

CHAPTER-I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The word Lepcha is the English version of the Nepali word Lepche which is believed to mean "less spoken" or "latent speech". It used to be an abusive nickname but now it is not used in a negative way. The origin of Lepcha is unknown. They may have originated in Myanmar, Tibet or Mongolia, but the Lepchas themselves believe that they migrated from somewhere to their present location and became indigenous to the region. They speak the Rong language as part of the Bhotvermeli language family, which some linguists classify as Himalayan. Others argue for a more complex migration to today's situation, starting with southeastern Tibet and settling in Thailand, Burma, or Japan, then in the direction of the Ayyarwadi and Chindwin rivers, passing west through the Patkoy range and finally entering ancient India. Moving west through India, they pass through southern Bhutan before reaching their final destination near Kanchenjunga. The Lepchas themselves have no tradition of migration, so they conclude that they are natives of the region, now inhabiting the Indian state of Sikkim, the Darjeeling district of West Bengal, eastern Nepal and the southwestern parts of Bhutan. Their number is currently No. 1 in Nepal. There is more in Ilam of the state. In Sikkim, they make up about 15% of the total population of the state.

When it comes to Lepcha culture and customs, the utensils used in the Lepcha community are light and not as spicy as Indian or Nepali dishes. Rice is the staple food, while wheat, maize and millet are also used. Fresh fruits and vegetables are used. Khujom is a traditional Lepcha bread made from wheat, millet and corn or wheat flour. Popular Lepcha dishes include pongujom (a dish made from rice, fish, and vegetables), sujom (a dish made from meat), thukpa (a dish mixed with noodles, meat and vegetables) and sorongbituluk (a dish made from rice and dal). An alcoholic beverage called Chi or Chang is made from kodo. Chi also has religious significance because it is offered to the gods in religious ceremonies.

The Kanchenjunga people, who have been living at the foot of the mountain since time immemorial, live in Ilam district of Nepal and its environs, and they

consider Kanchenjunga as their deity. They call themselves Rajkhalak. According to the 2068 census, the population of Lepcha caste is 3,445. Their language belongs to the Bhote-Burmese family and they have their own script and scripture. They have their own natural religion, but today they also practice Buddhism and Christianity. Astachyo is their main religious text. Alcohol is considered a pure substance. After death, the body is exhumed from the wall of the house and buried. The social organization is Rongsenungthi and they dance Loknen dance. Farming and trade are their main occupations. These castes belong to the list of endangered tribes in the list of Indigenous Tribes of Nepal and the Government of Nepal has included them in the Social Security Program since FY 065/066.

Social security is an extension of social security that is being provided by various stakeholders in the country to reduce risk as well as ensure compensation in times of need. In other words, it is a joint effort of the nation and its citizens to provide security to those at economic and social risk. It is the security provided by the society to ensure access to health services and guarantee income security, especially the basic services and security provided to individuals and families in a dignified social life. Based on the recommendations of the International Labor Conference (ILO) on social security and expansion of the social security sector, the ILO Nepal office has been promoting social security flow in Nepal in collaboration with the government, workers and employers' organizations. The current Social Security Allowance Program The Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist-Leninist (CPN-UML) government had announced a monthly allowance. As a continuation and expansion of the same program, Dalit community and endangered castes have also been involved. The Lepchas were also an endangered tribal people of Nepal have been receiving social security allowance since FY 2065/066. The allowances provided by the country are helping by providing social security allowances and ensuring a minimum standard of living for their families. To address the economic needs of endangered species, many countries have developed some form of targeted social security program and are gradually expanding into low-income countries. As a result, many developing countries have pursued such a program, one in Nepal as in other countries. One of such expressions in the government's policy on uplifting caste is the Social Security Allowance Program. Assisting by providing social security allowances provided by the state and ensuring a minimum standard of living for their families. How do beneficiaries understand the Social Security Allowance Program

based on their social background and financial needs? What are the challenges in program implementation? How does the implementer's point of view affect the implementation of this program? To what extent are the objectives of the program to alleviate financial hardship accomplished or beneficial? This study will try to find answers to these questions by examining the implementation status of the social security allowance program. What is the profound social and economic impact of endangered castes? Most of the endangered people in Nepal are below the poverty line and depend on agriculture for their livelihood. These people lack the means to meet basic needs such as food, proper housing, clothing, health care and safe drinking water. They also have less access to resources and income generation opportunities. The government Non-contributory social pension has been started for the citizens of endangered castes across the country since FY 2065/066. There are policies related to the citizens of endangered castes. The Social Retirement Scheme is increasingly recognized as an important initiative to protect rights and promote the overall welfare of citizens of endangered castes. Critics often claim that the distribution of allowances has been misused rather than properly utilized. The situation is also becoming critical due to the lack of effective local bodies. Thus, the social security allowance is not only a problem of resource allocation in terms of adequacy and scope of work, but also of management and distribution to the target citizens. This introductory chapter will identify the problem and the scope of the study and present the background and significance of the study. It will specify research objectives, research questions, limitations, and an overview of the research methodology. The structure of this study will also be presented in the last section of this chapter.

1.2 Statement of Problem

In today's world, most of the countries of the world have given first priority to the citizens of endangered castes. Even though policies, rules and plans are formulated keeping in view the needs of the endangered castes, there are problems in implementation in most of the countries. Most of the endangered caste citizens are not even aware of the services provided by the country. This could be due to a lack of education or an error in the governance system of a country or other reasons. This study seeks to address the following questions of citizens of endangered castes (Lepcha):

- i) What is the condition of the endangered Lepcha people?
- ii) What is the social and economic impact of the Social Security Fund on the citizens of endangered Lepcha caste?
- iii) What are the strengths and weaknesses of Social Security benefits?

1.3 Objectives of the Study.

The general objective of the study is to analyze the impact of the government's social security allowance on the endangered Lepchas of Maijogmai Rural municipality ward no. 3 of Ilam district? Other specific objectives of the research, including the main objectives, are as follows:

- i) To find out the social impact of the social security fund on the endangered Lepcha people.
- ii) To find out the economic impact of the Social Security Fund on the endangered Lepcha people.
- iii) To measure the level of satisfaction of the extinct Lepcha ethnic citizen from the available social security allowance.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Where people are economically and socially backward and cannot meet their basic needs or are unable to exercise their rights and opportunities due to being a minority, the social security benefits provided by the nation are a great help in the livelihood of those communities. Generally, most of the people of endangered communities live in rural areas and the state of social development is weak. It has a significant impact on the socio-economic status of such communities in a particular area. But if social security allowances are provided to such people, the rural areas of the country can be developed equally.

The study has been fully aware of the impact of social security on citizens of endangered communities. Maijogmai Rural municipality ward no. 3 has a clear picture of the current situation of the endangered Lepcha people. Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no. 3 of Ilam district. The justification of the study of the effect of social security allowance on the Lepcha castes was based on the facts obtained from

the analysis of responsible attitude towards the contribution of social security allowance in meeting the basic and secondary needs of their livelihood. This type of research has never been done in Maijogmai Rural municipality ward no.3 from an economic and educational point of view. This research work can also help other researchers by providing references to the situation of the endangered Lepcha people.

1.5 Limitations of the Study

Limitations are one of the key components in each research. There are limitations in every area of research. Therefore, there were many limitations in this research study. Here are some possible limitations of this research:

- The study area has been based on sample size.
- The study was focus mainly on the endangered Lepchas for the Social Security fund.
- Generalization of this study may or may not apply to other areas.

1.6 Organization of the Study

This study has been organized in five chapters. The first chapter has deal with introduction and general background of the study. The second chapter has explained about the review of the related literatures. The third chapter has explained research methodology. The forth chapter has described their study area and interpretation and analysis of the data. The last chapter has described about the summery, conclusion and recommendation.

CHAPTER–II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Theoretical Review

Social security has been recognized as a concern of citizen's rights in the world. Social Security is linked to enhancing social equity and justice. Realizing this fact, the Government of Nepal has included a provision for social security in the Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2007. With the intention of expanding social security rights of citizens, the Social Security Program (Operational Procedure), 2008 has been formulated and implemented under the Local Self-Governance Act; 1999. The Government of Nepal has been implementing various social security programs for decades. The growing concerns on the protection and promotion of the rights of citizens of the country also require an assessment of present interventions, which may give valuable inputs for the future, particularly in policies and programs. This study aims at assessing the outcome and identifying problems of the social security program implemented in Nepal over the years, and also focuses on the socio-economic outcomes of the social security allowance especially for elderly people, differently able persons, single (widow) women and endangered caste people.

The government has been conducting programs to provide minimum incentives to old citizens, widows and the disabled (less able) continuously since 1994. In the spirit of the Interim Constitution 2063, and ILO Agreement 169 and other International Agreements, the Government of Nepal is committed to providing assistance for maintaining a minimum human livelihood to these groups. Since 2065/66, the government has been introducing allowances to single women, endangered races, while reducing the eligibility age threshold for Dalits and citizens of the Karnali Zone. Besides, other sectors (victims, neglected, Madhesi, Muslims and social inclusive) have also been identified for the social security program.

Social security is a common effort of nation and its citizens to provide security to those under economic as well as social threat. It can be considered as an inseparable part of social justice. Social security is an extended form of social

protection which is being provided by various concerned authorities of the country to reduce the risks as well as assuring compensation in times of needs. The Government has initiated works related to this field since few decades and hence, with the motive of extending its areas of work the organizational structure has been planned. Social Security has been categorized as fundamental right by the Constitution of Nepal and hence is responsibility of the nation. In Nepal Old-age allowance (social assistance) includes age of 70 or older (age 60 or older for Dalits and residents of Karnali Zone) of senior citizens and endangered caste people.

There are few studies that examine when people plan to begin claiming Social Security benefits. In fact, Coile et al (1999) were “not aware of any previous analysis of [Social Security] claiming behavior as a take-up decision.” The Social Security Amendments of 1983 raised the normal retirement age from 65 to 67 and increased the penalties for claiming benefits at the early retirement age of 62. However, there is a large literature on when and how people plan to retire, and the factors that affect workers’ retirement decisions may very well affect their decisions regarding the claiming of Social Security. Two of these important factors are a worker’s health status and level of educational attainment. A major factor contributing to the age at which people retire is health. Even as the average life expectancy has increased well beyond the normal retirement age, many people retire even before the early retirement age because of poor health. Uccello (1998) found that about 75% of people who retire between the ages of 55 and 61 do so involuntarily, and she further found that such scenarios are especially evident in physically demanding jobs involving agriculture, mining, construction, and transportation. Furthermore, many people who retire due to poor health do not receive disability insurance. Education is another important factor in considering how people plan to retire. Lusardi (2003) found that those with lower levels of education typically have very little in savings, which may be because their often lower salaries are mostly consumed for daily necessities. He further argues that most of the less educated do not have fully funded retirement assets, and they often do not give adequate thought to retirement itself. In this context, it is ironic but not surprising that those with lower levels of education retire later. In his study on Canadian retirement, Gower (1997) found that those who have not attained a high school diploma on average work 3.4 years 9 longer than those with a postsecondary degree or certificate. However, the effect of health status seems to be a stronger determinant of retirement age than education. Panis et al (2002) combined health

status, income, retirement assets, and education level to depict the average worker who claims early Social Security retirement benefits. They found that those who claim Social Security at the early retirement age are more likely to be in poor health but are less likely to be college educated. This group of people would be most vulnerable to an increase in the early or normal retirement age. They tend to have lower levels of education with lower incomes, so they usually do not have enough saved if they must involuntarily retire. Another factor that affects retirement is the eligibility age of Social Security. Gruber and Wise (2002) found that there is a strong correlation between the timing of retirement and the age of eligibility for Social Security programs in twelve different nations, including the United States, which strongly suggests that people on average claim Social Security as early as possible. Coile et al (1999) discovered similar results, even though they found that that gains from delaying Social Security claims beyond the age of 62 is significant and “optimal” for everyone except those with much older wives, high mortality risks, or high discount rates. They concluded that many people claim Social Security quickly without sufficiently weighing the option of delaying the receipt of retirement benefits. Lusardi (1999) states that about one-third of people between the ages of 51 and 61 have not even begun thinking about retirement, which dispels many models presuming that people tend to plan for the future. Due to this lack of planning, Coile et al and others suggest that perhaps the early retirement age should be increased. (The Effect of Age On Workers’ Social Security Retirement Plans Raymond K Shin, J.D. Washington, DC April 8, 2009)

Social Security can traditionally be defined as ‘the protection which society provides for its members against the economic and social distress that otherwise would be caused by the stoppage or substantial reduction of earnings resulting from sickness, maternity, employ men injury, unemployment, invalidity, Social Security and death; the provision of medical care and the provision of subsidies for family with children’ (ILO book ABC of women’s rights).

The constitution of Nepal 1992 had recognized social security as a state responsibility and the interim constitution of Nepal 2006 has ensured social security as a fundamental right of people. In the periodic plans of Nepal, from the First Five-

year plan to 15th year plan period 2019-2023 AD programs relating to social security were included under respective sector programmer. (Administration Review 2019)

2.2 Empirical Review

The government has been providing social security allowances to ten different castes on the endangered list. The government has started giving such allowance to Kusunda, Raute, Hayu, Kisan, Meche, Vanakaria, Surel, Raji, Lepcha, Kuswadia (Pattharkatta, Silkat, Kushbadhiya and Kuchbadhiya) as per the 'Social Security Act 2075'.

The government has kept castes with less than 0.50 percent of the total population in the minority. Out of the ten castes, the government has implemented various services and programs including social security allowance, technical education for the protection of Lepcha caste. Under this, Lepchas get a monthly allowance of Rs 3,000 per person. At present the population of Lepcha caste is 3,445 according to the census of 2068 BS.

Koehler's (2011) review of social protection schemes in Nepal, which covers the public and private sectors as well as some isolated schemes implemented by NGOs, finds that social protection transfers have become a highly visible component of social policy since 2008. At the same time, it questions the suitability and adequacy of such schemes in addressing Nepal's socioeconomic challenges: lower per capita income, continued political violence, an unsettled constitutional and political environment, and degradation of the environment, recurrent natural disasters, and systematic social exclusion. It also questions the design, delivery and monitoring of such social initiative.

Binger (2005) demonstrates that the patterns, directions and the extent of welfare state transformation are shaped by political institutions, political parties, and policy legacies. They show that both right- and left-wing governments have adopted new views on social policy, meaning that traditional partisan politics no longer have as strong of an effect on social spending. Kittel and Winner (2005) also show that partisan composition of government does not determine government spending.

2.3 National Policy on Social Security review

The new Constitution, which was promulgated in September 2015, establishes social security as a fundamental right of Nepali citizens and provides a broad framework for the social security system which is given below:

Social security provisions in the 2015 Constitution Article Right Description

- 33 Right to employment every citizen has the right to employment or to choose employment.
- 34 Rights regarding labour Every citizen has the right to engage in appropriate labour, to receive appropriate remuneration, to work in decent working conditions and to contributory social security
- 35 Right to health care every citizen has the right to basic health services free of cost and no one shall be deprived of emergency health services.
- 36 Right to food every citizen has the right to food sovereignty.
- 37 Right to housing every citizen has the right to appropriate housing.
- 38 Right of women every woman has the right to special opportunity in the sphere of social security, on the basis of positive discrimination.
- 39 Right of children who are vulnerable, orphaned, physically impaired or victim of armed conflict have the right to special protection and facilities.
- 40 Right of Dalits Special arrangements shall be made to provide health care and social security to Dalit community members, in accordance with law.
- 41 Right of senior citizens Senior citizens have the right to special protection and social security.
- 42 Right to social justice various groups have the right to social justice.
- 43 Right to social security Senior citizens, single women, and people with disabilities, children and citizens of endangered ethnicity in an economically poor, incapacitated or helpless state have the right to social security, as provided in the law.

An analytical briefing on the social security sector in Nepal above list is fundamental rights of citizens that should be accessible to every Nepali currently. The provisions under article 43, however, require passage of an associated law, which has yet to take place. There is room for citizens to challenge any delay by the government in providing social security benefits by making a case on the denial of their rights

before the Supreme Court, which could order the Government to provide benefits or to enact the necessary law to provide benefits. Social security matters are also included under article 51 of the Constitution, which deals with state policies. Under these policies, the State has responsibility to:

- Ensure easy, convenient and equal access of all citizens to quality health services;
- Provide health insurance to all citizens;
- Guarantee social security, in line with the concept of decent labor;
- Abolish all forms of labor exploitation, including child labor;
- Encourage the productive mobilizing of capital, skills, technology and experience gained from foreign employment; and
- Regulate and manage the labor migration sector in order to make foreign employment free from exploitation and safe and to protect the labor rights of workers.

The Constitution distributes social security-related powers to various layers of government as exclusive or concurrent, although Nepal has not yet set up any provincial government structure. Social security and poverty alleviation are included both as exclusive powers under the central government as well as concurrent powers under the provincial and local governments. While the provincial level has not been entrusted with any exclusive social security-related power, the management of senior citizens and persons with disabilities or incapacitated is the exclusive power of local governments. Social security, employment, trade unions, the settlement of industrial disputes and labor rights and dispute-related matters are in the concurrent list of the central and provincial governments.

Most of the social security-related powers are included in the concurrent list, which means they are shared among the different levels of government. However, shared responsibility is a complex issue in the federal system. There can be duplication of resource allocation in some areas, and weak allocation of resources in others. It is also likely to create confusion over the role of each level of government. Shared responsibility can result in conflicting policies, lack of mutual coordination and reduced performance. Therefore, the responsibility of every level of government needs to be clearly demarcated and subject to a coordinating mechanism (and/or partnerships) to enforce accountability and encourage fiscal efficiency. Of the three major responsibilities of the public sector – macro-economic stability, distribution of

income and allocation of goods and services – the distribution of income is largely a central function. It includes social security programmes pertaining to unemployment, senior citizens, children and people with disabilities that are guided by varying objectives. Generally though, social security is meant “to maintain a degree of equity among citizens, no matter where they live”.¹ This can be done only through the central provision of a social security system with uniform benefits (there would be a difference in benefit level if provided by provincial governments, which would likely encourage people to move from a small-benefits province to a greater-benefits province).

The different levels of government have complementary roles in providing some social security functions. For instance, while the central government has responsibility to determine the overall policies and standards and provide the budget to ensure delivery of all services, the sub national governments are responsible for implementation, particularly the determining of beneficiaries of welfare programmes. Practically speaking, it will take some time to create and develop provincial governments. Developing the capacity of the provincial and local governments will also take time. Thus, the central Government will initially need to exercise the social security-related powers included in the concurrent lists and gradually encourage the sub national governments take responsibility as their capacity increases.

2.4 Policies supporting social protection

Social security schemes were introduced one after another in the past without ensuring their effectiveness. These schemes are each governed by their own law, regulations, directives and guidelines and are scattered across several sectors. While some social security schemes are declared under the budget speeches of various fiscal years, their design and benefits are not spelled out. Social security policies have also been included in various periodic plans. For instance, the long-term vision stipulated in the Thirteenth Plan (fiscal year (FY 2013–14 to FY 2015–16) offers every Nepali citizen a guarantee of social security to live a decent life. This scattered situation underscores the need for a systematic policy framework. The National Planning Commission recently prepared a draft 10-year National Framework for Social Security, but it has yet to be completed. Once finalized, it will set the direction and scope for organizing and building upon the country’s existing social security

programmers and creating new ones so that the vulnerabilities of the population are adequately addressed.

2.5 Legal framework

While the Civil Service Act and Regulations deal with the pension and gratuity schemes and the provident fund for public sector employees, the Labor Act and Regulations cover social security for individuals working in enterprises of 10 or more workers and employees. The Employees Provident Fund Act makes participation mandatory for public sector employees but voluntary for employees of public corporations and employees of private enterprises with 10 or more employees. The Citizen Investment Trust Act provides public sector employees, private sector employees, self-employed workers and workers in the informal sector opportunity to participate in the retirement scheme. The Bonus Act has provisions for enterprises to distribute an amount equivalent to 10 percent of their gross profit to workers and employees as a bonus income payment. The Social Security and Protection of Senior Citizens Act has provision for social security to citizens aged 60 and older. Social cash transfers are operated under the Social Security Programmers Operation Procedure. In line with section 2 of the Administrative Procedures (Regulation) Act, 1956, the Government established the Social Security (Operation and Management) Rules, 2010, which provided for creation of the Social Security Fund in 2011. Several social protection-related laws are in the pipeline. The proposed Labor Bill currently with the Legislature Parliament makes provisions for social security schemes for workers and employees in all enterprises in which one or more workers or employees are working. Such social security schemes include: compensation for workers' lay-off or injury, gratuity, provident fund, medical care, leave days, bonus pay, priority in re-employment, workers' welfare fund and accident insurance. In the case of a worker or employee who works part time for more than one employer, each employer for whom they work will have to make a contribution for their gratuity, provident fund or other facilities relating to social security on the basis of their basic salary. The proposed Social Security Fund Bill also currently with the Legislature Parliament has provisions for various schemes that are in line with the International Labor Organization's Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102), including the contributory social security programmers. The proposed provisions call

for a separate account for each social security scheme; the amount deposited into the account of one scheme cannot be used for another scheme. The Social Security Fund Bill also has provision for several social assistance schemes. A social security tax has been in place since FY 2009–10 to finance several social security schemes announced through budget speeches. The details of these schemes, including benefit packages, have never been designed, however. The FY 2021–22 budgets proposed work-related injury insurance, maternity benefit, medical care and sickness benefit. This budget also announced several other social security-related measures, including accident insurance for informal sector workers, a national health insurance scheme and a contributory pension scheme. None of the new schemes included detailed specifics.

2.6 Social security schemes in place

The ongoing social security schemes are divided into three groups: social insurance, social assistance and labor market interventions.

2.6.1 Social insurance

The social insurance schemes cover pension and gratuity benefits, the Employees' Provident Fund and the Citizen Investment Trust as well as insurance for disability, maternity leave, work-related injury, sickness and survivors' benefits. These schemes, which are meant to cushion the risks associated with bad health, disability, work injury and old age, only target formal sector employees. Also included is a contributory national health insurance programme that was initiated in 2016 but only in Kailali, Baglung and Ilam districts on an experimental basis.

2.6.2 Pension and gratuity

The pension scheme is available only to public sector employees. Anyone who retires from service after completing 20 years of employment (16 years for army personnel) is eligible for a monthly pension payment. As indicated in table 3, the pension amount depends on the period of service and the remuneration of the last year of service. The gratuity scheme is available to public sector employees and workers and employees of private enterprises with 10 or more employees. Any public sector employee who retires or resigns voluntarily after working at least five years or has been dismissed without being disqualified for government service in the future prior to completion of 20 years is entitled to the lump-sum gratuity benefit. The eligible private sector workers and employees who have worked at least three years are also paid the lump

sum gratuity benefit upon retirement, the amount of which depends on their length of service and remuneration of the last year of that employment.

The pension and gratuity schemes are non-contributory – employees and workers are not required to make any contribution during their period of employment. The pension or gratuity benefit for government employees are covered by the general revenue of the Government, whereas all expenses relating to the gratuity scheme for eligible workers and employees in enterprises of the public and private sectors are borne by their employer. The pension and gratuity schemes are not funded currently – no fund has been created to cover the payments. It is based on the pay-as-you-go principle. The pension and gratuity benefit of retired government employees are paid from the tax paid by incumbent workers and employees. Even public corporations have yet to establish a pension or gratuity fund.

2.6.3 Employee provident fund

The Employee Provident Fund is mandatory for public sector employees, while employees of private sector enterprises with ten or more employees can participate voluntarily. Whether mandatory or voluntary, workers and employees contribute an amount equivalent to 10 per cent of their salary, and their employer must contribute the same percentage on a monthly basis. An account is opened in the Employee Provident Fund in the name of the employee, and the contribution made by both the employee and employer is deposited into this account. This is a fully funded plan. The interest that is paid is relative to the amount deposited. Each participant can withdraw a certain percentage as a “loan” from their account. Workers and employees are entitled to the remaining funds after they retire.

2.6.4 Citizen investment trust

The Citizen Investment Trust is open to public and private sector employees, regardless of whether they work on a permanent, temporary or contract basis. Employees contribute one third of their monthly salary or 300,000 Nepal rupees (NPR) annually, whichever is lower, into an account in their name. There is no employer contribution provision. This is a voluntary but fully funded scheme. Contributions made to the Citizen Investment Trust are exempt from income tax, which is an incentive designed to encourage employees to save for their financial

security after they retire. Employees are entitled to the full Citizen Investment Trust amount after their retirement.

2.6.5 Other social insurance schemes

The labor law, civil service law and other social security-related laws have provisions for social insurance schemes that cover disability compensation, medical treatment expenses, salary during medical treatment, sick leave, maternity leave, compensation for workers' lay-off or injury, medical care, bonus pay, priority in re-employment, a workers' welfare fund as well as accident insurance, survivors' benefits and funeral grants.

- ❖ **The social assistance programmers** include social cash transfers, in-kind transfers, primary health care and basic education. Social cash transfers are provided to the most vulnerable individuals who have no dependable source of income, as the following explains.
- ❖ **Old-age allowance** was introduced in 1995, with NPR100 per month paid to all Nepali citizens aged 75 or older. It was increased several times over the years since; in 2021 it was raised to NPR 3000 per month. That same year the qualifying age was lowered from 70 (60 years for people living in Karnali Zone). The benefit level was arising to NPR. 4,000 in the FY 2021–22 budget.
- ❖ **Single widow allowance** was introduced in 1995, at NPR 100 per month, which was increased a few times before reaching NPR 500 per month in 2008. In the FY 2021–22 budgets, the benefit level arising to was NPR. 3,000.
- ❖ **Disabled persons allowance** was introduced in 1995, at NPR 100 per month. It was increased a couple times before 2008, when it was raised to NPR 300 per month for persons who are “partially” disabled and NPR.1,000 per month for persons “fully” disabled. In the FY 2021–22 budget, those benefit levels were arising to NRP 3,000.
- ❖ **Endangered Indigenous Group Allowance** was introduced in 2008, at NPR.500 per month to all groups of “endangered” ethnicities. In 2009, the allowance was increased to NPR.1,000 per month, and in the FY 2021–22 budget, those benefit levels were arising to NRP 4,000 .
- ❖ **Child protection allowance** was introduced in 2009. While it was originally conceived as a universal grant, due to budget constraints it was later adopted

as targeted grants.⁵ originally, it was granted to children younger than 5 years in the Karnali Zone and for Dalit children younger than 5 years in other parts of the country, at NPR 200 per child, with a limit of two children per household. In FY 2013–14 it was extended to all children younger than 5 years in Bajura and Bajhang districts. It is intended to help families cover the basic consumption needs of young children. Because the grant is just NPR 500 per child per month, its impact is perceived as weak.

- ❖ **Midday meal Programme** is provided to students in Karnali Zone and 19 selected districts of the Far and Mid-Far Western Development Region through a government subsidy managed by the World Food Programme to help improve school attendance.
- ❖ **Scholarships** are available for Dalit children and young people, girls, people with disabilities, “endangered” and marginalized groups and conflict-affected and martyr’s children. Although one of the aims is to improve school attendance of girls, there has not been much impact.
- ❖ **Cash transfer to conflict-affected people** was introduced in 2009. A payment of NPR.500,000 is provided to the family of someone who died during an armed conflict episode, while a lump-sum payment is provided to anyone who was wounded during a previous armed conflict episode, with the amount dependent upon the extent of damage certified by a doctor employed by the Ministry of Health and Population.
- ❖ **Maternity incentive** is extended to pregnant women to cover transportation costs for medical check-ups and facility-based birth. The amount provided depends on their geographical location: Pregnant women living in the Terai Region receive a lump sum (per pregnancy) of NPR.500, while those living in the Hills receive NPR.1,000, and women living in the mountains receive NPR.1,500. Additionally, health professionals treating them receive NPR.300, while the health facility receives NPR.1,000 (per pregnant woman).
- ❖ **Senior citizen free health care services** are provided to anyone aged 70 or older, with a ceiling of NPR. 1,000 per months. The Government recently announced medical health insurance for senior citizens. **Free basic health care services** are provided in specified health institutions and 70 listed prescription drugs are available free of cost.
- ❖ In-kind assistance is provided to persons affected by a natural disaster.

- ❖ **Labor market interventions** include an employment program in Karnali Zone, rural community infrastructure works, technical and vocational education training, skill and entrepreneurship development programmed, and child labor elimination and child labor reform programmed, all of which are intended to facilitate employment growth and productive labor markets.
- ❖ **Employment allowance** refers to the Karnali Employment Program, which was introduced in 2006 when a One Family-One Job Program was initiated in the Karnali Zone on a pilot basis. Under this program, one member of each household having no employed member is provided an allowance of NPR50 per day for 100 days in a year. The program is designed for poor households and to generate rural employment that would help address food insecurity, extreme poverty and distress migration while improving rural infrastructure.
- ❖ **Rural community infrastructure** works was introduced in 1996, through which 4 kilograms of rice and 0.5 kilograms of pulses or NPR130–NPR140 per day is provided to beneficiaries. It is implemented in 21 selected districts where low-skilled rural roadwork is available. Its objective is to support poor people living in remote areas by offering social protection through short-term employment and by creating or preserving social and economic assets.
- ❖ Schemes under the Foreign Employment Promotion Board provide NPR.150,000 to families of migrant laborers' who die or are injured during their contract period abroad.
- ❖ Enhanced vocational education and training was introduced in 2013 to provide skills training to youth.
- ❖ Bilateral agreements: Nepal has signed government-to-government agreements regarding migrant workers with Israel, Japan and the Republic of Korea. In addition, the Government has signed memoranda of understanding with Malaysia, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, among others, which allow the private sector a role in the recruitment of workers and do not specify quotas, wages, skill requirements, etc., as the government to-government agreements do.
- ❖ Other program includes skill and entrepreneurship development, child labor elimination and child labor reform.

2.7 Research Gap

The previous study is accessible to the researcher and this type of research has not been done in this area before. However this study affects to analyze the Impact of Social Security Allowance on Lepcha Caste: Case Study of Maijogmai Rural Municipality Ward No. 3 of Ilam District. However, the researcher was sustaining gap by covering the relevant data and information.

CHAPTER-III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Selection of the Study Area

It has been selected to conduct research on the impact of social security benefits on the livelihoods of the endangered Lepcha tribes in Maijogmai Rural Municipality Ward No. 3 of Ilam District in Nepal's Province No. 1. The economic condition of this region is normal. The main reason the study area was chosen for this study is accessible to the researcher and this type of research has not been done in this area before.

3.2 Research Design

Research studies were based on descriptive and exploratory research hypotheses (design). It was descriptive as it was based on data and study area records. The findings from a study focused on the impact of social security on the lives of endangered Lepcha citizens have been exploratory. It was of a learning nature to work more effectively developed as a reference source for understanding the situation and envisaging activities that can be improved.

3.3 Data collection.

The research was based on both primary and secondary sources.

a) Primary Data

The study was based on the preliminary data of the selected population in Maijogmai Rural municipality ward no. 3 of Ilam district. Preliminary information was collected through face-to-face interactions, listed questionnaires, field trips, keynote information, focused group discussions, observations and conversations with the ward secretary.

b) Secondary Data

Secondary information/data was collected from the different published and unpublished sources and website, official records, reports of government and non government organizations.

3.4 Universe and Sampling

The study was conducted in Maijogmai Rural municipality ward no. 3 of Ilam district. Out of the total population of male and female beneficiaries of Maijogmai Rural municipality ward no. 3. Samples were selected from 40% of the total 50 extinct Lepcha caste using random sampling method to collect relevant information for the study.

3.5 Methods Tools and Techniques of Data Collection

3.5.1 Household Survey

A household survey was conducted to collect qualitative and quantitative facts about the socio-economic aspects of the social security allowance provided to the citizens of the endangered Lepcha community. The questionnaire was focus on the purpose of the study and the data was collected from Maijogmai Rural municipality and the concerned ward office. The respondent will be requested to fill in the questionnaire or the researcher was filling in the answer.

3.5.2 Observation

The researcher was visited the sample houses and observe the situation of the citizens of the endangered Lepcha community. The researcher was also analyzed the socio-economic condition of the endangered Lepcha people of Maijogmai Rural municipality ward no.3.

3.5.3 Key Informant Interview

Information was collected from key informants using semi-structured interview method. The chief informant has been the locals, the elderly, the ward chairperson of the ward concerned and the ward secretary.

3.5.4 Questionnaire

For the research purpose, structured questionnaire was prepared (annex 1) and conduct household survey to obtain required information.

3.6 Procedure of Data Presentation and Analysis

After the collection of data, the information was classified, categorized and sub-categorized according to obtained data. The data of this study were analyzed by using master sheet on the basis of number, percentage. The data are also being depicted by using vertical bar, diagrams and pie charts.

CHAPTER-IV

DATA PRESENTATION & ANALYSIS

4.1 Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality

As per the data of 2022 the total population of Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality is found to be 2151.

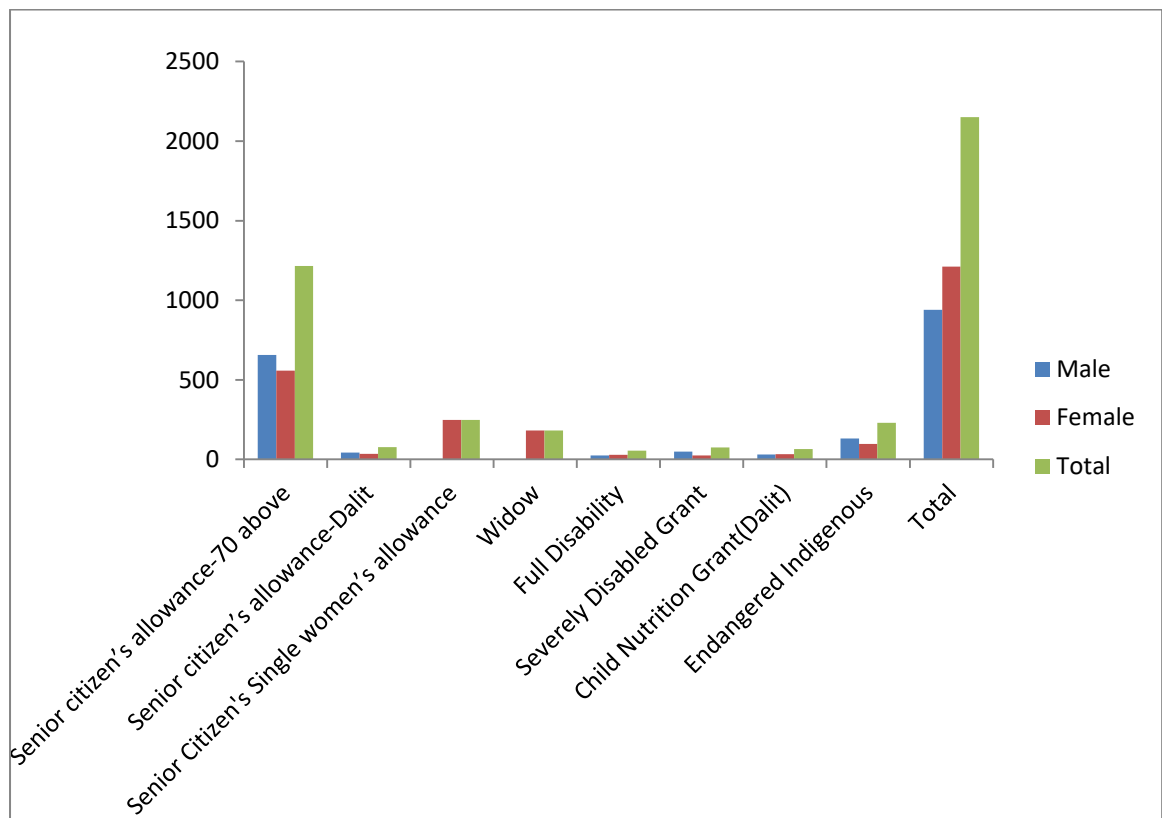
Table 4.1: Total Population of Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural-Municipality

Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural-Municipality				
Group	Male	Female	Total	Percentage (%)
Senior citizen's allowance-70 above	657	558	1,215	56.49
Senior citizen's allowance-Dalit	43	35	78	3.63
Senior Citizen's Single women's allowance	0	249	249	11.58
Widow	0	182	182	8.46
Full Disability	26	29	55	2.56
Severely Disabled Grant	50	26	76	3.53
Child Nutrition Grant(Dalit)	32	34	66	3.07
Endangered Indigenous	132	98	230	10.69
Total	940	1,211	2,151	100.00
Percentage (%)	43.70	56.30	100.00	****
Source: Maijogmai Rural-municipality, 2022				

As per the data of 2022 the total population of **Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality** is found to be 2151. Out of the total population of Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality of Senior citizen's allowance-70 above is highest. i.e. 1215. Similarly, the population of Senior citizen's allowance-Dalit is 78. Likely the population of

Senior Citizen's Single women's allowance is found to be 249. As per the data the population of Widow is 182. Similarly, the population of Full Disability is found to be 55. As per the data the population of Severely Disabled Grant is 76. Similarly, the population of Endangered Indigenous is found to be 230. Also the table above represents that the lowest population counts to be 66 which is found to be the population of Child Nutrition Grant (Dalit). So finally it is concluded that the population of Senior citizen's allowance-70 above is highest of all beneficiary's population and the population of Child Nutrition Grant (Dalit) is lowest one with a total population of 1215 and 66 respectively as per the data. The table 4.1 shows that the total population of beneficiary's of male is 43.70 percent and female is 56.30 percent.

Fig - 4.1 Social Security Allowance beneficiaries in Maijogmai Rural-Municipality



4.2 Current population of Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality Ward no. 3

As per the data of 2022 the total population of Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no. 3 is found to be 335.

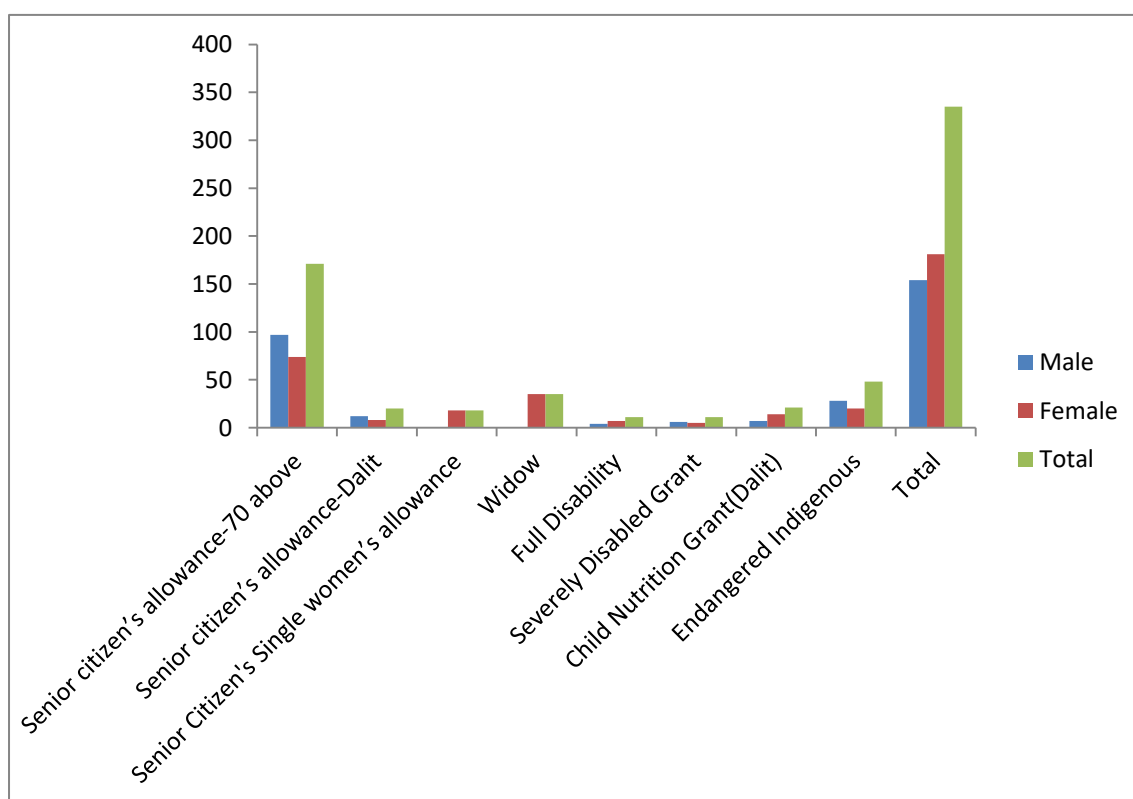
Table 4.2: Total Population of Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural-Municipality Ward no.3

Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural-Municipality ward no. 3				
Group	Male	Female	Total	Percentage (%)
Senior citizen's allowance-70 above	97	74	171	51.04
Senior citizen's allowance-Dalit	12	8	20	5.97
Senior Citizen's Single women's allowance	0	18	18	5.37
Widow	0	35	35	10.45
Full Disability	4	7	11	3.28
Severely Disabled Grant	6	5	11	3.28
Child Nutrition Grant(Dalit)	7	14	21	6.27
Endangered Indigenous	28	20	48	14.33
Total	154	181	335	100.00
Percentage (%)	45.97	54.03	100.00	****
Source: Maijogmai Rural-municipality, 2022				

As per the data of 2022 the total population of Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward No.3 is found to be 335. Out of the total population of Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no.3 of Senior citizen's allowance-70 above is highest. i.e. 171. Similarly, the population of Senior citizen's allowance-Dalit is 20. Likely the population of Senior Citizen's Single women's allowance is found to be 18. As per the data the population of Widow is 35. Similarly, the population of Full Disability is found to be 11. As per the data the population of Severely Disabled Grant is 11. Similarly, the population of Endangered Indigenous is found to be 48. Also the table

above represents that counts to be 21 which is found to be the population of Child Nutrition Grant (Dalit). So finally it is concluded that the population of Senior citizen's allowance-70 above is highest of all beneficiary's population and the population of Full Disability/ Severely Disabled Grant is lowest one with a total population of 171 and 11 respectively as per the data. The table 4.1 shows that the total population of beneficiary's of male is 45.97 percent and female is 54.03 percent. It has been show on figger below.

Fig-4.2 Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural-Municipality ward no. 3



4.3 Current population of Study group Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no.3 (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste)

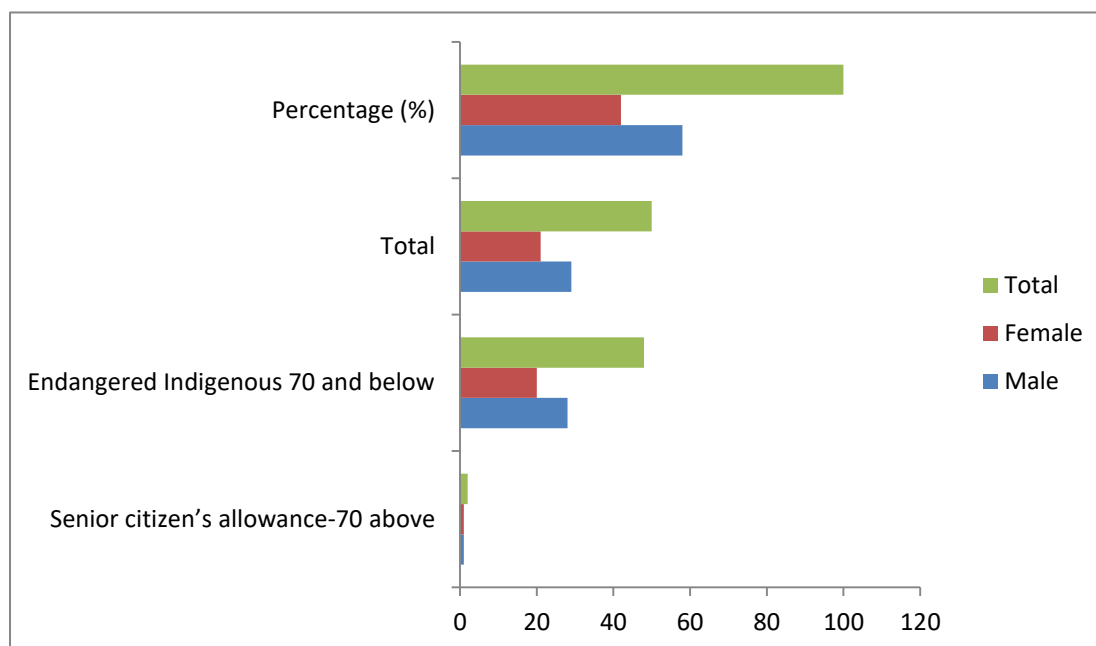
As per the data of 2022 the total population of Current population of Study group Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no.3 (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) is found to be 50.

Table 4.3: Total Population of Current population of Study group Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no.3 (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste)

Social Security Allowance Beneficiary Endangered Indigenous caste Lepcha in Maijogmai Rural-Municipality ward no. 3				
Group	Male	Female	Total	Percentage (%)
Senior citizen's allowance-70 above	1	1	2	4.00
Endangered Indigenous 70 and below	28	20	48	96.00
Total	29	21	50	100.00
Percentage (%)	58.00	42.00	100.00	****
Source: Maijogmai Rural-municipality, 2022				

As per the data of 2022 the total population of Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no.3 (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) is found to be 50. Out of the total population of Social Security Allowance Beneficiary in Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no.3 (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of Senior citizen's allowance-70 above is 2. Similarly, the population of Beneficiary 70 - below is 48. The table 4.1 shows that the total population of beneficiary's of male is 58 percent and female is 42 percent. . It has been show on figger below.

Fig-4.3 Social Security Allowance Beneficiary Endangered Indigenous caste Lepcha in Maijogmai Rural-Municipality ward no. 3



4.4: Satisfaction Level of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) on available security allowances in Maijogmai RM ward no. 3.

Satisfaction Level of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) on available security allowances in Maijogmai RM ward no. 3 on simpal population is 20.

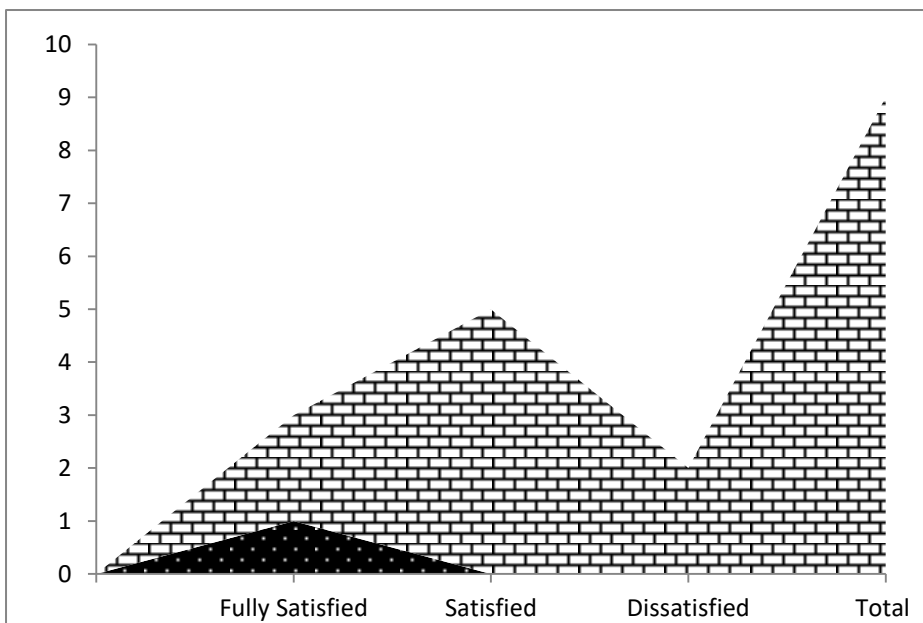
Table 4.4: Satisfaction Level of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) on available security allowances in Maijogmai RM ward no. 3

Satisfaction Level of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) on available security allowances in Maijogmai RM ward no. 3.						
Level	Male		Female		Total	Percentage
	70 +	70 and 70 -	70 +	70 and 70 -		
Fully Satisfied	1	2	1	2	6	30
Satisfied	0	5	0	6	11	55
Dissatisfied	0	2	0	1	3	15
Total	0	9	1	9	20	100

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Researcher conducted a research among the Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of Maijogmai RM ward no.3. Researcher tried to figure out the satisfaction level of Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste from the available social security allowances. Researcher classified the satisfaction level into three categories i.e. fully satisfied, satisfied and dissatisfied. According to the survey on 20 Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste people including 10 male and 10 female, researcher sampled 10 male Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of different age group and similarly sampled 10 female Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste. Researcher found that there are 3 fully satisfied male populations and there are 3 fully satisfied female citizens. Similarly, there are 3 satisfied male who are satisfied and there are 3 satisfied female citizens. Likewise, there is 2 male Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste that are dissatisfied and 0 female Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste is found to be dissatisfied from the existing allowances. From the field research it is clear that the female Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste are more satisfied than male Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste in Maijogmai RM ward no.3 of Ilam district. The table 4.4 shows that 30 percent Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste are fully satisfied, 55 percent are satisfied and 15 percent are dissatisfied. . It has been show on figure below.

Fig- 4.4 Satisfaction Level of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) on available security allowances in Maijogmai RM ward no. 3.



4.5: Expenses made by respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) from the allowances

Expenses made by respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) from the allowances on simple population.

Table 4.5: Expenses made by respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) from the allowances

Expenses made by respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) from the allowances						
	Male		Female		Total	Percentage
	70 +	70 and 70 -	70 +	70 and 70-		
Household Activities	0	6	0	7	13	65
Health	1	0	1	1	3	15
Children Education	0	3	0	1	4	20
Social Welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tobacco & Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	9	1	9	20	100
Source: Field Survey, 2022						

The table above represents the area where the Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste make expenses of their Indigenous allowances. They are spending their allowances money into areas like household activities, health, children education, social welfare and tobacco& alcohol. The expenses habit and area were identified by doing survey on the Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste. Researcher found out that 6 male spend their money in household activities and 7 female Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste are found to be spending their allowances in household activities. Similarly, 1 male is spending their allowances amount in health sector and 2 females are spending in health sector. Similarly, 3 males and 1 female are spending their allowances money in their children's education. In this research there is no number of people spending

their allowances money contributing in social welfare activities and buying/using the tobacco and drinking alcohol. So, it is clear that the Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste are found to be spending their allowances amount in various sector rather than spending the money in only one sector. The table 4.5 reveals that 65 percent respondent are spending their money in household activities, 20 percent in health sector, 15 percent in children education, 0 percent in social welfare activities and 0 percent in tobacco and alcohol.

4.6: Religion Followed by Respondents (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of Maijogmai RM ward no.3

Religion Followed by Respondents (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of Maijogmai RM ward no.3 on simple population.

Table 4.6: Religion Followed by Respondents (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of Maijogmai RM ward no.3

Religion Followed by Respondents (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of Maijogmai RM ward no.3						
Religion	Male		Female		Total	Percentage
	70 +	70 and 70 -	70 +	70 and 70-		
Hindu	0	0	0	0	0	0
Buddhism	1	9	1	9	20	100
Kirat	0	0	0	0	0	0
Muslim	0	0	0	0	0	0
Christian	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	9	1	9	20	100
Source: Field Survey,2022						

The table above represents the religion followed by the Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of Maijogmai RM ward no. 3. The researcher found out that Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of Maijogmai RM ward no.3 all are Buddhism.

4.7: Health status of respondent (Endangered Indigenous Lepcha caste) of MJRM wards no.3, Ilam district

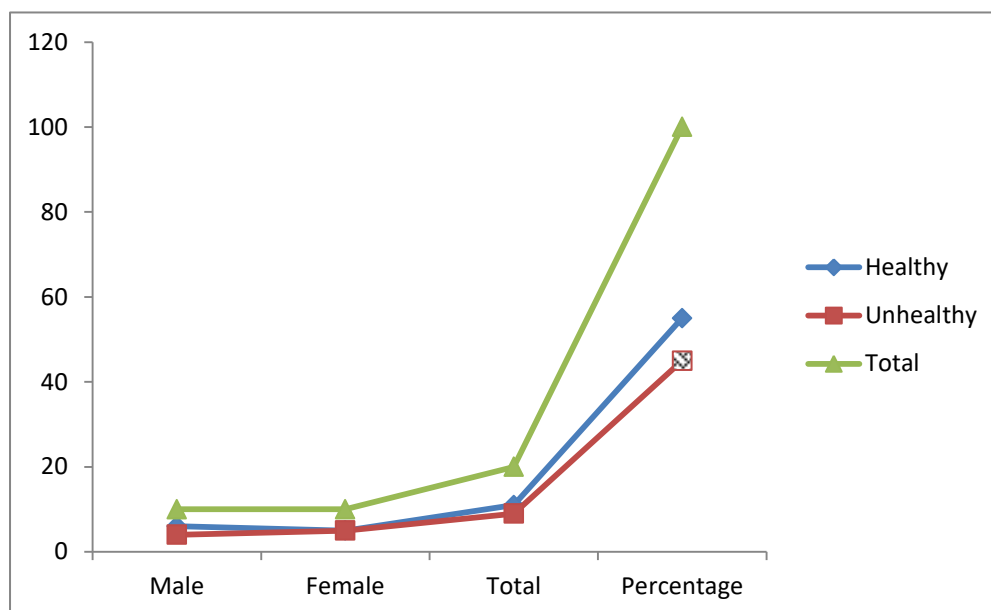
Health status of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of Maijogmai RM ward no.3 on simple population.

Table 4.7: Health status of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of MJRM ward no.3, Ilam district

Health status of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of Maijogmai RM ward no.3			
Sex	Healthy	Unhealthy	Total
Male	6	4	10
Female	5	5	10
Total	11	9	20
Percentage	55	45	100
Source: Field Survey, 2022			

The table above represents the health condition of Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of Maijogmai RM ward no. 3. Researcher surveyed 10 males and 10 females and found out their health conditions. Researcher found out that there are 6 healthy males out of 10 males and rest 4 male is unhealthy. Researcher also found out that out of 10 females surveyed there are 5 healthy and 5 unhealthy female Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste in Maijogmai RM ward no. 3. The table 4.7 shows that 55 percent Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste are healthy and 45 percent are unhealthy. It can be concluded that in average the health condition of female is found to be worst in comparison to male Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of Maijogmai RM ward no. 3. It has been show on figure below.

Fig - 4.5 Health status of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of Maijogmai RM ward no.3



4.8: Timely receipting of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) allowances by the Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of Maijogmai RM ward no. 3, Ilam.

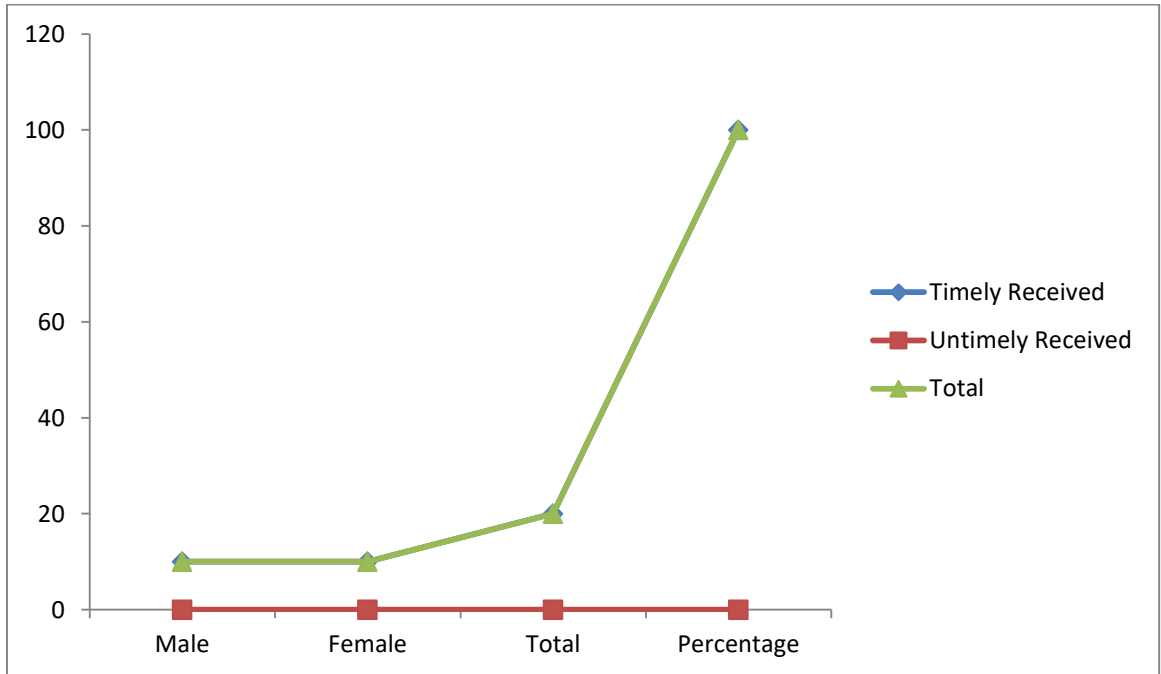
Timely receipting of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of allowances by the Maijogmai RM ward no.3 on simpal population.

Table 4.8: Timely receipting of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) allowances by the Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of Maijogmai RM ward no. 3, Ilam.

Timely receipting of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of allowances by the Maijogmai RM ward no.3			
Sex	Timely Received	Untimely Received	Total
Male	10	0	10
Female	10	0	10
Total	20	0	20
Percentage	100	0	100
Source: Field Survey, 2022			

The table above represents the total number of Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste receiving the allowances amount in time. Researcher classified the time to receive the allowances into two parts as timely receiving and untimely receiving. But this day all allowances amount is receive in bank so all beneficiary receive their allowances on time. . It has been show on figure below.

Fig- 4.6 Timely receipting of respondent (Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste) of allowances by the Majogmai RM ward no.3



CHAPTER-IV

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary

This study made the summary of the findings as follows:

- This study was conducted in the Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no. 3 of Ilam district among the Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste, who received the allowances.
- Study mainly focused on the finding out the socio-economic status of the Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste who received the allowances in Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no. 3.
- Research was conducted in Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no. 3 of Ilam district because none of the research regarding the issues of Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste have been done there before.
- Researcher wanted to analyze the impacts of Endangered Indigenous social security allowances on the daily livings of the Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of Maijogmai RM ward no. 3.
- The general objective of this research was to analyze the impact of social security in livelihood of the Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of Maijogmai RM ward no. 3.
- There are more male Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste than female Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste in Maijogmai RM ward no. 3 of Ilam. The current population of male Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste are more than the population of female Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste i.e. total male population of Maijogmai RM ward no. 3 is 29 male the total male population is 21 female.
- The female Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste are more satisfied than male Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste in Maijogmai RM ward no. 3. Male and Femal of age above 70+ are found to be full satisfied.. Among the total Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of MJRM ward no.3 30 percent Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste are fully satisfied, 55 percent are satisfied and 15 percent are dissatisfied.

- There are 65 percent respondent are spending their money in household activities, 15 percent in health sector, 20 percent in children education, 0 percent in social welfare activities and 0 percent in tobacco and alcohol.
- All of them are following the Buddha religion.
- There are 55 percent healthier Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste and 45 percent unhealthy Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste in Maijogmai Rural Municipality ward no.3.
- In average the health condition of female is found to be worst in comparison to male Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of Maijogmai RM ward no. 3. There are healthier male Endangered Indigenous lepcha castes than female Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste.
- Researcher found that 100 percent Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste of MJRM ward no.3 are receiving their allowance in time because of the banking system.
- Their needs a comprehensive data base of Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste people at local levels in order to plan implement, monitor and evaluate social security programs more effectively and efficiently. This is contributing to a system of evidence-based planning and advocacy at local levels to improve the service delivery targeted for Endangered Indigenous lepcha caste people.

5.2 Conclusions

- This research was conducted in Maijogmai RM ward no. 3 of Ilam district and the researcher came to the conclusion after proper observation of Endangered Indigenous lepcha citizens. There are positive impacts of social pensions and other benefits on the livelihood of Endangered Indigenous lepcha as it partly helps to meet basic needs for their livelihoods. Moreover, the provision of social pension has greatly enhanced the motivation and self-confidence of the Endangered Indigenous lepcha citizens in terms of social recognition and respect.
- In Maijogmai RM ward no. 3 there are more male citizens than female Endangered Indigenous lepcha citizens in average according to the above data .The female citizens are more satisfied than male Endangered Indigenous

lepcha citizens in Maijogmai RM ward no. 3. Male are found to be spending lot of allowances amount than female citizens.

5.3 Recommendations

The recommendations are categorically summarized as below:

- There is a need to make full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Endangered Indigenous lepcha persons. The government policies around social pensions and health care in terms of its universal coverage and social benefits. However, such provision and policies alone will not adequately address the elderly issues in families and communities. Their needs practical strategies of securing resources at family levels to meet the basic needs of food, shelter and health care for elderly.
- There should be concrete strategies and plans of policy sensitization and advocacy at all levels to create a supportive environment for implementation of national policies and programs aimed at improving the livelihoods of Endangered Indigenous lepcha citizens across the country and even in Maijogmai RM ward no. 3.
- The concerted efforts at family and community levels are needed to secure Endangered Indigenous caste rights so that they can lead their lives with dignity in the society.
- The government should critically review its implementation mechanism of social security programs in order to facilitate Endangered Indigenous lepcha for their easy access to the services in local as well as national level.
- Pragmatic strategies are needed to build the capacity of service providers while delivering the social services.
- There should be coordinated efforts from families, communities and local stakeholders to create an enabling environment for Endangered Indigenous lepcha citizens to ensure their participation in development activities by recognizing their vast knowledge, skills, experiences and contributions in the society.
- Endangered Indigenous Inclusive issues should be mainstreamed in local development plans and policies by prioritizing concerns of Endangered

Indigenous lepcha citizens at all levels. The local development plans and policies need to adequately address issues of indigenous population in terms of concrete actions to facilitate the smooth implementation of existing policies and programs related to Endangered Indigenous lepcha citizens. The aspirations, knowledge and energy of Endangered Indigenous lepcha persons need to be adequately and effectively addressed in the process of developing local plans and policies.

- The indigenous action plans and strategies should now consider new dimensions and challenges of migration and inter-generational issues which have impacts on livelihoods of Endangered Indigenous lepcha in both rural and urban areas.
- Their needs a comprehensive data base of Endangered Indigenous lepcha citizens at local levels in order to plan implement, monitor and evaluate social security programs more effectively and efficiently. This is contributing to a system of evidence-based planning and advocacy at local levels to improve the service delivery targeted for indigenous citizens.

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ANNEXES-I

QUESTIONNAIRE

As part of my Master degree in Rural Development research thesis at the Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam I am conducting the survey on the topic **Impact of Social Security Allowance on Lepcha Caste : A Case Study of Maijogmai Rural Municipality Ward No. 3**. The respondents for this study are the Lepcha citizens of Maijogmai RM ward no. 3.

In line with this, we have chosen you to be one of our respondents of this study and we hope that you will take time answering the questions honestly. Rest assured that all data gathered will be treated with utmost confidentiality and will be used for academic purposes only.

Section-I: General

A) Respondents data ils:

- i) Name.....
- ii) Age.....
- iii) Gender: Male/Female.....
- iv) Toole
- v) Address.....
- vi) Caste/ethnic group.....
- vii) Mother tongue.....
- viii) Family type.....
- ix) Family Size.....
- x) Date of Interview.....

Section-II: Social Impacts

1) Do you receive the Social Security allowance?

- i) Yes
- ii) No

2) Are you happy with the increment in the Social Security allowances amount?

- i) Happy
- ii) Not happy
- iii) Slightly happy
- iv) Others

3) Are you getting your Social Security allowances on time?

- i) Yes
- ii) No
- iii) Sometimes

4) Do you receive the social security allowance at your home?

- i) Yes
- ii) No
- iii) Sometimes

5) Does any of the family member bring your Social Security allowances?

- i) Yes
- ii) No
- iii) Sometimes
- iv) Others

6) Are your children giving you your Social Security allowances after receiving it from your WARD?

- i) Yes
- ii) No
- iii) Sometimes

7) Is your spouse giving you the money of the Social Security allowances that you receive?

- i) Yes
- ii) No
- iii) Sometimes

8) Do you lend your Social Security allowances to other people after receiving it?

- i) Yes
- ii) No
- iii) Sometimes
- iv) Others

9) Are any of your family members' dependent on your monthly Social Security allowances?

- i) Yes
- ii) No

10) Is Social Security allowances being your support of Social Security?

- i) Yes

- ii) No
- iii) Little bit
- iv) Others

11) How do you rate your health condition?

- i) Excellent
- ii) Good
- iii) Satisfactory
- iv) Poor

12) Where do you consult for the treatment of your health related problems?

- i) Health centers
- ii) Traditional healers
- iii) Home
- iv) Others

13) Are you satisfied with the Social Security allowances currently being received?

- i) Satisfied
- ii) Fully satisfied
- iii) Dissatisfied
- iv) Fully Dissatisfied

14) Is Social Security allowances helpful in your personal life?

- i) Slightly
- ii) Completely
- iii) No
- iv) Others

15) Is Social Security allowances positively influencing your family members?

- i) Yes
- ii) No
- iii) Slightly
- iv) Others

16) Who do you think is providing you the Social Security allowances?

- i) Nepal Government
- ii) Secretariat of Ward
- iii) Ward Chairman

iv) Others

17) Which time of the year do you think appropriate to give you Social Security allowances?

i) Dashain

ii) Tihar

iii) MagheSangrati

iv) New Year

18) If Nepal Government stops providing you Social Security allowances how you would feel?

i) Sad

ii) Happy

iii) Nothing

iv) Others

19) From which sectors, do you expect further more assistance for the Social Security?

i) Government

ii) Family

iii) Relatives

iv) Society

v) Social organizations

vi) Others

20) What is your role in your relatives?

i) Advisor

ii) Patron

iii) Good friendship

iv) Others

21) How does your family utilize your knowledge, experience, traditional skill and art?

i) Giving continuity

ii) Means of earning

iii) Neglected

iv) Others....

22) Do people come to you to learn your knowledge, experience, traditional skill and art?

i) Yes

ii) No

23) Did you hold any job in past?

i) Yes

ii) No

24) If yes, what kind of services was in past?

i) Government

ii) Non-government

25) In your opinion, what the state should do for the welfare of all Social Security people?

.....
.....

Section-III: Economic Impacts

26) What is your current Source of Income?

i) Own work

ii) Property income

iii) Pension

iv) Govt. Allowance

27) Do you make any savings of your income in any Banks or Finance?

i) Yes

ii) No

iii) Others

28) In which sector, do you invest your income?

i) Agriculture

ii) Farming

iii) Loan

iv) Bank deposit

v) Others

29) Where do you spend your Social Security allowances?

- i) Household activities
- ii) Health
- iii) Children education
- iv) Social welfare
- v) Tobacco
- vi) Others

30) Do you have habit of smoking?

- i) Never
- ii) Occasionally
- iii) Regularly

31) If you have a habit of smoking, how much money do you spend?

- i) Rs500 per month
- ii) Rs1000 per month
- iii) Rs1500 per month
- iv) above Rs1500

32) Do you have habit of chewing tobacco?

- i) Never
- ii) Occasionally
- iii) Regularly

33) If you have a habit of chewing tobacco, how much money do you spend?

- i) Rs500 per month
- ii) Rs1000 per month
- iii) Rs1500 per month
- iv) above Rs1500

34) Do you have habit of drinking alcohol?

- i) Never
- ii) Occasionally
- iii) Regularly

35) If you have a habit of drinking alcohol, how much money do you spend?

- i) Rs1500 per month
- ii) Rs2000 per month
- iii) Rs2500 per month
- iv) above Rs2500

36) From which sectors, do you expect further more assistance for the Social Security?

- i) Government
- ii) Family
- iii) Relatives
- iv) Society
- v) Social organizations
- vi) Others

37) How much amount do you expect to be given to you as monthly Social Security allowances?

- i) Rs 2500
- ii) Rs3000
- iii) Rs4000
- iv) Rs5000

38) What types of support do you provide in your family profession?

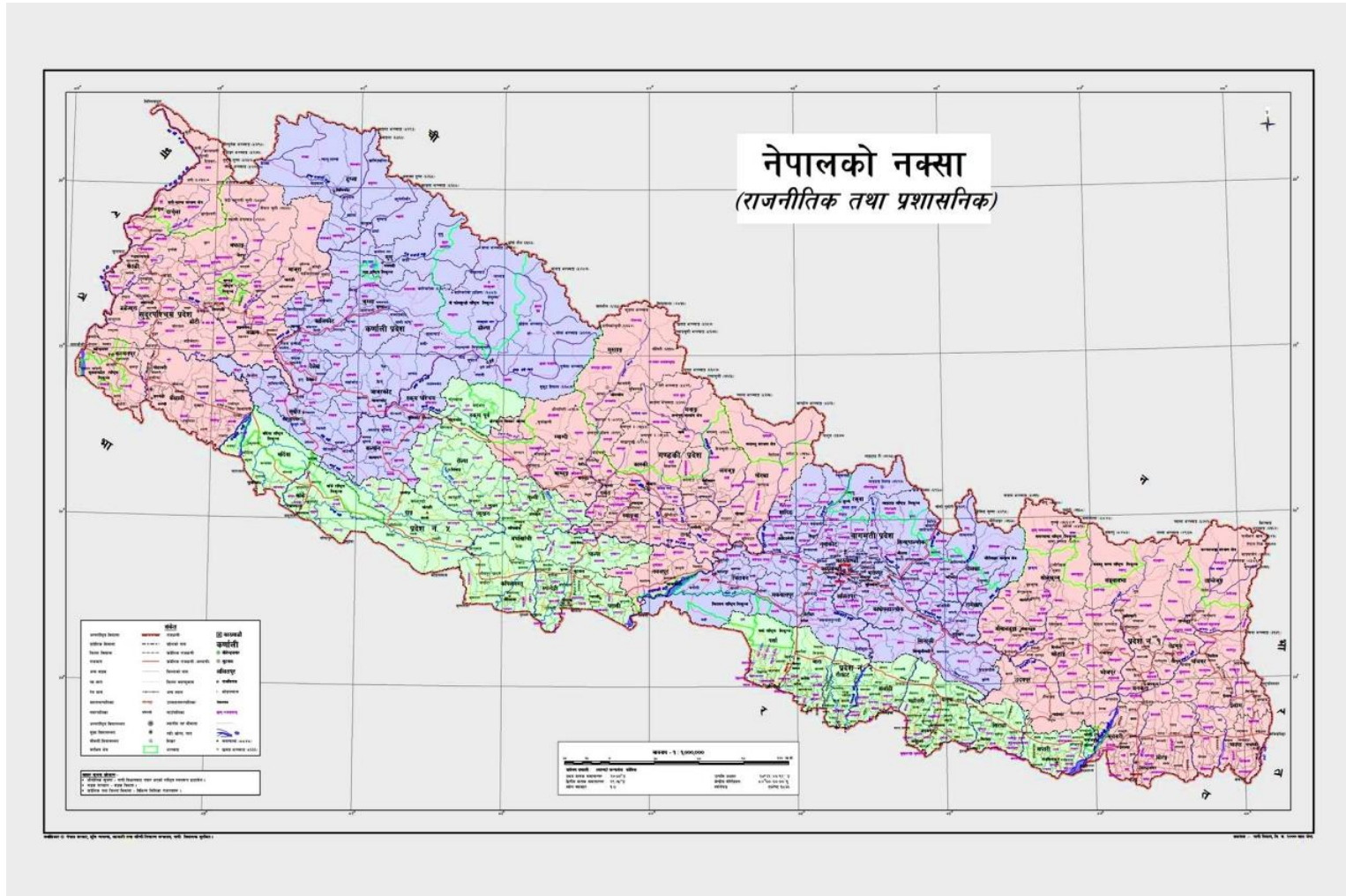
- i) Skill
- ii) physical labor
- iii) Money
- iv) Technical knowledge
- v) Advice
- vi) Supporting household work
- vii) Others.....specify

39) How long do you provide support to your family's profession?

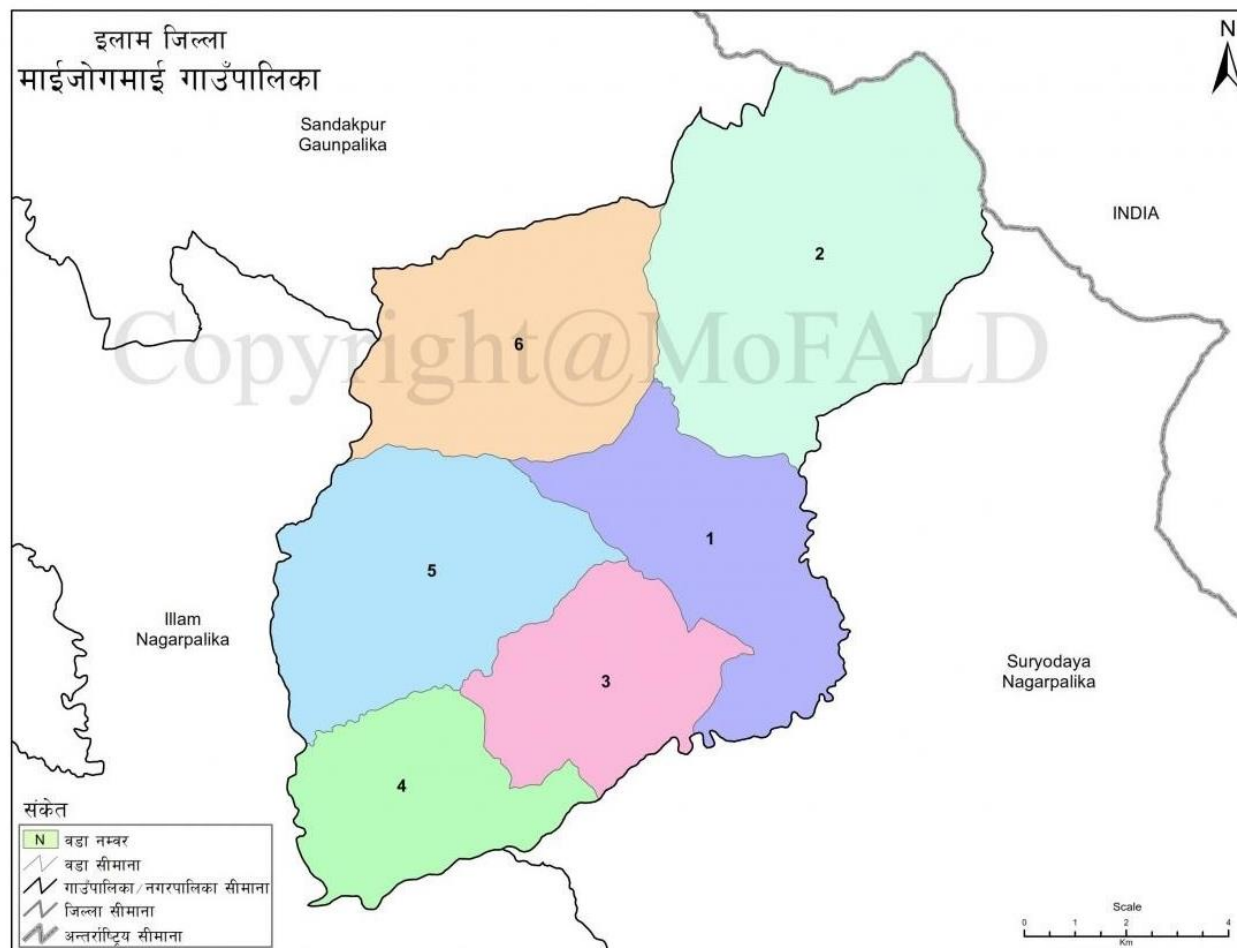
- i) Morning/Evening
- ii) Whole day

- iii) 2-4 hours
- iv) According to the need
- v) According to my wish
- vi) Others.....specify

ANNEX-II



ANNEX-III



स्रोत: स्थलरूप नक्सा (स्केल १:२५०००/१:५००००), नार्पी विभाग र जनगणना २०६८, केन्द्रिय तथ्यांक विभाग
तयार पार्ने: गाउँपालिका, नगरपालिका तथा विशेष, संरक्षित वा स्वायत्त क्षेत्रको संख्या तथा सीमाना निर्धारण आयोग

Projection System: MUTM, Spheroid - Everest 1830
LLRC, 2016

ANNEX-IV

माईजोगमाई गाउँपालिका- ३

