Socio-Economic Status of Youth in Aathpaharia Rai Community (A Case study of Dhankuta Municipality, Dhankuta)

A Dissertation Submitted to

Central Department of Population Studies

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

For the Partial Fulfillment of Degree of Master of Arts in

Population Studies

By Rajib Subedi

Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal
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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that Mr. Rajib Subedi has worked under my supervision

and guidance for the preparation of this dissertation entitled "Socio-Economic

Status of Youth in Aathpaharia Rai Community" for the partial fulfillment of

Master of Arts in Population Studies. To the best of my knowledge; the study is

original and carries careful information in the field of socio-economic status of

youth in Aathpaharia Rai Community.

Therefore, I recommended it for the evaluation to the dissertation

committee.

Dr. Ram Sharan Pathak

Central Department of Population Studies

December, 2008

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APPROVAL SHEET

This dissertation entitled "Socio-Economic Status of Youth in Aathpaharia Rai Community" by Mr. Rajib Subedi is accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Arts in Population Studies.

Approved by
Prof. Dr. Bal Kumar K.C. Head of the Department, CDPS
——————————————————————————————————————
(External Examiner)
Dr. Ram Sharan Pathak (Supervisor)

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Abstract

This study deals with the socio-economic status of youth in Aathpaharia Rai community in Dhankuta municipality of Dhankuta district. The main objective of the study is to assess the socio-economic condition and fertility behaviour and family planning practice of youth in the study area. The total selected households in the study area is 120 which is considered as sample size and total youth between ages (15-24) years from these household have been considered as targeted group. It is a descriptive type of study based on primary data.

Socio-economic characteristics directly affect the youth for sustaining their future. Increased youth education, occupation, income, health, sanitation, age at marriage, knowledge and use of family planning, participation, decision making, birth spacing improve the standard of their present and future life. Socio-economic conditions of youth also determine the level of fertility of them. There are two way relationships among socio-economic status of youth and level of fertility. In developed countries, youth live with high standard, attain high quality education and also engage in income generating activities whereas in developing countries like Nepal seem to be vice versa and even they have been facing various obstacles such as illiteracy, unemployment, unhealthy, early marriage, ignorance of family planning services and hand to mouth problem. However Nepal does have high proportion of young people but the government has not made any clear and inclusive vision to maintaining and improving the status of youth.

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Abbreviation

A.D. : Anno Domini

ADRA : Adventist Development and Relief Association

AGETIP : Agency d' Execuition des Travaux d' Interest Public

AIDS : Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

B.S. : Bikram Sambat

CBS : Central Bureau of Statistics

CEB : Children Ever Born

CET : Continuing Education and Training

CIS : Commonwealth of Independent States

COJTC : Certified On-Job-Training Centre

CPR : Contraceptive Prevalence Rate

ESCAP : Economic and Social Commission of Asia and the Patific

F.M. : Frequency Modulation

F.P. : Family Planning

FGD : Focus Group Discussion

FPAN : Family Planning Association of Nepal

GDP : Gross Domestic Product

Gos : Governmental Organizations

HDHS : Nepal Demographic and Health Survey

HHs : Households

HIV : Human Immune Virus

I.A. : Intermediate of Arts

ICPD : International Conference on Population and

Development

ICTs : Information and Communication Technologies

IEC : Information Education and Communication

ILO : International Labour Organization

INGOs : International Non-Governmental Organizations

ITE : Institute of Technical Eduction

IUD : Intra Uterine Device

L.P.G. : Liquified Petroleum Gas

MCH : Maternal Child Health

MoES : Ministry of Education and Sport

MoH : Ministry of Health

MPRC : Multi-Purpose Resourse Centre

NFE : Non-Formal Education

NFP : Nepal Family Planning

NGOs : Non-Governmental Organizations

OECD : Organization for Economics Co-operation and

Development

PROAP : Principal Regional Office of Asia and the Patific

RCC : Rod Cement and Concrete

Rs. : Rupees

S.L.C. : School Leaving Certificate

SAARC : South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation

SRH : Sexual and Reproductive Health

STIS : Sexually Transmitted Infections

SWTS : School-to-Work Transition Survey

T.V. : Television

UN : United Nation

UNESCO : United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural

Organization

UNFPA : United Nations Fund for Population Activities

UYF : Umsobomvu Youth Fund

V.D.C. : Village Development Committee

WHO : World Health Organization

WPAY : World Programme of Action for Youth

YCL : Young Communist League

CHAPTER-I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Youth are the load bearers of the future and the partners of the present. They are the drivers of development and change. It is the duty of the state to create opportunities for the youth to develop as creative, skillful, industrious and responsible citizens. In the past, the policy, law and programs have failed to address with priority the youth and issue of their concern. Evidence from history shows the failure of state in mainstreaming youth, the drivers of change, in running of states and development programs can deprive the nation from taking advantage of their talents and energy simultaneously solving problems of violence, instability and abusive behavior. Considering these facts, it is necessary to invest the energy and capacity embodied in them in a constructive way for the development of the country by making the youth competent and responsible and by making those partners in policy formulation programme implementation and evaluation activities of the state.

Youth, as a distinct social group, are defined by the United Nations as persons between the age of 15 and 24 years. According to that definition, youth constitute approximately one fifth of the total population of the Economic and Social Commission of Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) region (UN 1997).

Youth is not a homogeneous group; the challenges and opportunities affecting their live are broadly similar but are characterized by important differences deriving from unique contextual circumstances. To avoid addressing issues in a manner suggesting greater global uniformity than actually prevails (UN, 2007).

Socio-economic condition of people determines the standard of living of people in developed as well as developing countries. In developing countries,

lower the socio-economic condition of people lower the standard of living, in opposite for developed countries higher the socio-economic condition of people higher the standard of living. Socio-economic condition of the people determines education standard, employment status, health status, level of income, knowledge about family planning, knowledge of HIV/AIDS, age at marriage and so on of the country. Youth population constitutes population momentum in the future that has serious implications for the provision of schooling, health services and other basic amenities of life for coming decades. Youth population especially girls are biased by their parents. Girls have been higher risk than boys for dropping out of school, sexual violence, and early marriage and deprived from job. Boys are freedom and opportunities may expand while girls are often beyond from opportunities in developing countries. During this period, differential period may become more pronounced with girls schooled to become wives and mothers and boys groomed to become providences.

In view of the demographic and socio-economic realities in the ESCAP region, African governments are increasingly putting in place national youth policies aimed at supporting the well being of young people. However, much remains to be done to advance a comprehensive approach to youth development. Intergenerational partnerships need to be strengthened and programmes undertaken that address the full range of priorities contained in the world Programme of Acton for Youth. In addition to benefiting from government policies, youth in Sub-Saharan Africa are also increasingly taking their development into their own hands; the recent African Youth Character is a testament of their effort. They are more and more involved in voluntary activities that promote both the development of their one potential and that of their communities. Shortage of decent jobs low wages a mismatch of skills and labour market needs and socio-economic exclusion constrain the transition from short-to work in Middle East and North African countries. Young women, in particular face numerous difficulties as the interesting influences of gender and age limit

the avenues for their economic participation. The report therefore examines progress and constrains in youth development in the countries of this region, with a focus on employment opportunities and related gender aspects. Unemployment in the Middle East and North Africa is primarily a young issue rather than a generalized population issue despite the fact that young people represent only about one third of the total working age population, they account for almost half of all unemployed people in the region. The current labour market situation has evolved over many decades and is a result of a combination of demographic, social, economic, political and cultural factors (UN, 2007).

Socio-economic status of youth recognized by the educational status these peoples. Education is a basic human right and helps are realizing his or her human potential. It forms the knowledge and competencies that allow one to thrive at home, in the work place and throughout one's lifetime. The right to education is one that all children and youth including those caught in natural and humanmade emergencies, must be able to access. Youth who dropout of school are more vulnerable to poverty, drug abuse, HIV/AIDS, hazardous labour and living in the street and are less likely to acquire the skills needed for the labour market. While education enhances opportunities, it also promotes critical and creative thinking problem solving skills, informed decision making, and self-esteem, teamwork, and language skills and is a precondition for community participation, food security, healthy lifestyles and peaceful societies. Though the current youth population is the most highly educated and trained group ever they are still viewed as risks both by employers and mainstream financial institutions and also experiences a difficult transition from school to work place. UNESCO estimates that some 120 million youth are presently engaged in tertiary studies worldwide. However, universal access to education is often threatened in poorer communities most rural areas where there are inadequate schools; 113 million children are not in school and over 130 million illiterate (UNESCO, 2006).

Socio-economic status of youth also recognized the employment status of the youth in developed as well as developing countries. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), levels of unemployment among young people are two to three times higher then among the adult population. Though youth represent one quarter of the working age population between at ages of 15-64, they made up half of the total 191.98 million people out of work worldwide in 2005. The bleakest pictures are in Sub-Saharan Africa, where the share of youth unemployment reaches as high as nearly 80 percent of total unemployment in same countries, and also in western Asia and North Africa.

Youth service programme play a key role in mitigating a sense of uncertainty among employers and allow youth provide for their basic needs while acquiring skills. To ensure that young people possess the appropriate skills, youth services programme also have a place as part of larger "pre-labour" market policies that can boost the mobility and human development of youth. Thought the meaning and application may different from country to country, the international Association for National youth Service defines national youth service as "an organized activity in which young people serve other and the environment in way that contribute positively to society." While not a solution to mass unemployment, programmes in various countries and regions serve to highlight, youth people as an important resource that can be effectively employed to meet social, political and economic objectives. Most youth services programme provide some female training to all participations and about half offers a mentoring component. Self sufficiency, increased productive capability and employability of participations after completion are and few economic signs of a successful service programme while studies of some programmes have documented positive psycho-social effects. But it is also important to look at the impact of the communities themselves and the organizations with which youth work; some programmes have attempted to foster unity and narrow ethic strife.

Youth service is one method of targeting vulnerable group whose unemployment contributes to high level of poverty (ILO, 2002).

Globalization underscores the nexus of youth employment opportunities and migration patterns. Today, in developed countries, there is an average of 142 young entrants (ages 20-24) to the labor force for every 100 persons about to retire, in 10 years, there will be a deficit of young workers with 78 young persons for every 100 who leave the labour force in the developing world, the situation is in stark contrast: developing countries today have 342 young persons for every 100 persons aged 60-64. Employment creation and the absorption of a larger number of young workers are global problems as the strong excess will continue to fuel a trend of migration (Report of the Secretary General on International Migration and Development, 2006).

According to a 2005 World Bank study entitled, "International Migration, Remittances and the Brain Drain" college educated workers from poorer countries are leaving in large numbers. Researchers found that a quarter to almost half of the college-educated nations of Ghana, Mozambique, Kenya, Uganda, Nicaragua and El-Salvador are living in OECD member counties. For Haiti and Jamaica, the number rises to more than 80 percent in contrast. Less than 5 percent of the skilled migrations of the larger countries of the developing world India, China, Indonesia, and Brazil – emigrated from their country or region.

According to the population census 2001, enumerated to total of 4,405,770 people aged 15-24 years in Nepal, among them 2,273,202 (51.6%) were female and 2,132,568 (48.4%) were male. When this population is disaggregated into two 5-years age groups namely 15-19 years age and 20-24 years of age their proportional share comes out to be 10.5 percent and 8.9 percent respectively (CBS. 2003).

Young people has been high fertility rate among those about 21 percent of late adolescent women aged 15-19 are already pregnant with their first child (MOH, New Era and ORC Macro 2002). The 2001 NDHS shows that the Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR) among late adolescents aged 15-19 reported to be at only 12 percent while it is 23.4 percent among 20-24 age group which is 6.7 percent and 15.8 percent respectively for those cohort in 1996.

On the other hand, 70 percent youth are literate among them 80.6 percent male and 60.1 percent are females (CBS 2002). According to the marital status of youth 41.49 percent are married among them 54.4 percent are females and 27.74 percent are male. Information on the risk of low age at marriage, HIV/AIDS and the importance of use of contraception to postpone first birth and birth interval is needed. It is also found that young people often seek information about reproductive health from their peers and media rather then from teachers, health professionals or parents. Moreover understanding and supportive parents are essential for them to develop their critical period of life.

According to Interim plan of Nepal 2007 to 2010 the population of youth between the ages of 15-29 is 6.131 millions in Nepal. This accounts for 26.5 percent of the total population in this, the proportion of male is 48.2 and women are 51.8 percent. Of the total youth population, 0.4 percent has physical or mental disability 83 percent of the youth live in rural area and 17 percent in urban area. Forty percent of the total urban populations of Nepal are the youth. The attraction of the youth to the cities is increasing. According to the census 2001 the literacy rate among the youth is 70.1 percent, the percentage of unemployment youth among the age group 15 to 29 is 11.4 percent. It is estimated that more than 29 percent of the population is 2011 A.D. will be youth.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Youth is a period of transition, growth, exploration and opportunities especially between the age group 15-24 years. At this period, youth typically poorly informed about how to protect different socio-economic problems such as lack of awareness, income, education, health, sanitation. Yong people especially girls as well as boys are disadvantaged/deprived by various socio-economic facilities.

When young people are deprived form the socio-economic facilities, they involved in harmful practices such as drug abuse, conflict, harmful sexual practices (such as female genital mutilation) and they are also infected with HIV/AIDS and other disease.

Young people in all countries are both a major human resource for development and key agents for social change, economic development and technological innovation. Their imagination, ideas, considerable energies and vision are essential for the continuing development of the solicits in which they live the problems that young people face as well as their vision and aspirations are an essential component of the challenges and prospects of today's societies and future generations. Thus, there is special need for new impetus to be given to the design and implementation of youth policies and programmes at all levels. The ways in which the challenges and potentials of young people are addressed by policy will influence current social and economic conditions and the well-being and livelihood of future generations.

The world programme of Action of Youth to the year 2000 and Beyond identities 10 priority areas, namely education, employment, hunger and poverty, health issues, environment, drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, leisure, girls and young women and youth participation. In its resolution the General Assembly agreed to add five emerging issues one of which is youth and armed conflict,

along with globalization, information and communication technologies (ICTs), HIV/AIDS and intergenerational relations.

Africa's youth, especially those with limited educational and economic opportunities, are more readily mobilized and manipulated for political purpose which may also involve participation in violence and conflict. Without effective remedial policy intervention, this destructive cycle as well as the allure of crime and violence intensifies may youth who represent Africa's future in social, political and economic terms become locked in an inescapable trap. The paradox is that Africa's present and future prospects depend mostly on its youth and the opportunities that are available to them to play positive role in countering the continents development challenge (Report on the Expert Group Meeting on Youth in Africa 2008).

According to the interim plan 2007 and 2010 the major problem of youth has been employment and underemployment. Foreign employment where the youth heavily participate is not properly managed and made safe. Likewise, proper management of remittance has not been done. The country has made investment in developing the youth specialist and experts in different fields However; it is being deprived of their services due to their escape to foreign counties. Due to the mismatch between the market demand for competent human resources and the education provided to the youth maximum number of youth has become unemployed

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of the study is to assess the socio-economic status of youth among Aathpaharia Rai Community in Dhankuta district. The main purposes of the study are:

a) To examine the social condition of youth in Aathpaharia Rai community of Dhankuta district.

- b) To analyze the economic condition of youth in Aathpaharia Rai community of Dhankuta district.
- c) To find out the fertility behavior and family planning practice and knowledge of youth in Aathpaharia Rai community of Dhankuta district.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study shows the socio-economic status of youth among Aathpaharia Rai community in Dhankuta Municipality of Dhankuta District. The significance of the study is listed as:

- a) The study emphasized the economic and social problems which has faced by the youth in Aathpaharia Rai and current situation
- b) The verification of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of youth may help researchers, administrators and policy makers in their areas.
- c) This study will be helpful to concerned bodies working in the field of youth to identify the social and economic status and to formulate and implement some welfare programs to improve their status.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

Every study has its own limitations. Due to the limitation of time and economic constraints, the study is limited in the following:

- ➤ The study covers the socio-economic status of youth among Aathpaharia Rai community of Dhankuta district. So, the generalization of this study may or may not be equally applicable to other parts of nation and community.
- The respondent of this study contain only those Aathpaharia Rai people at aged 15-24 years in Dhankuta Municipality.

- Total households of the Aathpaharia Rai has been taken by using random sample and from these total youth at aged 15-24 years are taken as main focus group in the study and it is assumed that the study provides the representative picture of socio-economic status of youth among Aathpaharia Rai community in Dhankuta district.
- Simple and rational statistical tools has been used to analyze the obtain data

1.6 Organization of the Study

This study is organized in seven major chapters. The first chapter deals with general background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, limitation of the study and organization of the study. The second chapter deals with the literature review, which include theoretical review, empirical review (youth in the world, youth in SAARC countries and youth in Nepal) and conceptual framework of the study. The third chapter describes the methodology; it includes general background of the study area, target population, source of data, research design, sample design, sample size, method of data collection, reliability and validity of the study and method of data analysis.

Similarly, the forth chapter deals with introduction to the household population. It includes Aathpaharia Rai population size in Dhankuta municipality, population composition by age and sex in study area, economically active population, education status, marital status, occupation status of the study population, income status, expenditure, size of land holding, types of house, source of drinking water, fuel use for cooking, use of toilet and other facilities. The fifth chapter deals with the socio economic characteristics of the youth. It includes demographic classification of youth, educational status of youth, training and youth, occupation status of youth, employment status of youth, income of

youth, expenditure sectors of youth, health service users of youth, participation and youth, youth and decision making. The sixth chapter deals with fertility behavior of the youth. It includes marital status of youth, age at first marriage of youth, birth situation of youth, age at first birth of youth, number of children of youth, knowledge about family planning of youth, use family planning methods and youth, reasons for not using family planning method and youth and ideal family size. And the last chapter deals with the summary, conclusions and recommendations of the study.

CHAPTER-II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Theoretical Review

In the context of socio-economic status of youth some considerations have been made and some scholars have been contributed to defined youth.

A chronological definition of who is young, as compared with who is a child or who is an adult, varies with each nation and culture, However, for statistical purpose, the United Nation defines those persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years of age as youth, without prejudice to other definitions by member states (UN, 1985).

Youth generally refers to the transition period from childhood to adulthood. Through variations exist in the circumstances, difficulties and culture of young people around the world, the physical, psychological, intellectual and emotional changes are universal. The United Nation and World Health Organization (WHO) and also UNFPA define youth as all people aged 15 to 24 years old, through each country may defines youth according to its unique situations. Youth and young people are used interchangeably (World Programme of Action for Youth, 2006).

Why is it important to recognize youth as a distinct group in society? What are the concepts that underline the term youth? According to a United Nations report on the global situation of youth in 1990 youth is perceived as, "a transitional stage from childhood dependencies and vulnerabilities to the rights and duties of adults. Adolescences (15 to 17 years age) is generally regarded as an interim period during which society ceases to regard the individual as a child but does not yet accord the individual the full legal status and roles of adulthood. While young adults (person aged 18 to 24 years) are accorded the age of majority, they often do not enjoy full adult status with access to family,

professional and political rights. Before young people have the opportunity to pass through this transitional stage, termed 'youth', they are often confronted with a variety of difficulties related to their health and social setting educational careers and development."

The primary message of this statement is that it is important to recognize youth as a unique group in society due to the many aspects of vulnerability they face while passing through a major stage of their lives. This view is particularly important when the subject of youth is examined from the gender perspective.

In addition to recognition of the vulnerability associated with the transitional nature of the identity of youth it is equally important to recognize youth as a positive force, as a human resource with enormous potential for contributing to development. One way of confirming the importance of youth as a key target group for long-term development is to consider some of the related demographic issues. First, it must be recognized that each country has its own definition of youth. The range varies considerably. In conducting a regional survey, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and he Pacific (ESCAP) found the some countries included people aged up to 35 years (e.g. Maldives an Singapore) or even 40 years (e.g. Malaysia) in their definition of youth. Other included new-born babies in the youth group (e.g. Thailand). Further, definition of youth has been changing continuously in response to fluctuating political, economic and socio-cultural circumstances. In fact, the lack of consistent definition of youth partly explains the scarcity of comparable statistic on youth. However, most countries appear to include persons aged between 15 and 24 years in the youth group, which coincides with the United Nations definition of youth, thus indicating recognition of the differences between the physical, mental and personal characteristics as well as social status of youth and other social groups (UN, 1997).

It is important to note that the variations in the definitions of youth are not merely a matter of arbitrary choice by Governments; such variations actually have policy implications as the following examples illustrate.

> The Malaysian Case

In its National youth policy, the age criteria are used to define youth those between the ages of 15 and 40 years. This choice according to the policy document is based on the following considerations:

- a) The definition is used by the country's primary youth body, the Malaysian Youth council;
- b) The group aged between 15 and 40 years in considered to have achieved a satisfactory maturity, and can realized maximum benefit from all planned programmes;
- c) The group comprises a large percentage of the population of Malaysia (42.3 percent of 7.6 million). Any effort to develop the group can have a large impact nationwide.

The Malaysian youth policy sees youth as potential leaders as well as participants in national planning at all levels hence the policy emphasizes qualities such as responsibility, maturity and leadership among youth. The age span between 15 and 40 years responds to those requirements. Also at ages between 30 and 40 years the majority of youth will have become financially and socially resource, and well-established in their careers. In fact, several have already, or will in the near future, become state minister of parliament or cabinet members. Thus they will be able to contribute to, or advocate for, the youth development process, both at the local and the national levels (UN, 1997).

> The Thai Case

Youth are defined in Thailand's National youth promotion and coordination Act of 1978 as, person's upto the age of 25 years. The Act stipulated the establishment of National Youth Bureau as the national-level coordinating body with the main functions of coordination, and policy and plan formulation in relation to children and youth from birth to the coming of age at 25 years in the traditional Thai context. Later, it was found that the stipulated age range created difficulty in programme implementation as the process required different strategies and mechanism for each age group according to child development concepts and principles. Two age groups were then identified:

- a) Children aged 0 to 14 years: and
- b) Youth aged 15 to 25 years. However no revision of the Act has been undertaken and legislative definition of youth still remains from 0 to 25 years (UN, 1997).

The positive view of youth as prescribed in the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resource Development is valuable, the special needs of some of the subgroups of youth, especially those of vulnerable groups, should be duly recognized. As stated in the Guidelines for further planning and suitable follow up in the field of youth endorsed by General Assembly resolution 40/15 in 1985, it is more significant to focus on young people as a board category comprising various subgroups rather than as a single demographic entity. The guidelines provide the needs of such subgroups as young people with disabilities, rural-urban youth, and young women. Among the various subgroups of youth two deserve special attention in the context of the ESCAP region; girls and young women and rural youth (ESCAP, 1995).

Youth people in all countries are both a major human resource for development and technological innovation, Their imagination, ideals considerable

energies and vision are essential for the continuing development of societies in which they live The problems that young people face as well as their vision and aspiration are an essential component of the challenges and prospects of today societies and further generations thus there is special need for new impetus to be given to the design and implementation of youth polices and programmes at all levels. The ways in which the challenges and potentials of youth people are addressed by policy will influence current social and economic conditions and the well-being and livelihood of future generations (UN, 1990).

Social Learning Theory explains human behavior in terms of the dynamic interaction between personal factors (knowledge, expectations and attitudes), behavioral factors (skills and self-efficacy) and environmental factors (social norms, access to information products and services and ability to influence other). Based on Albert Bandura's research, the social learning theory knows as the observational learning theory asserts that individuals learn not only through their own experiences but also by observing the actions of others and the consequences of those actions. The theory argues that, in order to motivate young people to change behavior youth programs must provide opportunities for young people to:

- Observe and imitate their peer practicing safe behavior (e.g. negotiating abstaining from sex),
- ➤ Practice new behaviors in order to increase skills and confidence required to maintain the behavior (e.g. putting condoms on a wooden model) and
- Receive positive reinforcement and encouragement to maintain the safe behavior (Bandura et. al., 2002).

The UNESCO Principal Regional Office of Asia and the Pacific (PROAP) in 1989 launched the joint innovation project on education for promoting the Enterprise competencies of children and youth. The purpose of the project is to examine how primary and secondary school levers can be adequately prepared in advance to enter the world of work equipped with the necessary enterprising qualities either for the job market or for managing their women micro business. The ultimate aim of the project is to contribute to the output of productive and useful young people who are creative, innovative, self-reliant and sensible risk takers (UNESCO, 1990).

Social recognition is an important element in the overall status and perception of Non-Formal Education (NFE). It is important that institutions and individuals at all levels in society being to change and adopt their perceptions of the value of NFE and of youth work. Society's attitude towards education needs to alter from one where formal education is valued over and above non-formal education to one where both forms of education and weighed equally for the different attributes they offer and for the varied skills and benefits they bring to young people. It is often the case that both formal and non-formal education complements each other, providing and abundance of skills and knowledge from every walk of live (Coyote, 2006).

In the Republic of Korea the Korea Manpower Agencies was established in 1982. In operates vocational training courses. National qualification testing of technical personal and other skill-upgrading research and development programmes. The focus of work of the agency has been training and employment promotion for youth since 1990, the agency has been promoting employment by matching graduates of training course and applications for the National Technical Qualifications Tests with the requirements of employers in 1995 launched the unemployment Insurance system in 1995 for integration into an expanded employment service network system. Between 1982 and 1995, a total of 4,028 master craftmen were trained through the agency; the success rate in job placement is almost over 90%. Nearly 3 million people have passed the National

Technical Qualification Tests at various levels, which serve as a motivational tool in encouraging students to upgrade their skills as well as providing formal recognition of technical proficiency (ESCAP, 1995).

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) of Singapore was established in 1992 as a post-secondary technical institution targeting school levels and working adult. ITE offers two innovative programmes (a) Integrated and comprehensive Continuing Education and Training (CET) offers working adult from 20 to 40 years of age opportunities to enroll in academic course from primary to pre-university level and specific skills training programmes. In order to accommodate working adults who may face disruptions due to other commitments, the courses are conducted in self contained modules of six-month duration (b) the Certified-On-Job Training Center system (COJTC), which reaches out to workers who need to remain relevant in their jobs. Under the COJTC system, Campains with the commitment and proper training infrastructure are authorized, to implement on-the-job training programmes to date, 2010 companies have been certified to undertake 2400 programmes. ITE works for 25 percent of the annual 10,000 school leavers while CET programmes provided another 60,000 education and trainings places annually to working adults (ESCAP, 1998).

The youth of today are tomorrow's parents. A population policy that does not seek to prepare children and especially youth for the responsibilities and implications of adulthood and parenthood is likely to be successful. UNEPA has therefore, sought to increase awareness among government official of the importance of formulating national policies concerning the reproductive health of youth and allocating resources accordingly. To this end, UNFPA distributed a programme Advisory Note on Youth to UNFPA staff government officials and National and International NGOs active in the area of youth recommending greater attention to meeting young people's reproductive health needs and service and to facilitate their participation in population and development

programmes. It future stressed the importance of developing comprehensive national strategies on youth, population and development. The fund has supported a variety of youth-related activities at the country level, for example, studies of attitudes and practices regarding youth sexuality, peer education and youth to youth counseling on adolescent reproductive health has meet with considerable success in several countries. For example, a youth to youth reproductive health and family planning information education and counseling activity in Sierra Leone became self-sustaining during 1992. UNFPA has also supported several intergenerational youth activities. Environmental preservation and sustainable development are closely liked to the security and health of youth (UNFPA, 2007).

"Investing the decent and productive work for young people is both a strategy for economic and social development and our quest for national and collective security. We have seen all too often, the tragedy of youthful lives misspent in crimes, drug abuse, civil conflict and even terrorism" (UN General Secretary, Kofi Annan, 2006).

"The prevailing policy advice on youth employment is not working. If it were, we would not have the level of unemployment of youth we see today. We cannot expect economic growth to bring jobs creation and enterprise creation at the very fore front of policy making" (Somavia et.al., 2006).

Youth participate in activities concerning the development of infrastructure, primary health education business, municipal food gardens, and care for high-risk children. Acknowledging that volunteering does not always change one's economic predicament, participants in the programme receive a stipend and participate in project that are designed to serve as a pathway to economic opportunity to quality partnering organizations not only have to focus on developing the skills of youth, but also an identifying employment or entrepreneurial activities which young people could sustain after the project.

Through a mention programme where youth may receive assistance drafting a new business plan the entrepreneurship part of Umsobomvu Youth Fund (UYF) makes financing available to young people through collaboration with mainstream financial institutions. As a funding agency Umbosomvu ensures that each product or business' plan complement specific development objective. Targeted at young people between the ages of 18 to 35 from previously disadvantaged communities the UYF is consistently trying to expand a comprehensive database covering skill building, entrepreneurship programs, potential employers, career guidance and health issued that will expand the quality and reach of service delivery. This South African initiative is set to expand with a newly adopted national youth service policy (Foley P. 2003).

Those who are now youth in Eastern Europe and the commonwealth of Independent states (CIS) were born in the last stage of the communities regimes. In the 1980s and 1990s the experienced great change in their immediate social environments, which included a mix difficulties and uncertainties, as well as new possibilities. In particular, the socio-economic transformation that has taken place in this region over the past two decades has given risk to insignificant change in labour market prospects for youth. Many youth in the region are experiencing vulnerability, poverty and social exclusion that have in many cases encouraged risky behavior, including substance abuse and unsafe sexual practices. This intern has helped fuel the spread of HIV/AIDS. Numbers of new infections have increased twenty-fold in less than a decade and 75 percent of reported infections were in people hunger than 30 years (LIoYd, Cynthia B. 2006).

In most of the Asian countries, there have been small-scale innovative activities in youth reproductive health programmes. Jaito Tarun Sangha (National Youth Organization) in Bangladesh, which is run by young volunteers, provides primary health care to about 1000 village and Urban communities. In India the National Committee of Youth Organizations, which is the coordinating body of

more than 60 national youth organizations operates four regional youth training centers which include adolescent fertility as a part of their training. In Indonesia the Youth wing of ruling party plays a very important role in mobilizing youth, particularly young married couples. In Sri-Lanka, the National Youth Service Council has been active in sex-education programmes of young people (WHO, 1995).

The 1.2 billion people between the age of 15 and 24 years in 2007 those the United Nations refers to as 'youth' or 'young' are the best educated youth generation in history. Constituting 18 percent of the world's population, today's youth are tremendous resource for national development. There is clear evidence of the determination of today's youth for self improvement and their commitment to improving the social, political and economic fabric of society through individual and group action. For example young people in all regions are actively exploiting the internet to improve their education, upgrade their skills and find jobs; youth are contributing to the global debate on major development and policy issues through participation in social action groups and other volunteer activities; and they are migrating in large numbers sometimes risking their own lives and losing connections to families and friends, to find better options outside their national borders (The World Youth Report., 2007).

The 1995 Fourth World conference on Women at Beijing declared the following regional youth objectives of Asia and the Pacific:

- a) Promotion of community-based sexual education basis on indigenous and migrant women;
- b) The outlawing of female genital mutilation, with the support of public awareness campaign;
- c) Ending prostitution and trafficking on women;
- d) The reduction of the harmful effects of structural adjustment policies;

- e) The implementation of measure to decrease excessive violence and the stereotyping of women in the mass media; and
- f) Ensuring equal educational opportunities for females at all ages (Beijing, 1995).

Multi Purpose Resourse Center (MPRC) is a new concept adopted by the vaestoliitto project probably first time in Nepal. The main purpose of establishing of MPRC is to deliver different types of Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) benefits to the young people especially the young women of the project areas in their active involvement. All the program activities under the MPRC are run by the self-motivated, competent and committed youth volunteers associated with youth forum. In this regard 5 MPRCs have been established in the strategic locations (Morang, Sunsari, Kapilvastu, Banke and Bardiya) currently, the project through the MPRCs launches different types of SRH services such as, family planning, MCH, STIs, Counseling, laboratory and nutrition. Similarly, the project also conduct difference kinds of health related and other forms of skill development training programs, The skills achieved by the young people would be utilized through conducting income generating activities, social marketing and SRH service programs (FPAN, 2008).

2.2 Empirical Review

2.2.1 Youth in the World

From 1990 to 1995 the world's estimated youth population growth by a scant 0.4 percent per year. About 60% of the world's youth live in the developing countries of Asia alone while 23 percent live in the developing regions of Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean. The annual growth rate of youth population in the 1990s continues to be highest in northern Africa. About 3 percent and is also relatively high more than two percent in Sub Saharan Africa, South Central Asia and Western Asia. The annual growth rate of youth population is only slightly positive in Latin America

and the Caribbean, South Eastern Asia and Oceania is slightly negative in the developed regions, and is lowest in eastern Asia, where the youth population is decreasing by about one percent per year Youth population distribution is given below in percentage.

A. All developed regions - 16.0%

Africa

B. Northern Africa - 3.1%

C. Sub-Saharan Africa - 10.5%

Latin America and Caribbean

D. All Latin America and Caribbean - 9.2%

Asia and Pacific

E. Eastern Asia - 23.0%

F. South-eastern Asia - 9.5%

G. South –central Asia - 25.4%

H. Western Asia - 3.2%

I. Oceania - 0.1%

Source: (United nations Statistics Division form the sex age distribution of the world Population; 1996)

An estimated 738 million youth between the age 15 and 24 lived in Asia in 2007, accounting for more than 18 percent of the region's population. The situation of Asian youth must be considered within the context of a substantial demographic shift that has both influenced and been affected by the social and economic transformation of the region (Hugo, 2005a). Changes in fertility and, to a lesser extent, mortality have had a profound impact on the age structure. During the second half of the twentieth century high fertility dominated the demographic picture in the region producing large cohorts of children that evolved into sizeable youth

cohorts over the years this trend peaked in 1985 when youth accounted for an all-time high of 22 percent of the total population of Asia.

Table No. 2.1

The youth population in Asia and the Sub Regions 1960-2050 estimates and proportion of the total population

Year	Asia	9	West /	Asia	South	Asia	East Sa	nia	South-Ce	
1960	294 380	18.5	11 486	18.4	40 110	19.2	131 486	17.8	111 298	19.2
1965	325 407	18.4	12 781	17.8	43 086	18.2	149 465	18.4	120 370	18.5
1970	398 680	19.9	16 064	19.5	51 462	19.1	187 093	20.2	144 061	19.8
1975	460 113	20.4	19 520	20.4	63 082	20.8	206 080	20.0	171 431	20.9
1980	514 153	20.8	23 009	20.9	73 414	21.7	224 854	20.5	192 875	20.9
1985	591 922	22.1	26 591	21.1	82 478	22.1	268 174	23.3	214 748	20.8
1990	643 035	21.8	29 947	21.0	90 570	22.2	285 267	22.9	237 250	20.5
1995	645 448	20.1	33 577	20.9	96 683	21.6	251 609	19.2	263 977	20.4
2000	663 246	19.3	37 784	21.1	102 216	21.2	226 397	16.8	296 850	20.9
Change 1960-2000	368 866	0.8	26 298	2.8	62 107	1.9	94 911	-1.1	185 552	1.8
2005	270 859	19.7	41 254	21.0	106 941	20.7	243 728	17.3	328 937	21.4
2010	749 572	19.2	43 944	20.4	108 953	19.7	243 697	16.4	352 933	21.3
2015	735 023	17.9	46 077	19.6	107 356	18.4	221 084	14.5	360 506	20.3
Change 2005-2015	14 164	-1.8	4 823	-1.4	416	-2.3	-22 644	-2.8	31 569	-1.1
2020	714 618	16.6	47 184	18.6	106 659	17.4	201 051	13.0	359 724	19.1
2025	709 765	15.8	48 958	17.9	107 631	16.7	188 238	11.8	364 939	18.3
2030	718 880	15.4	51 296	17.6	106 209	15.8	189 567	11.7	371 809	17.7
2035	719 875	14.9	52 612	17.0	103 152	14.9	191 729	11.7	372 382	17.0
2040	706 101	14.2	52 878	16.3	100 330	14.0	188 789	11.5	364 104	

Source: United Nations World Population Prospects: The 2006 Revision (New York, 2007a)

While most countries in the ESCAP region have achieved considerable success in raising literacy levels, some have made limited

headway in this regard, particularly in south Asia. Although the adult literacy rate in South Asia rose from 46.6 percent to 50.2 percent between 1990 and 1995, it is still significantly lower than either the average 83.6 percent for other developing countries in the region, or the average of 76.4 percent for all developing countries. The most urgent issue that requires attention regarding the literacy situation of the south Asian subregion is gender imbalance. In 1992, the literacy rate of adult women in south Asia was only 53 percent of the male population, which translates into literacy rates of only 37 percent for women aged between 15 and 24 years. In fact, gender imbalance in the levels of literacy is not limited to south Asia but is also found in some countries of Indochina and the Pacific, including Cambodia, the Lao people's democratic Republic, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. Given the important role of young women and particularly mothers as the prime educators of future generations, as the prime educators of future generations an improvement in the situation is urgently required (UNESCO, 1996).

In the context of economic activity situation of youth, in 1996, 540 million youth in developing regions are engaged in labour force activity, up from 442 in 1998 and 88 million in developed regions in 1995, down form 106 in 1980. The share of youth in the total labour force is continuing decrease as educational enrolments have increased, but young women are still a greater proportion of the female labour force than young men of the male labour force. In the major industrial activities, the youth labour force is declining in agriculture and industry n favour of services in developed regions. Nearly four fifth (79%) of the world's youth live in countries with low or very low per capita income (for 64% less than \$1,000 and for 15% between \$ 1000 and \$ 3000) per year and in many of these countries in Africa Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia with high proportion of youth in the populations the GDP per capita declined in the early 1990s.

Only 15 percent of youth live in counties with high or very high per capita GDP (over \$5000 per year). In 1995, more than two thirds of economically active youth were in Asia and pacific, about 15 percent were in Africa and less than 10 percent in Latin America and the Caribbean Only about 15 percent were in developed regions (UN, 1996).

Youth, less than 5 percent of men aged 15-19 are married in any region but at least 9 percent of women of the same age are married in all developing regions except eastern Asia. In age group 20-24 the majority of women but only about 10- 20 percent of men are married in south-central Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and western Asia (UN, 1996).

The fertility rate for youth women under age of 20 remains high in Sub-Saharan, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean. For women aged 20-24 the fertility rate is highest in Sub-Central and western Asia, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, and lowest in the developed regions and eastern Asia (UN, 1996).

In most of the developing regions contraceptive practice is lower than 25 percent for young married women under age 20 and lower than 40 percent for married women aged 20-24. Contraceptive use among young married women is lowest in sub-Saharan Africa (UN, 1996).

Mortality is the highest among youth in Sub-Saharan Africa In developed regions and western Asia, young male mortality is at least twice that of female, while in South-central Asia youth mortality is high for both young women and young men (UN, 1996).

In many countries in the development world, up to two-third of all new HIV infections may now be occurring among youth aged between 15 and 24 years.

In 1994, in south and South-East Asia, HIV infections were estimated at 2.5 million (a million more than in 1993) In part of Northern Thailand, for example, 20 percent of 21 years old military requires and 8 percent of women attending antenatal clinics have been diagnosed as infected, yet HIV was virtually unknown in the country in 1987. In India infection rates have tripled since 1992. In fact, the HIV infection rate in Asia went from 12 percent of the world total in 1993 to 16 percent in 1994 (WHO, 1995).

Agency d'Execuiton des Travaux d'Intrest Public (AGETIP) was lunched in 1989 by the government of Senegal with the support of the World Bank and the African Bank to provide short term employment to a growing number of unemployed youth. The central mandate of the programme was to Sub-Contract, coordinate and supervise the execution of construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of urban infrastructure and to facilitate the provision of essential services During the first fouryears phase AGETIP enabled the creation of labour about 80,000 jobs by subcontracting 416 components of public work projects to small-scale entrepreneurs. Largely addressing urban issues such as the deterioration of infrastructure, mounting social unrest and under-employment, AGETIP quickly expended to over 3,200 projects contributing to the creation of 350,000 short-term jobs annually and 6000 permanent positions. Similar programs have been launched in Burkina Faso Benin, Chad, Togo, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania and Niger with the support of their development partners (Sarr, M. 2000).

The global Youth labour forces of 633 million in 2005 some 353 million (55.7%) lived in Asia. Among the most important factors that will influence whether and how Asian economies continue to benefit form their sizeable youth population is how much of an opportunity youth have

to develop their potential through education decent employment opportunities and adequate health care (World Youth Report, 2007).

Although, open unemployment in Nepal is fairly low about 40 percent due to dependence of the vast majority nearly 80 percent of Nepalese subsistence agriculture for their livelihood, youth unemployment in urban areas relatively high about 6 percent. Youth unemployment in urban areas where most of the youth come to seek employment is extremely high 16 percent. At present about 300,000 Nepalese youth enter the labour market every year, providing decent job opportunities to these youth is one of the top priorities of the Nepalese government. To facilitate smoother school-to-work transitions there is a need for appropriate policies and supporting programs. For this proper understanding of school-to-work transition experience of Nepalese youth needed (SWTS, 2006).

2.2.2 Youth in SAARC Countries

In SAARC region Youth at age group 15 to 24 year represents about 20 percent of the total population (260 million youth of over 12 billion total populations). Most of the youth are literate even though may do not complete primary schools. More boys then girls attend primary and secondary schools. The mean age at marriage is rising, but by age 20 years girls have an average of 2 children. Youth are malnourished and short in height. Children born youth (15 -19 years age) mother have higher risk of dying prenatal care is very low, among youth (15-19 year age). Few births are delivered by trained birth attendants. Many adolescent and youth pregnancies are unplanned and with short birth interval. Current use of contraception among married women aged 15-19 years ranges in 7 SAARC countries from 1.4 percent to 32.9 perecent rates increase with age. 4 of 10 girls have reproductive track infections. In Nepal, 16% of HIV/AIDS cases

are youth girls. Premarital sex behavior is high among youth Many youth (15-19) year ages pregnancies are aborted in Nepal and India, especially in the second trimester when the health consequences can be more critical. Labour force participation rates among youth vary widely between countries (Chaudhary et. al., 1998).

In SAARC region, Youth related issue have been given priority Ministerial conference on youth in South Asia was held in Maldives in may 1994 to address the problems of youth and focused on the broad them of youth in development. Another SAARC youth conference would be held in India in 2006, to look at the youth related problems in South Asia. The year 1994 was designated as the "SAARC Year of Youth." In 1995, the SAARC youth Resolution was adopted to advance the overall development of youth in the region. SAARC Youth award Scheme was instituted in 1996 to provide recognition to extraordinary young talents. Under the SAARC social character, the member state agreed to establish the Youth volunteers' programme, under which volunteers form one country, would be able to work in other countries in the social fields (SAARC Document, 2007).

2.2.3 Youth in Nepal

In Nepal, youth population are constituted about one fifth (19.4%) of the total population, among them female (20.1%) are higher than male (18.8%). It is interesting to note that youth population are more in densely populated districts and which big cities such as, Kathmandu (24.95%), Bhakatapur (24.09%), Lalitpur (23.35%), Kaski (22.02%) and Jhapa (21.94%) similarly, Dhanusa (16.79%), Humla (16.75%), Siraha (16.78%), Mahotary (16.39%) and Rauthat (16.79%) have the lowest number of youth populated districts. In Nepal, about 23 percent of youth are living in urban areas compared to 19 percent of their rural counterparts (CBS, 2003).

According to literacy status of youth, 70 percent of youth are literate among them 80.6 percent are male and 60.1 percent are female. Youth 50 percent have completed their primary education and 14 percent of youth have completed primary education and S.L.C. respectively (CBS. 2003).

According to the census 2001, about 57 percent of youth are single among them, 70.34 percent are male and 44.85 percent are female. Likewise, about 45 percent youth are married among them, 54 percent are female and 28 percent are male. It clearly shows that the married youth percentage of female is higher then males in Nepal.

From the point of view of labour force, the unemployment rate for youth about 11.4 percent while the underemployment is about 49 percent (CBS, 2003).

Nepal Demographic and Health Survey 2001 collected information about median age at first marriage and first sexual intercourse among ever married men and women. In the survey report age group 15-19 was not shows separately because less than 50 percent married or have had sexual intercourse by age 15. Therefore the information of age 20-24 shows that the men (18.7%) age group 20-24 marries about 2 years later than women (16.8%) of those age groups. However women experience first sexual intercourse one year earlier than men (17.8%) in this group. The median age at first intercourse among women age 20-24 is 16.9 that is identical to age at first marriage of these groups suggesting that women first sexual intercourse occurs within the context of marriage.

Age-specific fertility rate per 1000 women at age group 15-19 is 98 and age group 20-24 year is 234 per 1000 women (NDHS, 2006).

The 2001 Nepal Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) collected information on ever use of contraception for women at age group 15-19 year using any method 10.1 percent and any modern method is 9.1 percent respectively. Age group 20-24 years using any method is 47.1 percent and any modern method is 44 percent.

In Nepal, after ICPD the attention has been given to youth population in many policies and programs. In an effort to assess the status of policies and programs initiative, we consulted some concerned ministries and some NGOs.

The Ministry of Population and Environment is the responsible governmental organization for population management of the country and is supposed to leadership role in overall population issue some function of ministry are to formulate the policies and programs. After that, the ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture was established in 1995. In 2000, government had decided to reduce the number of ministries and this ministry was dissolve and the responsibilities of looking after the activities of youth have been given to the Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES). This ministry was responsible to developing specific policies and provided leadership policies for youth. Similarly the ministry of youth and sport has established in 2008 which in responsible for youth population to make suitable policies and program. The ministry also responsible to address the youth Issues in future making constitution by the Constitutional Assembly (CBS, 2003).

The National Planning Commission is responsible agency for formulating and coordinating the policies and programs of the ministries. The main objectives of the Tenth Plan, the current development planning of the government, are to reduce the level of the poverty. The issues of adolescent and youth are addressed in different sections in the tenth plan

as tools to achieve the objectives of the plan. National Planning Commission plays an effective role an ensuring linkage and coordination between and among the various ministries regarding the issues of the youth population (CBS, 2003).

Our interim plan (2007-2010) had addressed the youth related policies and programs, these are adopted by the National Planning Commission, these policies and programs are as follows:

Policies:

- The Participation of the youth will be increased in development and construction work.
- ➤ Necessary mechanism, like youth consulting service, resource center etc. will be developed.
- National action plan for youth employment will be prepared and implemented.
- Participation of youth in the policy and programs of the state having direct concern to the youth will be ensured.
- Opportunities will be provided to the youth for employment, selfemployment and social works by developing their social and economic entrepreneurship.
- ➤ Entrepreneurship and self employment will be encourage, by giving stress on practical technical and labour market relevant education and training based on the competence and educational level of the youth.

- Agro-based industrial, traditional occupation, local resources and means as well as innovation and new information technology will be encouraged.
- ➤ Emphasis will be given to social and personality development of youth by providing education useful for life and civil education.
- Preventive and curative programs will be run in order to reduce drug abuse and HIV/AIDS infection among the youth by giving emphasis to youth friendly health services.
- ➤ For the overall personality development for the youth, they will be motivated to participate in different personality development works including sport.
- Rural, deprived, at risk, disabled and conflict-affected youth of all geographical regions will be given special priority on education, health, training and employment opportunities.
- Participation of youth will be ensured in central and local level youth agencies and in formulation, implementation and evaluation of policies and programs.
- ➤ The policy of affirmative action will be adopted for balanced development of Dalits, Women, Aadibasi-Janajati and Madhesi youth.
- Youth organization will be given priority for the implementation of youth programs.
- Youth participation will be increased in state restructuring, reconstruction, sustainable peace building and development.

Programs

- To Formulate and implement National youth policy.
- "Youth partnership in Development Grant Program" will be implemented to support youth with new and innovative ideas and programs.
- ➤ To develop national mechanism for involvement of youth in policy making.
- To formulate and implement national action plan for the employment of the youth.
- ➤ To involve the youth as volunteer in development works of different districts.
- To encourage the formation and operation of forums like National Youth Conference and Youth Parliament.
- To run Leadership development program.
- > To run youth entrepreneurship and skill development programs.
- > To establishment of national Youth Fund and lunching of programs related with youth.
- To run business incubation and youth credit and seed capital program.
- Formation and operation of Youth information and resource centre.
- > To run capacity enhancement program of the organizations of the youth.
- > To run livelihood support program of youth affected by the conflict.
- To undertake national youth study and prepare youth report.
- To conduct youth audit program.

- To enact and implement national Youth council Act.
- To carryout vocational and self-employment program for those failing SLC examination and school dropouts.
- ➤ To run programs to control drug abuse prevent HIV/AIDS, and establishment and expansion of rehabilitation enters as well as drug program for infected people.
- Programs like participation in National Youth Day and International Youth forums and exchange programs of youth for sharing experience.
- To run youth empowerment program for those marginalized and deprived along with social good with promotion programs.

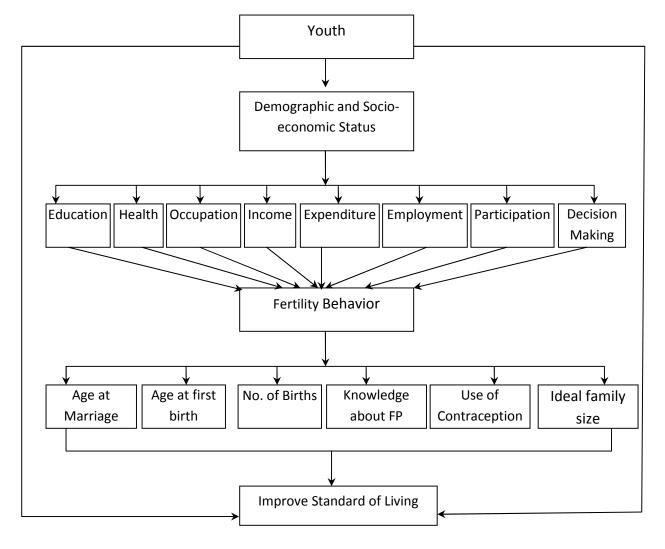
2.3 Reviews about Aathpaharia Rai

More or less writers and researchers of national and international level have studied and researched on Aathpaharia Rai community. Some people have studied on their languages and some others have published different articles and other has done through literature about those people. Kaji Man Kandangwa through this book "Aathpaharia Rai Ko Dictionary" presents their economic and social activities. Different articles have been published about Rai caste in different terminal volumes Journal (Nipsung, three months journal), by Kirat Rai Yayokkha. Shiva Kumar Shrestha has written and published many folk tales related to Aathpaharia Rai people. Tanka Prasad Neupane in his study report "Aathpare Rai Ko Bhasik Adhyan" has mainly studied the day to day dialects of these people along with other facts of their social life. Similarly, Dilli Ram Dahal has presented his study report on these people through his report "An Ethnographic Study of Social Change among Aathpaharia Rai of Dhankuta." In his report he has attempted to excavate the causes behind their backwardness and poverty of these people by studying their social and economic affairs/activities. Similarly,

Elbert and Dr. Karen H. have presented their report through 'Inverse prefixes in Kiranti languages: Evidence from 'Aathpare' by studying their languages in 1991 (Rai, 2061).

2.4 Conceptual Framework

In this study, youth are considered as dependent variables whereas Demographic and Socio-economic status are considered as independent variables in which education, health, occupation, income, expenditure, employment are comprised. These two variables are affected by fertility behaviour, whereas fertility behaviour is also affected by Demographic and socio-economic status. This means that there are two way relationships. In turn, if the demographic and socio-economic status of youth is prosperous then their living condition will also improve.



CHAPTER-III

METHODOLOGY

3.1 General Background of the Study Area

The study area of this research is Dhankuta municipality of Dhankuta District. It is located at the central of Dhankuta district in eastern Hill of Nepal. Dhankuta Municipality is not only a Headquarter of Dhankuta district but also is the regional headquarter of the eastern development region of the country. The district is located in the Koshi zone of eastern Nepal Dhankuta municipality comprises of nine wards. Dhankuta is easily accessible by road Dhara in the south and lies on the way to Terhathum via Basantapur and Hile Bazar.

Dhankuta city is historically important since it was one of the power center of our nation during Rana regime and after democracy in 1951 A.D. Dhankuta city was given the status of a municipality in 2035 BS (1979 AD). It is also important for its easy access from other neighboring districts such as Sankhuwasabha, Terhathum, Bhojpur etc which heavily depend upon the markets of Dhankuta.

The total area of Dhankuta municipality is 48.73 square kilometer which 58 percent is under agricultural use and 20 percent under forest. Actual built up area occupies only 0.04 percent of the total land area of the municipality. The remaining land is currently under various other uses including busts, grassland, rock, outcrop, water, debase and Sand. The municipality population is 20,668 out of which 10,342 (50.1%) are female and 10,326 (49.9%) are males and total number of household is 4,789 and density of population per square kilometer is 428.71 persons (CBS, 2001).

Dhankuta municipality is situated on a hill top it boundary is Nibwa-Khola and Tankhuwa-Khola in the east, Hattidhunge-Khola also known as Patle-kohla in the west, Tamor River in the south and Hattikharka VDC in the north. The VDCs

surrounding the municipality are: Tankhuwa and Bhirgaun in the east, Belahara in the west. Hattikharka in the north and Budhimorang in the south.

3.1.1 Background of the Kirant Aathpaharia Rai Community

The strange point here is that a small self sufficient ethnic group which resides in Dhankuta district is known as Aathpaharia Rai. Aathpaharia Rais are inhabitant in Dhankuta municipality and also Belahara and Bhirgaun VDC.

It is believed that the Kirats came to Nepal from Assam and Nagaland of India. There is an interesting story about their entrance to Nepal which is as following: there were four sons of a mother. They were obliged to leave their motherland for different reasons. They all four brother left their motherland. While walking they arrived to the thick forest of Terai. They marched ahead by chopping down the woods. While they were journeying a head, the younger brother missed the way. He saw a banana tree growing again there in which his brothers had cut earlier and he thought that he would not meet his brothers and decided to reside in the same place. His offsprings are known as Dhimal today. In the process of marching ahead other three brothers came near the bank of Koshi River, after that they headed along the bank of Koshi River. In the process of their further journey, they also separated. One of them turned toward the bank of Tamor River, the next toward the bank of Arun River and the last toward the bank of Dudhkoshi River. The journey of the brother who walked toward the Tamor became Limbu, the second who walked to toward Arun River became Rai and third who walked to toward Dudhkoshi became Sunuwar (Rai, 2057).

If we observe the present residential area on the basis of this story, this saying seems to be believable. Since, Dhimal have been living in the eastern part of Nepal, Limbus near Tamor, Rai near Arun and Sunuwar near Dudhkoshi River. The story seems to be very convincing since the eastern part of Nepal has been taken as the ancestorial place of all three ethnic groups of kirat community. The

residential area of Sunuwars, western part of Dudhkoshi River is called as 'Ollo kirat'. Similarly, the residential area of Rais between two Rivers (Dudhkoshi and Arun) is called 'Majh Kirat' and the residential area of Limbus in the eastern part from Arun River is known as 'Pallo Kirat'. There were the separate kingdoms before unification of Nepal by Prithvi Narayan Shah. We come to know from different saying and studies that there were economically and socially very rich and politically powerful kingdoms before unification. These kingdoms were provided more political and economic freedom after the unification process of Nepal. Out of them the 'Kipat System' of land ownership existed for a long time. Moreover full ownership of kirat over land which was untransferable to other than kirat is known as 'Kipat System'. This system was eradicated after the practice of Land Reform Act in 2021 B.S. In this way, the state economically and socially marginalized them by capturing their rights and ownership over land in different time periods (Rai, 2057).

Although less in number and living in limited area, Aathpaharia Rais have different languages, culture and lifestyle which do not match to others. They have also the story of their origin as whole kirat community. According to the first viewers, the generations of security guard of the king of 'Kirat' kingdom for all "eight pahara" are called "Aathpare" after long time. According to the second viewers, the residential area of these people was especially hilly area which is called "Pahara" so they are called Aathparia. According to the third view, one caste is formed by merging eight different 'Mangole castes' so it is called Aathparia. There is not exact prove about these mentioned views but their present social structure and habits proof that the third (last) view is near to truth because at present time too there is a system that a priest can transpose other Rais and Limbus to Aathperia by bringing them inside their own kuria. In this way, there are lots of examples of being Aathpaharia from other castes. And still there is a system that the priest can clear up and make Aathpaharia if Aathpaharia people marry any other caste known as touchable in the society. To some extent

these activities prove that Aathparia is constructed by merging different castes. There are different other sub-casts, to which they call "Pachha". In this community 13 Pachhas are found which are Kimdang, Chhilinge, Charingme, Chhara, Hombarak, Managbuk, Khaabahduk, Patrai and so on (Dahal, 1985).

The main source of livelihood of these people is agriculture. They have not lot of fertile land in their access. Being native people of that area, all the land was in their access before. They were the landlords of that area. That is why they were known as 'Jamindar' and still known as 'Jimdar' which is a deadback of the same word. But, in time, other caste people shifted the ownership of the land in their own hand from Rais people. They lost land ownership after the dismissed 'Kipat' system. Some of them totally lost their land and worked in other land for their livelihood as share croppers (Kandangwa, 2050).

Though they are economically poor, they are socially very friendly. On the condition of Nepali culture losing its cultural identity because of great influence of western culture, the culture of these people is living even today. But there is great possibility of its declination if it is not conserved in time.

The total population of Aathpaharia Rai in Dhankuta district is 7742 and 1194 households. In Dhankuta municipality, the total household of Aathpaharia Rai community is 799 and the total population is 4,642 out of which 2,293 are male and 2,349 are female. In study area of municipality ward no. 8, the total households are 194 and the total population is 1,175 out of which 600 are female and 575 are males (Kirant Aathpaharia Community Dhankuta, 2061).

3.2 Target Population

This study is basically related to youth population at age group 15 to 24 years among Aathpaharia Rai community of Dhankuta Municipality in ward number 8.

3.3 Source of Data

The study in general, is based on primary data generated from the field survey whereas in this study the secondary data is obtained from Kirant Aathpaharia Society, profile and other published and unpublished sources. The primary data is obtained from selected households of Aathpaharia Rai community of Dhankuta Municipality ward no.8 and respondents are taken youth people at age group 15 to 24 years. People aged 15 to 24 years age in selected household is considered as universe of the study. Structure and semi-structure questionnaires were used for collecting information about socio-economic status of youth among Aathpaharia Rai Community using interview and FGD method.

3.4 Research Design

The design of this research study is basically non-experimental. It is based on field study methods in which the researcher has collected data himself. Data are collected belonging to the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of household and socio-economic characteristics of youths.

3.5 Sampling Design

The sample of the study is taken from 194 households of ward no. 8. Out of these total households, 120 households are selected using random sampling method within from probability sampling method which is 61.9 percent of the total households.

3.6 Sample Size

The sample size of this study is 120 households and total number of youths of these households is considered as targeted population in this study.

3.7 Method of Data Collection

First of all, questionnaire was arranged sequentially into two types, Household and Individual questionnaire.

- ➤ Household questionnaire: Information relating to family demographic aspect, family's occupation types of house, source of income etc. are included in this group and collected the household information from this questionnaire.
- Individual questionnaire: Individual questionnaire were asked only youth at age group 15-24 and collected information about socio-economic characteristics of youth using interview and FGD method.

3.8 Reliability and Validity of the Study

In order to increase the reliability and validity of this study, the questionnaires have been pretested and each and every selected household of Aathpaharia Rai in Dhankuta municipality has been visited. Household questionnaires were asked to those family members who were capable to answer the questions. And the issues related to the youths were asked the same youths have been discussed with different survey tools (i.e. FGD guideline key informant, interview etc.) which are clearly matched the objectives. After filling the questionnaire all the questionnaires have been fully edited, coded and produced the required data. Finally, the data relating to objectives have been analyzed making table with descriptive method.

3.9 Method of Data Analysis

The quality of any research depends upon the techniques used to analyze and present the data. The data has been collected in the fields according to its research objectives, design and crude data has been fully coded, checked and

edited. The collected raw date has been entered into SPSS program. Both simple and advanced statistical tools have been utilized as such:

- Tabulation and classification of data
- Percentage distribution
- Use of Pie chart, bar diagram and line chart.

CHAPTER-IV

INTRODUCTION TO HOUSEHOLD POPULATION

4.1 Aathpaharia Rai population Size in Dhankuta Municipality

According to "Kirat Aathpaharia society of Dhankuta, 2059" the total household of Aathpaharia Rai community of Dhankuta municipality is 795, and total population of the same community is 4642 out of which 2293 are male and 2349 are females.

Table No. 4.1

Composition of Aathpaharia Rai Population by Sex in Dhankuta Municipality

Ward No.	No of HHs	Male	Female	Total	Sex Ratio	Average family size
1	54	148	172	320	86.0	5.9
2	113	320	320	640	100.0	5.7
3	55	147	140	287	105.0	5.2
4	54	158	171	329	92.4	6.1
5	62	174	192	366	90.6	5.9
6		-	-	-	-	
7	118	321	323	644	99.4	5.5
8	194	575	600	1175	95.8	6.1
9	145	450	431	881	104.4	6.1
Total	795	2293	2349	4642	97.6	5.8

Source: Kirat Aathpaharia Society, Dhankuta 2059

The above table shows that the female population is more than male population. In the study area (i.e. ward no. 8) is main concentrated are of Aathpaharia Rai community. Aathpaharia of Dhankuta Municipality, ward no. 8 has the highest proportion of population (i.e. 575 of males and 600 of females)

than other wards and it also has greater number of households than other wards. Similarly, the highest sex ratio is found in ward number 3(105.0) and the lowest is found in ward number 1 (86.0) whereas the sex ratio of the municipality is 97.6. Furthermore the average family size is also an important factor to see the family size of the household and population of the study area. The family size of the municipality is found 4.8 whereas the highest family size is found in ward number 4, 8 and 9 (6.1) and the lowest is found in ward number 3 (5.2) respectively.

4.2 Population Composition by Age and Sex in Study Area

A significant feature of any population is the distribution of its members according to age and sex, which facilitate the planners and policy makers in formulating effective socio-economic development, plan of the population of different age groups. The number and percentage distribution of population by age and sex of study area is presented in table No.4.2.

Table No. 4.2

Population Composition by Age and Sex in the Study Area

		Sex of the I	Population		Ta	+al		
Age group	Ma	ıle	Fem	nale	То	lai	Sex Ratio	
g. c s p	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
0-4	16	4.6	20	5.3	36	4.9	80.0	
5-9	22	6.3	25	6.6	47	6.5	88.0	
10-14	36	10.3	37	9.8	73	10.1	97.3	
0-14	74	21.2	82	21.7	156	21.5	90.2	
15-19	42	12.0	48	12.8	90	12.4	87.5	
20-24	35	10.0	33	8.8	68	9.4	106.1	
25-29	32	9.1	30	7.9	62	8.5	106.7	
30-34	29	8.3	27	7.2	56	7.7	107.4	
35-39	26	7.4	25	6.6	51	7.0	104.0	
40-44	23	6.6	26	6.9	49	6.7	88.5	
45-49	20	5.7	24	6.4	44	6.1	83.3	
50-54	22	6.3	23	6.1	45	6.2	95.7	
55-59	18	5.1	19	5.1	37	5.1	94.7	
15-59	247	70.5	255	67.8	502	69.1	96.9	
60-64	10	2.9	13	3.5	23	3.2	77.0	
65-69	12	3.4	12	3.2	24	3.3	100.0	
70-74	3	0.9	7	1.9	10	1.4	42.9	
75 +	4	1.1	7	1.9	11	1.5	57.1	
60 +	29	8.3	39	10.5	68	9.4	74.4	
Total	350	100.0	376	100.0	726	100.0	93.1	

Table No. 4.2 shows that the highest proportion of population is found in 15-19 years age group (12.47%) followed by 10-14 year age group (10.1%).

However, the lower proportion of population is in age group 70 to 74 year (1.4%). The highest sex ratio is found in age group 30-34 year which is 107.4 and lowest sex ratio is found in age group 70-74 years age group which is 42.9 person per 100 women. The total sex ratio of the study population is 93.1 in the study area. Age and sex structure has been presented in the following pyramid.

75+ 70 - 74 65 - 69 Male Female 60 - 64 55 - 59 50 - 54 45 - 49 40 - 44 35 - 39 30 - 34 25 - 29 20 - 24 15 - 19 10 - 14 5 - 9 0 - 4 13

Figure No. 4.1

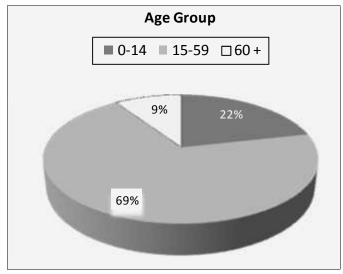
Population Pyramid of the Study Area

4.3 Economically Active Population

The economically active population is generally defined to "comprise all those persons who contribute to the supply of labour for the production of goods and services disregarding whether they actually were employed at the time of enumeration or not" (CBS; 1997: 149). From the economic point of view study population are divided in the following figure.

Figure No. 4.2

Economically Active and inactive of the study population



From the economic point of view, figure No.4.2 shows the percentage of population in age group 0-14 and 60 + is found 30.9 percent approximately (31%) which is dependent population. The population of age group 15-59 year is economically active population which is found in 69.1 percent of both sexes. Male population is higher (70.6%) than females (67.8%) among economically active population.

4.4 Education Status

Education is the major or basic requirement for socio-economic development. Education plays a vital role in the socio-economic status of community. Education is used in analysis relating to change in any status of people. Therefore, it is important to know the educational status of people of the study area. The question about educational attainment was asked to the person aged 6 years and above.

Table No. 4.3

Distribution of study population by Educational Status

Litoroov	Male		Fen	nale	Total	
Literacy	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Illiterate	52	15.8	132	37.6	184	27.0
Literate	278	84.2	219	62.4	497	73
Total	330	100.0	351	100.0	681	100.0
Level of Educat	tion					
Non formal education	49	17.6	69	31.5	118	23.7
Primary	123	44.2	87	39.7	210	42.3
Lower Secondary	81	29.1	56	25.6	137	27.6
Secondary	18	6.5	5	2.3	23	4.6
Higher	7	2.5	2	0.9	9	1.8
Total	278	100.0	219	100.0	497	100.0

Table no. 4.4 depicts that the majority of population is literate (73.0%) and other are illiterate (27.0%). The proportion of literacy is higher among males than females. The percentage of population in primary level is higher than other levels but there exists high difference between male and female (44.2% for male and 39.7% for female). Similarly, the higher level education has very low participation, only 1.8 percent of the total populations are found in which male population is higher (2.5%) than female (0.9%). Thus, from this data, we come to conclude that the literacy status of this area does not seem to be satisfactory in education.

4.5 Marital Status

Marriage is the primary event in the process of family formation. The marital status of the population of the community is as follows:

Table No. 4.4

Distribution of Population by Marital Status

Marital Status	Male		Female		Total	
iviaritai Status	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Never-married	122	39.1	109	32.9	231	35.9
Married	176	56.4	198	59.9	374	58.2
Widow/widower	11	3.5	17	5.1	28	4.4
Divorced/Separated	3	1.0	7	2.1	10	1.6
Total	123	100.0	331	100.0	643	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Above table shows that the marital status of the concerned population, in which more people is married (58.2% for both sexes). Female marital status (59.9%) is higher than males (56.4%). Male unmarried status (39.1%) is higher than females (32.9%). It shows that more females are married than males. The table also shows that the widow (5.1%) is more than widower (3.5%) in the study area.

4.6. Occupation status of the Study Population

Occupation is the major factor to determine the economic status of people. Nepal is an agricultural country where the agriculture is considered as the main source of GDP. Most of the Aathpaharia Rai people in this Municipality are engaged in agriculture and labours and other occupation such as service, Business, foreign employment. The following table shows the distribution of Aathpaharia Rai according to their main occupation:

Table No.4.5

Distribution of study population according to their main occupation

Types of	Male		Fem	iale	Total	
occupation	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Agriculture	199	63.8	196	59.2	395	61.4
Business	2	0.6	1	0.3	3	0.5
Foreign employment	30	9.6	2	0.6	32	5.1
Service	11	3.5	2	0.6	13	2.0
Student	38	12.2	35	10.6	73	11.3
Wage labour	24	7.7	18	5.4	42	6.5
HH worker	-	-	71	21.5	71	11.0
Other*	8	2.6	6	1.8	14	2.2
Total	312	100.0	331	100.0	643	100.0

Other* includes small cottage industry like poultry farm

Table no. 4.5 clarifies that 61.4 percent of the total population is engaged in agriculture and it also accepts that agriculture is the main source of income in Aathpaharia Rai, whereas 38.6%, are engaged in non-agricultural sector. However, most of the people are involved in foreign employment and some are engaged in Bureaucracies in government level office.

4.7 Income Status

Income level has significant role in determining life style of people, high level of life style and vice versa. The income status of people of the concern area is given below:

Income Status ■ Percentage 35.8 23.8 20.8 10 5.8 Less than 10,000 -20,000 -30,000 -50,000 -More than 10,000 20,000 30,000 50,000 100,000 100,000

Figure No. 4.3

Figure no. 4.3 shows that 35.8 percent HHs are reported the range of income between Rs. 20,000-30,000, 23.8 percent reported the range between Rs. 30,000-50,000, 20.8 percent are reported having Rs. 10,000–20,000, and 5.8 percent are reported having less than 10,000 respectively. It shows that most of the people have low income.

4.8 Expenditure

Expenditure is another variable to identify the socio-economic status of the people. A range of expenditure of HHs in study area is given in the following table.

Table No. 4.6

Ranges of annual Expenditure of HHs in Study Area

Annual Income (in Rs.)	No. of HHs	Percentage
Less than 10,000	3	2.5
10,000 – 20,000	9	7.5
20,000 – 30,000	28	23.3
30,000 - 50,000	46	38.3
50,000 – 100,000	22	18.4
More than 100,000	12	10.0
Total	120	100.0

Table no. 4.6 shows that 38.3 percent HHs are reported in the range of annual expenditure between Rs. 30,000-50,000, 23.3 percent are reported Rs. 20,000-30,000, 18.4 percent are reported Rs. 50,000-100,000. It shows that expenditure level is higher than income level in study area.

4.9 Size of Land Holding

It is already stated that agriculture is the main occupation of the Aathpaharia Rai in the study area. So, majority of households have their own land. Only a few households have not got their own land. The distribution of HHs by size of land holding area has been presented in the following table.

Table No. 4. 7

Distribution of HHs by size of land holding

Size of land	No. of HHs	Percentage	Total land in Ropani	Average land by HHs
Land Less	3	2.5	-	-
Marginal Upto 5 Ropani	13	10.8	56	4.3
6-10 Ropani	32	26.7	160	8.1
11-15 Ropani	42	35.7	510	12.1
16-20 Rapani	16	13.3	270	16.9
Above 20 Rapani	14	11.7	340	24.3
Total	120	100.0	1936	16.1

Table no 4.7 shows that, out of 120 households, 3 households do not have their own land. They have been living and working in others land as Adhiya, 13 households have upto 5 Ropani, and 32 households have 6-10 Ropani which is 26.7 percent whose average landhold by households is 12.1 Ropani. Only 14 households have 20 which come to be 12 percent of the whole. It shows that the size of landholding in the study area is poor. The size of landholding also creates the socio-economic status of the people.

4.10 Types of House

Types of house also show the socio-economic status of the people. Being Hilly area of Dhankuta Municipality, of Aathpaharia Rais have different types of house which is shown as follows:

Table No. 4.8 Distribution of HHs by its type in Study Area

Types of House	No. of HHs	Percentage
Pakki (RCC)	2	1.7
Medium (Mud & Stone)	82	68.3
Kachchi (Bamboo & Wood)	32	26.7
Other *	4	3.3
Total	120	100.0

Other* includes that the house are made by straw.

The above table shows that only 1.8 percent house holds are pakki (RCC) which are made by cement, 68.3 percent houses are medium which are made of mud and stone, 26.7 percent are kachchi which are made by Bamboo and wood respectively.

4.11 Source of Drinking Water

Source of drinking water shows the health situation of people. Although Nepal is the second largest country of the world in water resources, the people do not easy access to fresh drinking water. If people have easy approach to pure drinking water, it also brings betterment in their social status.

Source of Drinking Water Pipe water Spout water ■ Stream Others*

Figure No 4.4

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Others* Include fetching other small stream, fetching by vehicle from far place, jar water and river water.

Overall, 52 percent households in study area are served by piped water. The second common source of drinking water is spout water 40 percent followed by other sources 6 percent and 2 percent have used stream water to drink. It shows the pipe water is the main source of drinking water in the study area.

4.12 Fuel Use for Cooking

Fuel use for cooking shows the level of socio-economic status of the people. In Nepal, wood is the major source of cooking fuel. Nearly two third of the total households depend on firewood for cooking purpose followed by kerosene which serves 13.7 percent household (CBS, 2003). Fuel for cooking in study area is presented in the following table.

Table No. 4.9

Distribution of Household by Fuel use for Cooking is Study Area

Types of Fuel	No. of HHs	Percentage
Wood	102	85.0
Bio-gas	15	12.5
Kerosene	2	1.7
L.P. Gas	1	0.8
Total	120	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Above table shows firewood (wood) is the major source of cooking fuel (85.05%) in study area. The second common source of cooking fuel is Bio-Gas (12.5%) followed by kerosene 1.7%. It clearly explains that the fuel source of the study area is traditional.

4.13 Use of Toilet

Toilet facility shows the social sanitation of the people. Uses of modern toilet make the people healthy and develop their social personalities.

The census data shows that overall 46.8 percent households in Nepal have toilet (CBS, 2003). Its shows that more than fifty percent of the total populations has not used toilet facilities.

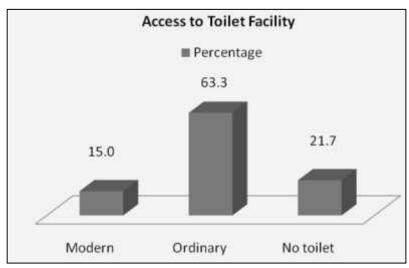


Figure No. 4.5

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Figure no 4.5 shows that the majority of population in study areas have ordinary toilet (63.3%) which is made of bamboo and bush followed by modern toilet (15.0%) which has modern flush system toilet. In the study area, 21.7 percent have not used toilet facility. It shows that the toilet facility of the study area is not satisfactory.

4.14 Other Facilities

Other facilities show the socio-economic status of the people in the study area. Distribution of HHs population who has used other facilities is as follows:

Table No. 4.10

Distribution of HHs by other extra Facilities

Facilities	User No. of HHs	Percentage
Electricity	106	88.03
Telephone	26	21.7
Radio/FM	62	51.7
Television	44	36.7
Vehicle	1	0.8

Above table shows that the majority of the people have used Electricity (88.03%), telephone has been facility for 21.7 percent, radio/FM facility has been a sensible for 51.7 percent. Nearly 38 percent of the entire population has their access for television. Only 0.8 percent people are capable of using vehicle for transportation.

CHAPTER-V

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTH

This chapter deals with the socio-economic characteristics of youth among Aathpaharia Rai Community in the study area. In this study, total number of youth in the study area is 158. Based on the criteria of youth we can analyze the socio-economic characteristics of youth in the study area. Before analyzing the socio-economic characteristics of youth, demographic classifications are studied first.

5.1 Demographic Classification of Youth

The total Aathpaharia Rai Youth people are 158 in the study area. Most of them are engaged in poor economic sector and are far from their formal education (above S.L.C.). The table demonstrates the classification of youth in 5-year age group by sex.

Table No. 5.1

Distribution of youth in 5 year Age Group by Sex

Age		No. of	Total			
group	Ma	ale	Fen	nale		
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
15-19	42	54.5	48	59.2	90	57.0
20-24	25	45.5	33	40.8	68	43.0
Total	77	100.0	81	100.0	158	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Above table shows that male youth are 77 (48.7%) whereas female youth are 81 (51.3%). The highest number of youth male and female in age group 15-19 than in age group 20-24 (43.0%).

Table No. 5.2

Distribution of Youth in Single Year Age Group

Age		No. of		То	tal	
	M	ale	Fen	nale		
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
15	9	11.7	11	13.6	20	12.7
16	12	15.6	11	13.6	23	14.6
17	7	9.1	9	11.1	16	10.1
18	8	10.4	8	9.9	16	10.1
19	6	7.8	7	8.6	13	8.2
20	8	10.4	9	11.1	17	10.8
21	6	7.8	5	6.2	11	7.0
22	10	12.9	8	9.9	18	11.4
23	4	5.2	7	8.6	11	7.0
24	7	9.1	6	7.4	13	8.2
Total	77	100.0	81	100.0	158	100.0

Above table shows that the highest percent (15.6%) of male are concentrated in age 16 where as for female the highest percent (13.6%) is in age 15 and 16. For both male and female the highest percent of youth is in age 16 (14.6%) followed by age 15. Similarly the lowest percent of youth for male is at age 23 (5.2%), female at age 21(6.2%) and for both 23 and 21, in which both ages (8.2%) youth are found. It shows that more people are of school age and other are of college ages.

5.2 Educational Status of Youth

Education is one of the major socio-economic factor that influence a person's behavior and attitudes. In general, the higher level of education a

women has the more knowledgeable she is about the use of health facilities, family planning methods and the health of her children.

The education is considered as the main means to uplift the majority of population to new share of economy. Educated are found to be involved in more income earning jobs than uneducated. According to CBS 2003, in Nepal the literacy rate is 53.74 percent which was 39.6 percent in 1991.

The education attainment by Aathpaharia Rai Community in the study area is presented in the following table:

Table No. 5.3

Educational status of Youth in the study area

Level of Education	No. of Youth					Total	
	N	⁄lale	Fer	male			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	
Illiterate	5	6.5	8	9.9	13	8.2	
Non Formal Education	2	2.6	7	8.6	9	5.7	
Primary Education	23	29.9	33	40.7	56	35.5	
Lower Secondary Education	31	40.3	29	35.8	60	37.9	
Secondary (S.L.C.)	11	14.3	3	3.7	14	8.9	
I.A. (+2)	4	5.1	1	1.3	5	3.2	
Bachelors +	1	1.3	-	-	1	0.6	
Total	77	100.0	81	100.0	15 8	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Above table shows that the majority of youth are literate but only few of them have passed the S.L.C. level education. More female youth (9.9%) are illiterate than male youth (6.5%). The highest percent of male youth (40.3%) participation is in lower secondary level whereas the highest percent of female

youth (40.7%) is in primary level. More male youth have (14.3%) who passed the S.L.C. than female youth (3.7%). Only one female has completed the (+2) level education. No female has passed the bachelor level education. It shows that the educational status of the study area is very poor.

5.3 Training and Youth

Training is one of the most important factors for the development of future human life. If the youth are trained their future life will be secured bright. Kinds of training taken by Aathpaharia people are presented from the following table:

Table No. 5.4

Training of Youth in the Study Area

Types of Trainings		No. of Y	Total			
	ı	Male	Female			
	No.	Percent	No.	No. Percent		Percent
Computer	4	5.2	3	3.7	7	4.4
Sewing and cutting			8	9.9	8	5.1
Health related	1	1.3	2	2.5	3	1.9
Food Processing	3	3.9	-	-	3	1.3
No Training	69	89.6	68	83.9	137	86.7
Total	77	100.0	81	100.0	158	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table no. 5.4 shows that training youth of their community lakes the adequate training for better livelihood. Out of 158, 137 youth haven't achieved any types of training. About 4 percent youth have achieved computer training, out of them 4 are boys and 3 are girls. Some ladies youth have achieved sewing and cutting training, few of the ladies and gents' youth have achieved health related training. Trainings turn people's future toward betterment.

5.4 Occupation status of Youth

Nepal is an agricultural country where agriculture is considered as the main source of GDP. Occupation of youth shows the standard of living in their life. In Aathpaharia Rai community, their main occupation is agriculture. The occupation shows the socio-economic standard of people. Occupation status of youth among Aathpaharia Rai Community in the study area is presented in the following table:

Table No. 5.5

Occupation Status of Youth in the Study Area

Types of Occupation		No. of		Total		
	Male		F	emale		
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Agriculture	23	29.8	26	32.1	49	31.0
Service	2	2.6	1	1.2	3	1.9
Foreign- employment	18	23.4	1	1.2	19	12.0
Business	3	3.9	2	2.4	5	3.2
Student	24	31.2	21	26.1	45	28.5
HH worker	-	-	27	33.3	27	17.1
Wage labour	7	9.1	3	3.7	10	6.3
Total	77	100.0	81	100.0	158	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Above table illustrates that the youth in the study area are involved in agriculture by 31.0 percent. It shows that the majority of youth are involved in agriculture. Few percent of youth are involved in services (1.9%), business (1.3%). Some are students which is 28.5 percent. Some female youth are engaged in their own houses 33.3 percent of the total female youth. It shows that the occupation status of youth among Aathpaharia Rai community in the study area is poor,

because few of the youth people are engaged in services, business and educational sector.

5.5 Employment Status of Youth

Youth unemployment deprives young people of the opportunity to secure independent housing or the accommodations necessary for the establishment of families and participation in social life. Advances in technology and communications, coupled with involved productivity, have imposed new challenges as well as new opportunities for employment among them young people have been severely affected by these developments.

According to estimates of the International Labour Organization, more than one hundred million new jobs would have to be created within the next twenty years in order to provide suitable employment for the growing number of young people in the economically active population of developing countries. The situation of girls and young women, as well as of young people with disabilities, refugee youth, displaced persons, street children, indigenous youth, migrate youth, and minorities warrants urgent attention bearing in mind the prohibition of forced labour and child labour.

Nepal is agro-based income country where unemployment has been remaining as a serious and challenging problem. There are mainly two types of unemployed people in Nepal as educated and uneducated unemployed. The first type of unemployment is much serious in nature than the second one. But the educated poor are very rare and so; most of the unemployed people are uneducated. In Nepal educated and uneducated youth unemployment has been becoming serious day by day. Most of the villagers' youth are going overseas looking for job to make their easier future life. Employment status of youth in the study area is presented in the following table:

Table No 5.6
Employment Status of Youth in the Study Area

Youth		Fully ployed	Semi employed		Unemployed		Total	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Male	22	28.6	32	41.6	23	29.8	77	100.0
Female	14	17.3	28	34.6	39	48.1	81	100.0
Total	36	22.8	60	38.0	62	39.2	158	100.0

Table no. 5.6 shows that the majority of male youth are semi-employed whereas the majority of female youth are unemployed in the study area. It shows that the male employment rate is higher than female. More female are working in their own house, but it is not counted in the employment level. The study utilized the fully-employed, semi-employed and unemployed formulated for CBS (2001). Accordingly fully employed people are those who work for whole year more than 9 months in a year. Similarly, those people who work less than 9 months but more than 3 months are assumed as the semi-employed and the people who work less than 3 months are known as unemployed.

5.6 Income of Youth

Nepal is an agricultural country. So, most of the people are engaged in agriculture by considering main source of income. The main source of income of youth's populations is agricultural, followed by foreign-employment for male in the study area. The other sources of income for youth are business, services, wage labour, and by their parents are the secondary sources. Following table shows the level of income of youth in the study area.

Table No. 5.7

Annual Income Level of Youth in the Study Area

Income		No. of Y	Total			
(In Rs.)	Male		Fe	male		
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Less than 500	7	9.1	12	14.8	19	12.0
500-1000	10	12.9	18	22.2	28	17.7
1000-10,000	13	16.9	30	37.0	43	27.2
10,000-20,000	16	20.8	16	19.8	32	20.3
20,000-50,000	8	10.4	2	2.5	10	6.3
50,000-100,000	3	3.9	1	1.2	4	2.5
100,000 above	20	25.9	2	2.5	22	13.9
Total	77	100.0	81	100.0	158	100.0

Table no. 5.7 shows the level of income of youth in the study area. It shows that the male are earning higher level of income than female.

Here, 25.9 percent male youth are reported to have more than Rs. 100,000 income from services, foreign employment, modern agricultural sector and business. Whereas 37.0 percent female youth have earned income at ranges Rs. 1000-10,000, from traditional agriculture and wage labour. About 12 percent youth both male and female have earned less than 500 by the traditional agriculture, part-time wage labour job and so on. It shows that the majority of youth have earned less in the study area.

5.7 Expenditure of Youth

Expenditure shows the socio-economic variables of youth. Youth expenditure is significant factor for studying economic variable. Youth have spent more than income because high number of youth is jobless. Youth expenditure is presented in the following table:

Table No. 5.8

Annual Expenditure of Youth in the Study Area

Expenditure		No. o	f Youth		Total		
(In Rs.)	Male		Fe	male			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	
Less than 500	5	6.5	6	7.4	11	6.9	
500-1000	8	10.4	15	18.5	23	14.6	
1000-10,000	16	20.8	28	34.6	44	27.8	
10,000-20,000	22	28.6	11	13.6	33	20.9	
20,000-50,000	9	11.7	12	14.8	21	13.3	
50,000-100,000	10	12.9	7	8.6	17	10.8	
100,000 above	7	9.1	2	2.5	9	5.7	
Total	77	100.0	81	100.0	158	100.0	

The table shows that majority of youth have spent at range of Rs. 1,000-10,000 (27.8%). Majority of male youth have higher expenditure range that Rs. 10,000-20,000 (28.6%) than female youth (34.6%) ranges Rs. 1,000-10,000. Few female youth have been reported to have spent above 1 lakhs which is only 2 in number 2.5 percent of the total female because of less income and poverty. Youth have spent in their different sectors which are; education, food, cloths, religious, festivals, and some other entertaining programme. It shows that less income proves the less expenditure. Economic situation of youth in the study area is poor.

5.8 Expenditure Sectors of Youth

Youth have spent money in their different sectors such as education, health, food, clothes; religious festivals. The main expenditure of youth in different sectors is presented in the following table:

Table No. 5.9

Main Sectors of Expenditure of Youth in the Study Area

Sectors of		No. o		Total		
Expenditure	Male		Fen	nale		
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Food	31	40.3	38	46.9	69	43.7
Cloths	2	2.6	3	3.7	5	3.2
Education	23	29.9	20	24.7	43	27.2
Religious Festivals	10	12.9	12	14.8	22	13.9
Agriculture	6	7.8	5	6.2	11	6.9
Others*	5 6.5		3	3.7	8	5.1
Total	77	100.0	81	100.0	158	100.0

Others* Includes business, entertainment, make up materials and so on.

Table no. 5.9 shows that majority of youth have spent on food (43.7%). And few of the youth have spent on clothes which are 3.2 percent. About 27 percent of youth spent their money on education. According to above table expenditure sector of youth is poor because of their high spend on food.

5.9 Health Service Users and Youth

There is a notion 'Health is wealth'. Healthy people can gain many benefits than unhealthy people. The basic criteria for determining health is money or wealth but in the study area due to poverty many youth have not cared themselves from diseases.

Health problems of young people include the lack of safe and sanitary living environments, malnutrition, risk of infections, parasitic and water borne diseases. The consumption of tobacco and unwarranted risk taking and destructive activity resulting in injury. In many countries, there is a lack of

information and services available to help youth understand their sexuality and prevent the spread of HIV. Although, early pregnancy has declined in many countries, its danger and potential complications are still of great concerns.

In the study area, young people have been using health facilities such as hospital, health post, private clinics and others. Wealthy people have used expensive private clinics in Dhankuta, Dharan, Biratnagar and other places where as poor people have been using government hospital and others conservative methods of treatment such as Dhami-Jhankri and Bijuwa. Hospital facilities users in the study area are presented in the following figure:

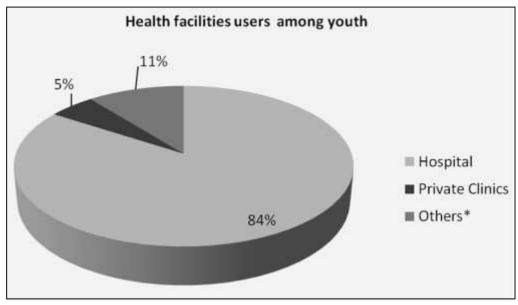


Figure No. 5.1

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Others* Includes Dhami-Jhankri, Bijuwa, Pujari

Figure no 5.1 shows that the majority of youth in the study area are facilitated by the Hospital (84%) where as less people are facilitated by private clinics (5%). It also shows that no people have used health post because of its unavailability. About 11 percent Youth are going to Dhami-Jhankri, Bijuwa, Pujari for treatment when they are injured.

5.10 Participation and Youth

The past decade saw a growing recognition of the importance of youth participation in different sectors. Greater involvement of youth at home, school and in communal affairs not only benefits their socio-economic environment but also builds their own capacity and contributes to their personal growth. The voices and participation of youth are vital to the implementation of the (World Programme of Action for Youth WPAY) as whole.

The participation of youth in NGOs, in all related government departments and levels as well as in United Nations' agencies can contribute to the success of the policy. The participation of these actors facilitates the creation of a policy that best fits the needs and capacities of youth as a distinct population group, and helps to foster support and understanding of the policy objective, which are necessary for the implementation.

Youth' participation in social structure, strengthen their networks. They are ensured to access to information so that they can participate meaningfully within social structures and also need to strengthen a political and policy engagement culture among youth. The youth dialogue session participations into two youth working groups to start preparing the draft recommendations of the meeting. The working groups focused on social integration, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration securing access to basic services for youth in post-conflict situations, employment creation and economic opportunities for youth in post-conflict situations.

Youth participation in different sectors in the study area is presented in the following figure:

Participation of Youth in different Sectors 35 30 25 ■Male **Number of Youth** 20 □ Female 15 10 5 Decision **Political** Societal Others* No Economic Peer-group participation **Participation Sectors**

Figure No. 5.2

Others* includes participation in culture and other cultural organizations religions participation and so on.

Above figure shows that, the majority of youth were to participate in 'peer-group participation (in number male are 28 and female are 32).' Whereas less youth were to participate in 'economic participation' (in number male are 4 and female are 3) followed by political participation and societal participation. Some youth are participate in their cultural and religious affairs which are in number male are 5 and female are 9 of the total youth in the study area. Here 10 male and 13 female youth have not participated in any sectors.

5.11 Youth and Decision Making

Decision making is another factor for analyzing the socio-economic status of youth. The capacity of progress of our societies is based, among other elements, on their capacity to incorporate the contribution and responsibility of youth in the building and designing of the future. In addition, decision making

contributes to their intellectual ability to mobilize support, and to bring unique perspectives that need to be taken into account. Decision making helps and enables the economic, social and political participation of youth as a matter of critical importance. Improving access to information in order to enable young people make better use of their opportunities to participate in decision making.

Decision making helps to develop or strengthen opportunities for young people to learn their rights and responsibilities, promoting their social, political, developmental and environmental participation, removing obstacles that affect their full contribution to society and respect their freedom of association. Decision making encourage to increase national, regional and international cooperation and exchange between youth organizations and helps to inviting governments to strengthen the involvement of young people in international forums by considering the inclusion of youth representatives in their national delegations. Youth in decision making are presented in the study area in the following table:

Table No. 5.10

Reported No. of respondents who have mainly participated in decision making in different sectors

Field of Decision		No. of		Total		
	М	ale	Fe	male		
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
No involve in decision making	15	19.5	18	22.2	33	20.9
Decision in HHs work	22	28.6	17	20.9	39	24.7
Decision in community/society	10	12.9	19	23.5	29	18.4
Decision in Economic sector	4	5.2	3	3.7	7	4.4
Decision in religious festival	7	9.1	4	1.9	11	6.9
Decision in marriage	13	16.9	12	14.8	25	15.8
Others*	6	7.8	8	9.9	14	8.9
Total	77	100.0	81	100.0	158	100.0

Others* includes decision in political, in education, health, and other agencies.

Table no. 5.10 shows that the majority of youth were mainly involved in different field of decision making (89.1%) which are decision in HH work (24.7%) and decision in marriage (15.8%). It also shows that about 21 percent youth were not involved in any kind of decision making. Male were more involved than female youth in decision making among Aathpaharia Rai community of the study area.

CHAPTER-VI

FERTILITY BEHAVIOUR OF YOUTH

This chapter deals with the fertility behavior of youth. Fertility is another variable about studying socio-economic characteristics of youth. It also deals about knowledge and use of family planning in the study area.

Fertility is one of the most important demographic indicators for determining the status of youth women and for health and family planning policy makers because of its direct relevance to population policy and programs.

Three demographic processes that determine the structure, distribution and growth of any population are: fertility, mortality and net migration. Among these factors, fertility is one of the main factors in determining the age structure of a population. Compared to other demographic processes, the study of fertility is complex because it is affected by most of factors including biological as well as behavioural.

In addition to the social and economic consequences, early fertility often jeopardizes the life and health of both the mother and the child. Teen-age mothers are more likely to delivery than women in their twenties, and they are more likely to dies as consequences of their pregnancy. The infants born to them are more likely to be of low birth weight and are more likely to die as infants or in early child hood.

Now, discussing about fertility behavior and knowledge and use of family planning methods of youth in the study area we can discussed from the following topics:

6.1 Marital Status of Youth

Marital status is the personal status of each individual in relation to the marriage laws or customs of the country. The categories of marital status

recommended by the United Nations for statistical Purpose in (a) single (Never marred) (b) married (currently married), (c) Married but separated, (d) widowed and not remarried, and (e) divorced and not remarried. Persons cohabiting may be considered as married or as living in de-facto (consensual) unions and therefore considered married according to the laws and customs of each country but such couples are imprecisely defined and often undercounted.

Marital status of Youth in the study area is presented in the following table:

Table No. 6.1

Marital Status of Youth in the Study Area

Marital Status		No. of	Total			
	Male		Female			
	No. Percent		No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Currently Married	29	37.7	47	58.0	76	48.1
Never Married	48	62.3	34	42.0	82	51.9
Total	77	100.0	81	100.0	158	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table no. 6.1 indicates that the marital status of youth among Aathpaharia Rai community in the study area. The table shows that unmarried youth (51.9%) are more than married (48.1%) youth. In sex wise female marriage rate are higher than male (58% Vs 37.7%). In marriage system, gender bias is exists even today in this community, so marriage directly affect the fertility behavior of youth in the community.

6.2 Age at first Marriage of Youth

Age at first marriage is another variable to knowing the socio-economic status of youth. It also affects the fertility. Higher the age at marriage higher level of fertility and vice-versa.

In Nepal, with parental consent, legal minimum age at marriage for both girls and boys has been set at 18 years. If the boys and girls want to marry on their own then the minimum legal age at marriage for both girls and boys is 20 years. In many ethnic groups, this was hardly followed in the beginning and the mean age at marriage was quite low. In some societies, girls are still married at younger ages indicating that the above mentioned legal provision is yet to be practiced to a full extent.

The increase in the proportion of men and women remaining single for different age group indicates that the mean age at marriage for men and women is increasing over the years.

The 1991-2001 decade has shown a remarkable change in the age at marriage. This increase is due to increasing urbanization and education among men and women. Though, it shows that urbanization and education are the key variables associated with higher age at marriage among Nepalese men and women.

The increase in age at marriage has a negative impact on fertility for two basic reasons. First, women who marry later have a shorter reproductive life span and second the factors that affect the age at marriage also affect the desired family size norms thereby reducing fertility.

Age at marriage of youth in the study area is presented from the following figure:

Age at first marriage of Youth 30 25 24.1 23.4 20.6 Percentage 20 19.2 17.2 15 Male Female 10.6 10.3 10 5 3.5 0 23 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 24 15 Age

Figure No. 6.1

Above figure shows that the majority of female youths were married before age 20, whereas the majority of male youths were married after age 20 in the study area. Higher proportion of male youth were married at age 21 (24.1%) followed by age 20 (20.6%). In case of female youth, higher proportions of female youth were married at age 17 year (23.4%) followed by age 18 year (19.2%). Similarly fewer youth were married at age 24 year (2.6%). It shows that female early marriage is higher than male in the study area.

6.3 Fertility Behaviour

In this topic we discuss about following other sub topics.

6.3.1 Birth Situation of Youth

Birth situation of youth are studied from the currently married women at age 15-24 years. Birth situation (No. of CEB) is another variable to studying socioeconomic status of youth. In Nepal, more than four-fifths of women age 15-19 (87%) have never give birth. However this proportion declines to 8 percent for women age 25-29 and to less than 4 percent women age 30 and above indicating

that childbearing among Nepalese women is nearly universal on average. Nepalese women nearing the end of their reproductive years have attained a parity of 5.3 children. The currently married women for youth; the mean number of children living with the mother at age 15-19 is 0.14 persons and at age group 20-24 is 1.14 persons per women (NDHS, 2006).

Birth situation of youth in the study area is presented in the following table:

Table No 6.2

Distribution of Youth Married Women According to their Birth in the Study Area

Category of Youth [Birth history] People	Number of Married Youth	Percentage
Have given birth	28	59.9
Have not given birth	19	40.1
Total	47	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Above table shows that the majority of female married youth have given birth which in 59.9 percent in the study area. About 40 percent of female youth have not given birth. It shows that in the study area, youth have given birth immediately after her marriage.

6.3.2 Age at First Birth of Youth

The onset of childbearing at an early age has a major effect on the health of both mother and child. It also lengthens the reproductive period thereby increasing the level of fertility. In Nepal, the median age at first birth is 19.6 years for a younger cohort of women a median age can be computed and varies between 19.9 and 20.1 years among the older cohort (NDHS, 2006).

Age at first births of youth also knows the socio-economics variable of youth. By education by health, by economic opportunities might have been

postponed first births. Therefore socio-economic variables affect the age at first birth and there is positive relationship between socio-economic status of youth and age at first birth. Age at first birth is presented in the following figure:

Age at first birth of Youth Women 25 ■ Percentage 21.5 20 17.9 14.3 Percentage 15 10.7 10 7.1 7.1 7.1 7.1 3.6 5 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 Age

Figuer No. 6.2

Source: Field survey, 2008

Above figure shows that the majority of youth have given first birth before age 20 which is in 21.5 percent of youth were give their first birth at age 18 followed by age 19 year is 17.9 percent. In opposite only 3.6 percent youth women has beard child at age 15 and 24.

6.3.3 Number of Children of Youth

The number of children of youth is another study area of fertility behaviour also socio-economic status of youth. In Nepal, more number of children is beard by the younger women. If couples have beard more child then they were categorized as poor, unhealthy and uneducated family. The following table presents the number of children by youth women.

Distribution of Respondents by Number of Births

13%

40%

No child

One child

Two child

Three child

Four child

Figure No.6.3

Above figure shows that the majority of youth have given one child (27.7%) followed by two children (17.0%). Where as less youth have (2.1%) given four or above children. About 40 percent of married youth women were have not given any child.

6.4 Knowledge about Family Planning of Youth

Knowledge of family planning methods is an important precursor to use. The ability to spontaneously name or recognize a family planning method when it is described is a simple test of a respondent's knowledge but not necessarily an indication of the extent of knowledge. Information on knowledge of contraception was collected by first asking respondent to name ways or methods by which a couple could delay or avoid pregnancy. If the respondent failed to mention a particular method spontaneously, the interviewer described the method and asked whether the respondent recognized it. The information about

knowledge of contraceptive methods shows the people's awareness about suitable family.

People are learn about family planning from different medias such as; Radio, News-paper, reading book.

Table No. 6.3

Distribution of youth by knowledge about F.P. in the study area

Knowledge of	No. of Youth						Total		
Family Planning	Male			Female					
	No.	Percent		No.		Percent	No.	Percent	
Yes	75		97.4	78		96.3	153		96.8
No	2		2.6	3		3.7	5		3.2
Total	77		100.0	81		100.0	185		100.0
Source of knowledge									
Radio		30	40.0	3	32	41.0)	62	18.9
Television		13	17.3	1	L6	20.5	5	29	18.9
News paper		7	9.3		4	5.1	1	11	7.2
Friends/Relatives		11	14.7	1	L2	15.4	1	23	15.1
Self Known		2	2.7		1	1.3	3	3	1.9
Health worker		5	6.7	1	l1	14.3	L	16	10.5
School curriculum		7	9.3		2	2.0	5	9	5.9
Total		75	100.0	7	78	100.0) 1	53	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table 5.3 shows that 96.8 present youth have reported the responses about knowledge of family planning and about 2 percent have reported 'no response about knowledge of family planning. In the table, male (97.4%) are more knowledgeable than female (96.3%) in the study area.

Similarly, radio is the common source of knowledge. About 41 percent respondents were achieved knowledge by radio, for gaining followed by television (18.9%), and friends/relatives (15.1%). Few youth people were gain knowledge from self-known (1.9%), followed by newspaper and health worker and other books.

6.5 Use of Family Planning Methods and Youth

Nepal's Family Planning Programme started with the organization of Family Planning Association of Nepal in 1959. Since 1968 Government of Nepal has been actively involved in providing family planning service with the establishment of Nepal Family Planning and Maternal Child Health (NFP and MCH project) projects. Initially family planning programme was integrated with Maternal Child Health services. Since the nineties, as all the health service were brought together, family planning has become an integral part of the country's health services.

Currently, besides the governmental programmes, different NGOs and INGOs are also providing family planning services as well as information education and communication services related to the family planning. Some of these institutions are (a) Nepal Family Planning Association (b) Care Nepal (c) Plan International (d) Nepal Red-cross Society (e) ADRA and (f) Mary- Stoppes etc.

In Nepal, Family Planning Services are provided using a cafeteria approach; which means different methods of contraception are made available to most of the health institutions and a client is to choose the method that suits his or her objectives. It is expected that this approach will not only increase the prevalence of contraceptive use but also reduce the fertility (Nepal Population Report, 2007).

Use of Family Planning helps to reduce the fertility. It directly affects the fertility and it is also counted the socio-economic situation of a society/

community. The uses of F.P. of the study area are presented in the following table.

Table No. 6.4

Distribution of Respondent by current use of contraception in the study area

Use of		No. of ma	Total					
Contraception	N	⁄/ale	Fe	male				
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Yes	9	31.1	26	55.3	35	46.1		
No	20	68.9	21	44.7	41	53.9		
Total	29	100.0	47	100.0	76	100.0		
Use of specific Methods by Youth								
Pills	-	-	11	42.3	11	31.3		
Condom	8	88.9	-	-	8	22.9		
IUD	-	-	1	3.8	1	2.9		
Depo-Provera	-	-	8	30.8	8	22.9		
Norplant	-	1	6	23.1	6	17.1		
Natural Method	1	11.1	-	-	1	2.9		
Total	9	100.0	26	100.0	35	100.0		

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The table no 6.4 depicts that out of 76 married youth people (29 male and 47 female youth) 9 male and 26 female are using family planning methods. In which comprise 46 percent of the total married youth, whereas about 54 percent were not using any family planning methods. The table also shows that about 31 percent of youth were using pills followed by condom (22.9%) and Depo-Provera (22.9%). Similarly, about 3.3 percent youth were used IUD and Natural method. It shows that female family planning user's youth are more than male family planning user's youth in the study area. No youth have used any types of (Male and Female) sterilization. It means that temporary methods of family planning are more popular among youth than permanent method in the study area.

6.6 Reasons for not Using F.P. Method by Youth

In Nepal nearly two-thirds of women do not intend to use contraception in the future because of fertility-related reasons. About twelve percent of women do not intend to use with most of them citing religious opposition as a reason for nonuse. Eighteen percent of women cited method-related reasons for nonuse, the most important of these being few of side effects (10%). Nineteen percent of young women also not using contraception due to method-related reasons, primarily fear of side effects (13%), as a major reason for nonuse in the future. On the other hand, 72 percent of women age (30- 49) cited fertility reasons for nonuse (NDHS, 2006).

Overall, the NDHS, 2006 suggest that there is substantial scope for family planning programs to increase contraceptive use by providing advocacy and high quality services. Improved information and education activities will play an important role in dispelling fears and misconception about specific contraceptive methods and contraceptive use in general.

Reason for not using contraception in the study area is presented in the following table.

Table No. 6.5
Distribution of Respondents by not Using F.P. Methods in the Study Area

Reasons	No. of Youth				Total	
	Male		Fe	male		
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Pregnant	-	-	3	14.3	3	7.3
Fear of side-effects	-	-	4	19.0	4	9.8
Religious beliefs	1	5.0	2	9.5	3	7.3
Lack of access	4	20.0	1	4.8	5	12.2
Desire for child	13	65.0	8	38.1	21	51.2
Other*	2	10.0	3	14.3	5	12.2
Total	20	100.0	21	100.0	41	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Others* includes, by health problem, by husband opposed, don't' know, in convenient to use.

Table shows that, the majority of youth who were not using F.P. methods is desire for child (51.2%), followed by lack of access of F.P services 12.2 percent. More youth reported that they have recently married and they want child that is the reason for desire of child. In the study area, about 7 percent youth women were pregnant, pregnant women would not have used any contraception. In this community religious belief also exists, due to religious belief (7.3%), youth people were not used any F.P. methods. It shows that the main reason for youth not using contraception is desire for child in the study area.

6.7 Ideal Family Size

The ideal number of children of youth population provides an indication of future fertility trends in the country. Accordingly, this section presents the ideal number of children of these (15-24 year) age groups. The data for this information is taken from field visit of study area. In this section, collected information on ideal family size, respondents, who had no living children, were asked how many children they would like to have if they could choose the number of children to have. Those who had living like to have if they could go back to the time when they did not have any children and could choose exactly the number of children to have. The exact scenario of ideal family size desired by youth in the study area is presented by the following figure:

Ideal number of children desire by youth 60.0 50.6 46.8 Percentage of Youth 50.0 41.6 40.7 40.0 30.0 ■ Male 20.0 ■ Female 6.5 4.9 10.0 3.7 0.0 One child Two child Three child Four and more Ideal number of Children

Figure No 6.4

Above figure shows that the majority of youth both male and female have desired three children (male are 46.8 percent and female are 50.6 percent) followed by two children in which male are 41.6 percent and female are 40.7 percent as their ideal family size. 6.5 percent and male and 4.9 percent female youth want one child in their life. Some youth have desire four and more children in their life. It is indicating that in these communities youth male and female want to have strictly three children as their ideal number of family size.

CHAPTER-VII

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

7.1 Summary

The main objective of this study is to examine the social condition and, to analyze the economic condition of youth and to find out the fertility behavior and knowledge and use of family planning of youth among Aathpaharia Rai Community in Dhankuta municipality of Dhankuta District. In this study 120 household's have been taken as sample size from ward no. 8 using simple random sample and total youth people at age group 15-24 are considered as targeted group. The information relating to the objectives was collected through field visit (door to door visit) in each selected Aathpaharia Rais households.

- Among 120 households, there were 726 total populations out of them 48.2 percent were males and remaining 51.8 percent were females.
- Out of total population an overwhelming population was in age group 15-19 years i.e. 12.4 percent.
- ➤ Out of total population the economically active population is found 69.1 percent of both sexes.
- Out of total population illiteracy rate is lower (27.0%) than the literacy rate (73.0%) including primary, lower-secondary, secondary and higher.
- Out of total population 58.2 percent are married.
- ➤ Majority of population are engaged in agricultural occupation (61.4%) than other occupation, like service (2%), foreign employment (5.1%), and business (0.5%).

- ➤ Out of total household, 35.8 percent household's annual income was ranges in between Rs. 20,000-30,000 and then 23.8 percent households was ranges in between Rs. 30,000-50,000.
- > Out of total household's 38.3 percent household's annual expenditure is range between Rs. 30,000-50,000.
- ➤ Out of 120 household's, an overwhelming 35.7 percent household's land size is between 11-15 Ropani.
- > Out of 120 households majority of houses are categorized as medium (68.3%)
- ➤ Majority of households are used piped water (51.7%), majority of HHs are used fuel is wood (85.0%) for cocking, majority of HHs are used ordinary toilet and majority of HHs are used electricity (88.3%).
- Out of 726 populations, 158 (21.8%) people are youth at age group 15-24 years.
- Out of 158 total youth, 48.7 percent are male and 51.3 percent are female.
- Majority of youth are in age group 15-19 years (57.0%) and in age group 20-24 (43.0%).
- Majority of youth are literate (91.0%), but only 12.7 percent youth have crossed the S.L.C. examination.
- > Out of total youth, training status is very low (13.3%) as compared with have not any kind of training (86.7%).
- ➤ The main occupation of youth is agriculture (31.0%), then foreign employment (12.0%). On the other hand business (1.3%) and service (1.9%) are very low.

- The majority of male youth are semi-employed (41.6%) whereas the majority of female youth are unemployed (48.1%).
- ➤ In the study area income level of youth is relatively low, an overwhelming 27.2 percent youth annual income as range between Rs. 1,000-10,000 whereas an overwhelming annual expenditure of youth (27.8%) as the same range.
- Majority of youth have spent their income on food (43.7%) and then education (27.2%).
- ➤ Majority of youth were facilited by hospital (84.2%).
- In the study area, about 15 percent youth have not participated in any sector but overall about 85 percent youth have participated in different sectors such as, decision (17.1%), peer group (37.9%), social (9.5%) and so on. And youth also involve in any types of decision making about 79 percent they involve in household decision and community decision.
- ➤ In the study area, out of total youth 48.1 percent are married and 51.9 percent are not married.
- ➤ Majority of youth are married before 20 years of age (at age group 15-19 (56.5%) for both sexes). Out of them, 27.7 percent are male and 74.5 percent are female. It shows that more female are marred in their younger age than their male counterparts.
- ➤ Out of total married female (47 in number) 59.9 percent have given birth an overwhelming 21.5 percent have given their first birth at age 18. It also shows that majority of youth have one child (27.7%) in the study area.
- According to knowledge and use of Family planning, 96.8 percent respondents reported knowledge of F. P. whereas only 3.2 percent have reported no knowledge of F.P. in the same way an overwhelming 40.5

percent youth have achieved knowledge about F.P. by Radio and then television which is 18.9 percent. Similarly only 46.1 percent youth have used only family planning methods, out of them, 31.3 percent have used pills, 22.9 percent have used condom and 22.9 percent have used Depo-Provera. It shows that Pills is the more popular F.P. method as compared to other methods.

7.2 Conclusion

This study is limited to examine the socio-economic status of youth in Aathpaharia Rai Community in Dhankuta Municipality, Dhankuta. Youth socio-economic characteristics such as, education, occupation, income, expenditure, sanitation, health, age at marriage, fertility experience, knowledge and use of family planning methods have been carried out to improve the standard of living. Socio-economic variables are directly affecting the youth people for sustaining their future life. Due to lack of education and especial vocational training, youth people are compelled to depend on agricultural field as their main occupation. Lack of employment opportunities, flow of youth in Gulf countries is increasing day by day. In the study area still most of the female youth are married before twenty years of age, therefore males and female marital age is highly unequal. In this study following conclusions are drawn.

- The higher percentage of Aathpaharia Rai people are engaged in agriculture.
- The household in the study area is found to be medium which are made by mud and stone.
- Most of the household in the study area have small size of land for production which is not sufficient for fulfilling even their basic needs for 12 months.

- ➤ In the study area, female youth are higher than male youth. Majority of youth people in the study area are literate but few percent have passed the secondary level.
- Most of the youth people are not achieved any kind of training.
- Majority of youth's occupation is agricultural based occupation and some of them are going to foreign country for job.
- Majority of youth are unemployed, low income and low expenditure that were spent their income on food.
- Most of the youth were go to hospital for treatment if they were become sick.
- The study shows that the majority of youth were participate in different sector and also participate in decision making.
- > The system of early marriage is high in the study area.
- ➤ The trend of birth of child immediately after marriage have found in the study area.
- The user of family planning methods is lower than non-user but knowledge of F.P. is higher in the study area.

7.3 Recommendations

Although, some of the plan and policies have been formulated by government to improve the status of youth in Nepal. On the other hand, some political parties have established youth organization such as Nepal Communist Party (Maoistist) has organized Young Communist League (YCL) and Nepal communist party, United Marxist Leninist) has also organized "Youth Force". In the government level, Youth Ministry has established by the Nepal government in central level. In recent future, government will make youth policy and programme to eliminate the various problems. If government will made youth policy and programme then they would have lived in golden future. To eliminate youth unemployment youth policy and programme is necessary.

In order to really address the issues in a meaningful and focused way; more revolutionary policies and programmes may be needed. As per findings of the study the following recommendations are prescribed for improving status of youth people in the study area.

- The main source of income in the study area is agriculture. So, production from agriculture should be increased with the help of improved seeds; modern technology; facilities of irrigation; fertilizer and agricultural credit.
- ➤ Majority of households in the study area has large family size. So, family size should be managed with the help of population education and family planning.
- ➤ Government, NGOs and INGOs should conduct income generating programmes for improving condition of youth in standard of living.
- Formulate special programmes on education to eliminate the trends of dropouts students in primary lower-secondary as well as secondary level.

- ➤ Government, NGOs and INGOs should conduct awareness programmes (seminar) on health, sanitation, nutrition and other social sectors for youth in village level.
- ➤ Government should give loan in each productive field such as poultry farm, food crops production and other income generating programmes.
- > Guarantee the health, education and employment for youth by the government.
- ➤ It is necessary to co-ordinate GOs, NGOs and INGOs who are working in the field of employment, education, health and improving socio-economic condition of Youth.
- ➤ There is a high difference between males and females youth in relation to decision making process, so it is necessary to empowered youth women for better prospects.
- ➤ Increases the socio-economic participation of youth in all kind of development.
- > Eliminate the early marriage for girls.
- ➤ Guarantee the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) service and supply of family planning methods should be expanded for increasing prevalence of contraceptive use in Aathpaharia Rai Community.

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Annex- 1 Questionnaire

Tribhuvan University

Central Department of Population Studies

"Socio-economic status of 'Youth' "

(A study of Aathpaharia Rai Community in Dhunkuta Municipality, Dhankuta)

A. "HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE"

District:- Dhankuta Municipality:- Dhankuta; ward no:Tole/Village:- Household no:Name of Head of HH:- Mother tongue:Name of Respondent:- Religion :
Total number of HH members; Total □□ Male □□ Female □□

Household Record

S.N.	Name of family	family nembers Relationship start with head	(completed	Sex(04)		Education 05(6 ⁺ years)		Marital		Eligible
	start				Female			status(10 ⁺ years) (06)	Occupation (10 ⁺ years) (08)	
	from HH of HH.(02) head (01)	years) 03	Male		Literacy (05.1)	Level of education(0.52)				
1	(02)									
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										
12										
13										
14										
15										
16										
17										

Code:-						
Related to Q No.(02)	Related to Q No.(04)	Related Q.No.(06)				
01 HH head	01Male	01 Unmarried				
02 wife(HH head)	02Female	02 Married				
03 Son/Daughter	Related to QNo.(05)	03widow/widower				
04Daughter in law	Related to QNo.(05.1)	04Divorced/separated				
05Grand son/Daughter	01Literate	Related to QNo(07)				
06Father/Mother	02 Illiterate	01Agriculture				
08Brother/Sister	Related to QNo.(05.2) 02Busi	ness				
09Causin/Nephew	00Non formal education	03Foreign employment				
10Other	01Primary level	04Government service				
	02Lower secondary level	05Student				
	03Secondary level	06Wage labour				
	04S.L.C.and above	07Houseworks(HHwork)				
	05Notstated	08Private Job				
	06Other	09Others				
Q. No.1. Do you have cultivated land?						
a) yes ⊏⊐ b) No I	==					
Q. No.2 If yes how much?						
a)Ropani b)	Aana c)Hall d)Ma	ito/muri				
Q. No.3 Do you have sufficie	nt production of food grains	for consumption in a year.				
a) yes ⊏⊐ b) No I	c) Not stand					
Q. NO.4 If not, how many m	onths have not sufficient in y	ears?				
Mor	nths.					
Q. No.5 How do you maintain the food shortage?						

Q. No.6 How much income	have you achieved in a	a year?						
Amount Rs	Amount Rs							
Q. No.7 How much have yo	Q. No.7 How much have your expenditure in a year?							
Amount Rs								
Q. No.8 In which sector, aln	nost all expenditure in	a year?						
In								
Q. No.9 What types of hous	sehold are you living in	n?						
a) pakki⊏⊐ b) wo	ood □□ c) kachchi □□	□ d) others□□						
Q. No.10 What along the following facilities do you have for cooking?								
a) bio-gas ⊏⊐ b) wo	a) bio-gas □□ b) wood □□ c) kerosene □□ d) others □□							
Q, No.11 What is the main	source of drinking wat	er for your HH?						
a) Pipe water ⊏⊐	b) spout water □□	c) Stream □□ d) other□□						
Q. No.12 What type of toile	et are you using now?							
a) Modern ⊏⊐	b) ordinary □□	c) No toilet □□						
Q. No.13 What among the f	following facilities do y	you have?						
You have	yes	No						
Electricity								
Telephone								
Radio/FM								
Radio/FM Television								

B. individual Questionnaire

Only for Youth at age group (15-24) years

Name of respondent:-	Sex:-
Q. No.1 How old are you? completed year	
Q. No.2 In which month and year was you	born?
Year month	
Q. No.3 can you read and write?	
a) yes □□ b) No □□	
Q. No.4 if yes, which education programme	e did you learn?
a) formal educational programme [□□ b) non formal edu. Pro. □□
Q. No.5 Are you going to school/collage at	this time?
a) yes □□ b) No □□	
Q. No.6 if yes, in which class/level do you r	read?
a) primary level (class,1-5) □□	b) Lower sec. level (6-8) □□
c) Secondary level (9-10) □□	d) S.L.C. □□
e) I.A.(+2)	f) Bachelor and above □□
Q. No.7 What types of school/collage have	you been reading/
a) government school □□ b) priv	rate boarding school □□
c) technical education□□ d) gov	ernment collage⊏⊐
Q. No.8 Have you achieved any types of tra	aining?

a) yes [⊒ b) No				
Q. No.9 If yes,	What types o	of tanning have	you achieved?		
		••••••			
Q. No.10 why	you can't go s	chool? Specific	cause	•••••	
Q. No.11 Have	you engaged	any kind of wo	rk during the I	ast 12 months	?
a) yes [⊒ b) No				
Q. No.12 if yes	, how many r	nonths did you	work? Rs	month.	
Q. No.13 Wha	t is your occu	pation?			
a) agric	ulture⊏⊐	b) services (Jo	ob) ⊏⊐ c) bus	iness⊏⊐	d)
studen	ts⊏⊐ e) HM	worker □□	f) wage labou	r⊏⊐ g) cott	age
industr	y⊏⊐ h) othe	ers⊏⊐			
Q. No.14 how	much income	have you get?			
Rs. Mo	nthly	Total in year	••••••		
Q. No.15 How	much expend	liture have you	spent in a yea	r?	
Rs	••				
Q. No.16 in wh	ich sector, ha	ave the highest	spent of your	annually incom	ne in a year?
a) educ	ation □□	b) health □□		c) food □□	d) sanitation
e) cloth	ns 🗆	f) entertainme	ent ⊏⊐	g) others □□	

Q. No17 If you have illness, "where are y	ou go for treatment?
a) Hospital □□ b) Health pos	st □□ c) Private clinics □□ d) Other □□
Q. No. 18 Have you involved in any kind o	f participation?
a) yes □□ b) No □□	
Q. No. 19 If yes, In which sector have you	participate mostly?
a) participation in decision \Box	b) political participation □□
c) societal participation □□	d) economic participation \Box
f) Pear group participation□□	g) others □□
Q. No 20 Have you been participating in a	ny kind of decision making?
a) yes □□ b) No □□	
Q. No 21 If Yes, what types of decision have	ve you participated mostly?
a) decision in HHs work \Box	b) decision in community/society \Box
c) decision in economic sector □□	d) decision in religious festivals □□
f) decision in marriage □□	g) others □□
Q. No.22 Are you married?	
a) yes □□ b) No □□	
Q. No.23 If yes, how old were you at the t	ime of first marriage?
year.	
O. No.24 If 'Youth' is female married, have	you given any hirth?

	a) yes ⊏⊐	b) No ⊏⊐						
Q. No.	Q. No.25 If yes, how old were you at the time of first birth?							
	year.							
Q. No.	.26 How many	children do yo	u have?					
	a) total □□	b) male □□	c) female □□]				
Q. No.	.23 Have you h	eard of any fan	nily planning n	nethods?				
	a) yes ⊏⊐	b) No □□						
Q. No.	.27 If yes, from	which mediun	n did you hear	about F.P. met	:hods?			
	a) Radio □□	b) T.V □□	c) Newspaper	· □□ d) Frie	nds/relatives [==		
	e) Self known		f) Health wor	kers⊏⊐	g) others □□			
Q. No.	Q. No.28 Are you using any family planning methods?(Question asked female as well as male married youth)							
	a) yes □□	b) No □□						
Q. No	.29 if yes, whic	h method are y	ou using?					
	a) Pills □□	b) Condom □	⊐ c) mal	e sterilization	==			
	d) female ster	rilization⊏⊐	e) Nor	plant ⊏⊐	f) Depo-Prove	era ⊏⊐		
	g) IUD □□	h) Natural me	thod □□	j) others □□				
Q. No.	.30 If not, why	?						
	a) pregnant □	□ b) side	effect □□	c) religious be	elief ⊏⊐	d)		
	expensive □	_						

e) not av	ailable □□	f) desire for son [⊒ g) othe	r □□			
any child	ren and how		ould choose e	to the time you didn't have exactly the number of ld that be?	'e		
a) none [==	b) one children [======	c) two children ⊏⊐			
d) three	children □□	l e) four an	d more child	ren ⊏⊐			
Q. No. 32 If you	th have no ch	ildren, if you cou	ld choose ex	actly the number of childre	n		
to have i	to have in your life, how many would that be?						
a) none [==	b) one ch	ildren ⊏⊐	c) two children ⊏⊐			
d) three	children \Box	e) four an	d more child	ren □□			

Annex – 2

Map of Dhankuta Municipality

