwat
4.	Laxmikant Tea-estate	Jalpeswar Roy	H . V . Kejriwal
5.	Raja Tea-Estate	B . C . Ghosh	R . Das & Agarwal
6.	Anandapur	Rahut Brothers	Mr . SartBajania
7.	Kamala Tea-estate	S . P . Roy	S . P . Agarwal
8.	Ramjhora	S . P . Roy	S . Dalhousie
9.	Gopalpur	B . C . Ghosh	S . P . Agarwal
10.	Bamandanga	B . C . Ghosh	S . P . Agarwal
11.	Sikarpur	PrassannadevRaikot	Kalyani Group
12.	Coronation Tea Co .	Umagati Roy	Kalyani Group

From the above statistics, it's seen that once tea-gardens were established by prominent Bengalis of the district. Later most of the tea-gardens were taken over by the Marwaris. Needless to Say, most of the gardens built by Bengal entrepreneurs have been sold today. It is form that many educational institutions were once built by Bengali entrepreneurs throughout the Dooars, which was only possible to for gardeners.

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