

**A STUDY ON NATURE AND DIMENSION OF OCCUPATIONAL SHIFT IN THREE GENERATIONS OF DULIA GAON, JORHAT, ASSAM**

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**Abstract:**

Thus the paper first proceeds to discover how generation came to be recognized as a dimensions of workforce diversity. This can be measured in several ways, including household income, individual earnings, occupational status, social status, age variations and education. Occupational mobility has shifted dramatically from primary to secondary activity from the first to third generation. The study is conducted to find out the occupational structure of Dulia Gaon and completely based on primary data with the help of schedule. Then the data is collected on the basis of occupational shift from generation 1 to generation 3. 70 households were taken for the study. Remote sensing and GIS techniques has been applied to get understanding about the area. Over the last three-and-a-half decades, there has been a structural shift in the occupational choice among rural workers, particularly rural agricultural workers, with changes in their occupational choices ranging from agriculture to non-agricultural sectors.

**Keywords:** Occupation shift, Generation, Age Variations and Education

**1. INTRODUCTION:**

The concept of occupational shift denotes the dynamic changes in work preferences and career choices observed among different generations (Jones et al., 2020). Occupational shift is concerned with the relationship between the socio-economic status of parents and the socio-economic outcomes of their children as adults (Croll et al., 2008). This can be measured in several ways, including household income, individual earnings, occupational status, social status, and education. Occupational mobility has shifted dramatically from primary to secondary activity from the first to third generation (Gans et al., 1979). If the occupational shift is economically efficient, it implies economic efficiency implications. Studies have been shown a profound occupational shift, as younger generations increasingly prioritize work- life balance and job satisfaction over traditional notions of success and stability (Turner et al., 2018). A.G.B. Fisher said that “We may say that in every progressive economy there has been a steady shift of employment and investment from the essential primary activities to secondary activities of all kinds and to a still greater extent into tertiary production.” Due to the dearth of data sources on the topic, there are surprisingly few studies of occupational mobility in India. The intergenerational occupational mobility in rural India is examined in this paper using data from one villages in the Dulia Gaon Village, Jorhat, Assam regions. As per discover that earnings and education are fairly well correlated; this implies that information on educational mobility is a strong predictor for earnings mobility.

**2. STUDY AREA:**

Dulia Gaon village, Uttar Garmur Panchayat is situated in Jorhat District, Assam. According to 2011 census information the location code of Dulia Gaon village is 293736. It is situated 8 km away from Jorhat town. The total geographical area of the village is 105.23 hectares. It is situated 79.4 meters at mean sea level with latitudinal and longitudinal extension of 26°44' N to 94° 15' E respectively. The climate is warm and temperate. The summers here have a very good deal of rainfall, while the winters have very little. The climate here is classified as Cwa by the Koppen-Geiger system (Karki et al., 2016). The temperature has average 24.0° C. About 2324 mm of precipitation falls annually Dulia Gaon village is located in east tehsil of Jorhat District, Assam with a total population of 2,798 people out of which 1,405 male and 1,393 are female as per as 2011 census. The population is residing on total geographical area is that is 105.23. There are about 625 households in Dulia Gaon. In Dulia Gaon village population of children with age 0-6 is 273 which

makes up 9.76% of total population of village. Average sex ratio is 991 which is higher than Assam state average of 958. Child sex ratio for the Dulia Gaon as per census is 923, lower than Assam average of 962. In 2011, literacy rate of Dulia Gaon village was 93.62% compared to 72.19% of Assam. In Dulia Gaon male literacy stands at 96.44% while female literacy rate was 90.81%. The inner most section of the village is situated near the bank of Bhogdoi River. Earlier the river flooded the small section of village but recently the government mended the embankment of Bhogdoi to avoid the loss of alluvial and also to avoid flooding.

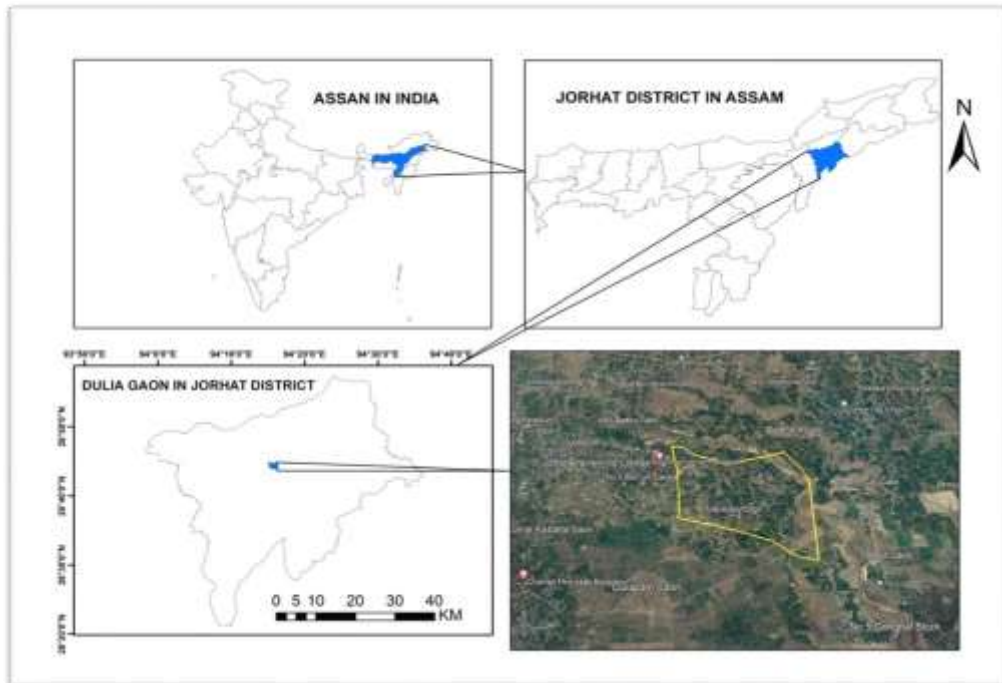


Fig 2.1 Study Area map of Dulia Gaon, Jorhat District

### **3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:**

1. To study occupational shift with generational changes in the Dulia Gaon Jorhat Assam.
2. To study the economic status of the study area.

### **4. METHODOLOGY:**

The study is conducted to find out the occupational structure of Dulia Gaon and completely based on primary data with the help of schedule. Before going to the survey, a pilot survey has been done. By doing the pilot survey came to know the occupational shift of Dulia Gaon village, which fulfils the requirement of selected topic of field survey. By interacting with few people and after properly viewing the area, the actual survey is schedule on a specific day to generate data regarding the occupational shift of Dulia Gaon. After selecting the area, schedule was prepared to collect relevant data. Then the data is collected on the basis of occupational shift from generation 1 to generation 3. 70 households were taken for the study. Occupation is a broad subject having various dimension and forms. The study of occupational shift is analyzed with the help of values like generation, age variations and education. After collecting and organizing, data are analyzed in bar graph and table because diagram helps in easy to understand. But some relevant data's are collected from secondary sources like research papers, journals and websites. Data are gathered from Diva GIS, Google Earth Pro and Earth data, NASA in order to construct the study area map. ArcGIS 10.3 was used to create the final map.

### **5. CHANGING OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE IN DULIA GAON:**

In the selected study area of Dulia Gaon, Jorhat District, and the entire research tried to analyses some primary data about the people's occupations. To obtained the data about how occupation of people changes from generation 1 to generation 3. It is basically the analysis of

occupational structure of a family. After arranging the data in a tabulation chart, came to conclusions as follows-

**Occupational changes with change in Generation:**

Occupations	G1	G2	G3	Total	Generation 1 in %	Generation 2 in %	Generation 3 in %	Total in %
Farmer	53	23	1	77	75.71	32.86	1.43	36.67
Business	4	11	17	32	5.71	15.71	24.29	15.24
TGL	2	2	1	5	2.86	2.86	1.43	2.38
Govt. Service	7	23	28	58	10	32.86	40	27.62
Pvt. Service	4	6	18	28	5.71	8.57	25.71	13.33
Retired Person	0	5	1	6	0	7.14	1.43	2.86
Daily Wage Worker	0	0	4	4	0	0	5.71	1.9
Total households	70	70	70					

Table 5.1.1 Shift with occupational change with generation  
 Source: Household Survey, 2019

The number of people engaged in primary activities is higher in generation 1 (75.71%) but decreases towards generation 2 (1.43%). This indicates that people are shifting towards service sector. The percentage of people working in government service is more in generation 3 i.e. 40%, it was lower in generation 1 (10%) but increases with steady pace from generation2 (32.86%).

In generation 3 (40%), people who are not engaged in any of the activities have their own business. People engaged in also increases from generation 1 (5.71%) followed by generation 2 (15.71%) and generation 3 (24.29%). People who are working as tea garden labors and daily wage earner are relatively low. The former one having percentage of 2.38% and the latter one is 1.90% respectively.

The percentage of retired person is seen more in generation2 (7.19%), non in generation 1 and only 1.43% is seen in generation3. There is a steady growth of people working in private sector from generation 1 (5.71%) to generation 2 (8.57%) but a rapid growth is seen generation 3 (25.71%). From the above data research come to conclude that people are engaged majorly in primary activities i.e. agriculture with a percentage of 36.67% and 27.62% of people are working in government services the income is stable and 15.24% of people are engages in business. This concludes that main occupation of the people of Dulia Gaon is agriculture but there is a shift of occupation towards service sector as the income is not stable from primary activities due to various climatic conditions and with the developmental education system people tends to achieve higher income through service sectors.

**Occupational changes with Age variation:**

Generation 1	Occupation in %						
	Farmer	Business	TGL	Gvt. Service	Pvt. Service	Ret. Service	Fac. Profess. Wor.
All expired	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 5.2.1 Occupational changes with age variation in generation 1  
 Source: Household survey, 2019

After analyzing the data it can be seen that in generation1, all the workers are seemed to be expired. No information of them was also found from the householder's.

Generation 2	Occupation in %						
	Farmer	Business	TGL	Gvt. Service	Pvt. Service	Ret. Service	Fac. Profess. Wor.
Young workers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Middle aged	2.63	7.89	2.63	21.05	2.63	2.63	0

workers									
elderly workers	10.53	789	0	23.68	7.89	10.53	0	0	0

**Table 5.2.2 Occupational changes with age variation in generation 2**

**Source: Household survey, 2019**

In generation 2, the young aged workers of age group 1-25 are not involved in the respective occupation. The middle aged workers of age group 25-60 are generally engaged in the government service, about 21.05% than that of the other occupations, this is because of the government service is more stable than any other occupations as the service provides security of life. Age group above the age of 60s are the elderly workers mostly engaged in governmental services that is 23.68%. This is because during that time due to poor quality education, the competition was less so it was easier for the people to engage themselves in the governmental services.

Generation 3	Occupation in %								
	Farmer	Business	TGL	Gvt. Service	Pvt. Service	Ret	Fac. Wor.	Profess	
Young workers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Middle aged workers	1.45	21.74	1.45	34.78	17.39	1.45	4.35	1.45	
Elderly workers	0	2.9	0	1.45	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 5.2.3 Age variation and occupational change in generation 3**

**Source: Household survey, 2019**

In generation 3, young workers are generally engaged in private service (7.25%), many reasons can be the outcome of this results, (a) as the competition for achieving a secured job increases, (b) salary offered in private sector is more than government sector and many more. Middle aged workers are mostly engaged in government service, about 34.78% because of enough educational qualification and stabilized works present in government service. Elderly workers prefer government service (1.45%) because due to its stability and security of life by providing pension after retirement basic necessities of life but now education is also included in the basic necessities. Here research analyzed change of occupation of people from generation 1 to generation 3 with changes in education and classified education into 10 categories, they are-

(a) LP, (b) ME, (c) High School, (d) HSLC, (e) HS, (f) Degree, (g) PG, (h) Technical, (i) PhD and (j) Illiterate

Qualification	Generation 1 in %								
	Farmer	Business	TGL	Gvt. Service	Pvt. Service	Ret.	Fac. Wor.	Profess.	
Illiterate	7.14	0	0	1.43	0	0	0	0	0
LP	50	0	1.43	2.86	4.29	0	0	0	0
ME	0	2.86	1.43	0	0	0	0	0	0
H. School	5.71	0	0	0	1.43	0	0	0	0
HSLC	12.86	1.43	0	5.71	0	0	0	0	0
HS	0	1.43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Degree	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Technical	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PhD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	75.71	5.71	2.86	10	5.71	0	0	0	0

**Table 5.3.1 Education wise occupation change in generation 1**

**Source: Household survey, 2019**

After analyzing the data came to know that people from generation 1 have low level of education, about 58.57% of people studied in LP and are generally engaged in agricultural sector (50%). 1.43% are working as tea garden laborers, 2.86% are working in government sector and 4.29% are engaged in primary activities. 4.29% of people have gained education till ME and are

working as businessman (2.86%) and tea garden labor (1.43%). The highest number people after LP is found in HSLC 20%. 12.86% of people are farmers while 1.43% of people have their own business and 5.71% of people are engaged in private sector. 1.43% of population has studied till HS are engaged in business. No more higher education is found in generation 1, but 8.57% of total population are illiterate and are dependent totally upon agriculture for survival, only 1.43% is working on government sector. This concludes that the education quality was low during that time and people were unaware of the benefits of being educated. More than half of the population is engaged in agricultural activities.

Qualification	Generation 2 in %								
	Farmer	Business	TGL	Gvt. Service	Pvt. Service	Ret.	Fac.	Wor.	Profess.
Illiterate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LP	14.29	2.86	1.43	4.29	2.86	1.43	0	0	1.43
ME	4.29	1.43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H. School	4.29	2.86	0	1.43	1.43	0	0	0	0
HSLC	5.71	4.29	0	7.14	0	1.43	0	0	0
HS	1.43	1.43	0	4.29	2.86	1.43	0	0	0
Degree	0	2.86	1.43	12.86	1.43	2.86	0	0	0
PG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Technical	0	0	0	2.86	0	0	0	0	0
PhD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	31.43	15.71	2.86	32.86	8.57	7.14	0	0	1.43

Table 5.3.2 Education wise occupation change in generation 2

Source: Household survey, 2019

In generation 2, the percentage of people studied in LP is higher (28.57%), out of which 14.29% are engaged in agriculture, 4.29% are working in government sector. There are equal retired person and people working as professional are about 1.43%. 22.86% of people have gained education till degree, here people working as farmers, TGL and private service have the same amount of percentage (1.43%). A large portion of people are engaged in government service and remaining 2.86% manages their own business. 18.57% of people have studied till HSLC, here majority of people working (7.14%) in government service, 5.71% are engaged in agriculture, 4.29% have their own business and only about 1.43% of people are retired. Here, illiteracy is 0%, this indicated that the people of Dulia Gaon have taken opportunities to gain higher education. This is also indicated that people are shifting their occupation from primary to other activities. They involve themselves in various services.

Qualification	Generation 3 in %								
	Farmer	Business	TGL	Gvt. Service	Pvt. Service	Ret.	Fac.	Wor.	Profess.
Illiterate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LP	0	1.43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ME	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H. School	0	4.29	0	5.71	0	0	0	0	1.43
HSLC	0	2.86	0	4.29	5.71	0	1.43	0	0
HS	1.43	4.29	1.43	5.71	4.29	0	1.43	0	0
Degree	0	10	0	14.29	7.14	1.43	0	0	0
PG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Technical	0	1.43	0	10	7.14	0	1.43	0	0
PhD	0	0	0	0	1.43	0	0	0	0
Total	1.43	24.29	1.43	40	25.71	1.43	4.29	0	1.43

Table 5.3.3 Education wise occupation change in generation 3

In generation 3, the highest percentage that is 40% people are working under government

sector, here educational qualification till degree, 10% have qualified in technical field, 4.29% have studied till HSLC and some percentage of people till high school and HS i.e. 5.71% due to stable income source with advantage like security of life, pension after retirement etc are some of the reasons due to which there is majority of people working in government sector. The percentage people studied till degree and technical is also high with a percentage of about 7.14% and are working under private sector as with the increase in the facilities provided for education for students, they are pursuing in private sector as to earn more money as to fulfil the raising demands. About 4.29% of the population are working as factory workers with education qualification till HSLC (1.43%), HS (1.43%) and in technical fields (1.43%). Business is also becoming a trending occupation but also a risky one, about 24.29% of the population are involved in the business sector. Here, 10% of the population have qualification till degree, followed by educational qualification till high school (4.29%), HS (4.29%), LP (1.43%) and post graduate (1.43%). The rest of the occupations have same percentage of people working that is 1.43% with generally having education qualification till degree. Education becomes one of the better component to achieve suitable job for better lifestyle.

## **6. RESULTS:**

The research also tried to enquire into the level of aspiration of the people of the sample village and main aim of the survey was to study occupational shift of the people of Dulia Gaon. It was found that the first generation of people were engaged in agriculture as well as other primary occupations. Their source of income was mainly on agriculture. But the third generations have moved away from agriculture and engaged with government and private services. After conducting the survey various problems also came to the surface. The four more important facilities that the people think are lacking in their village where communication, drinking water, agricultural production, electricity in terms of deprivation, people mostly think that they are deprived of employment, pure drinking water, electricity etc.

Generation of public awareness and community participations are the two major aspects of development planning of the democratic nation like India. The survey has responded highly regarding public participation and awareness. After practically studying about the people of Dulia Gaon, some related problems seen in the village. There is no shortage of water in the research area so far but there is a shortage of pure drinking water. In the absence of a water filtration scheme, most people depend on deep tube wells, wells for drinking water. Water extracted from underground with mixed with various types of chemicals and polluted, although most of people are consuming such water. The lack of awareness of the common people about the purity of water has also made the problem of water serious. In many parts of Assam, the physical and mental disorders of the people have been caused due to the consumption of arsenic, lead water.

Like other problems, the problem of electricity is also appearing in the village. In Assam, electricity is mainly supplied under government patronage. So the issue of providing electricity to rural areas is mired in politics. The strategy of votes like a puppet after the election by the voters. It is for these reasons that many backward areas of Assam have been deprived of electricity (Based on the Rajiv Gandhi Rural Power scheme, many families below the poverty line has received electricity in the recent past, but in many places corruption has created confusion). The people of the village are usually suffering. So they don't complain even if the power cuts are sore. It is for these reasons that development has come to a standstill.

Most of the rural roads in the village take a devastated form every year, especially during the monsoon. The dilapidated look of several rural roads in the region is causing a lot of problems to the public. People are unable to come and go on the roads due to waterlogging. Due to the water not being able to flow out along the road, there is a lot of water on the entire road. The divisional authorities have come forward to work on the road as the local people have been demanding from the District Magistrate as well as the Divisional authorities to improve the road. But road is not yet to begin. In the meantime, many roads in the region have been constructed through Panchayat or other government schemes, but many of them are still said to be incomplete.

The shift from agriculture to secondary and tertiary activities in the Indian economy presents both opportunities and challenges. While economic diversification is desirable for overall growth, the vulnerability of the agricultural sector demands attention. Policymakers must prioritize the development of supportive infrastructure, access to technology, financial inclusion, and market reforms to enhance agricultural productivity, profitability, and resilience. Furthermore, efforts should focus on skill development, rural entrepreneurship, and social safety nets to mitigate the adverse impacts of the transition on farmers and rural communities. Only through comprehensive and inclusive policies can India ensure a sustainable and equitable agricultural economy while promoting overall economic.

The vulnerability of the Indian agricultural economy has broader implications for the overall economy. Overdependence on the agricultural sector exposes the economy to risks associated with fluctuations in agricultural output, impacting food security and inflation (Baiphethi et al., 2009). Furthermore, the declining share of agriculture in the GDP and employment raises concerns about inclusive growth and equitable development. It is crucial to recognize that a sustainable and resilient agricultural sector is fundamental for achieving long-term economic stability and social welfare.

## **7. CONCLUSION:**

Occupational change is mainly understood as a change in the activities of achieving the livelihood of individuals in society. In the last three decades, there has been a structural change generation wise, especially among rural agricultural workers. This change has been from the agricultural sector to the non-agricultural sector. Over the years, according to a recent survey by the 2018-19 Labor Union, farm distress dependents have come down to 50%. The contribution of the agriculture sector to the national GDP has declined from 34% in 1983-84 to 16% in 2018-19. On the other hand, rural non-agricultural employment has increased by 19% to 42 % in the same period. The number of people employed in rural non-farm employed has increased by 23% from 1983 to 2018.

In rural areas, the number of male labourers engaged in agricultural activities has come down from 78% to %3%. In the same period, the rate of agricultural employment for women has come down from 88% to 71%. The primary reason for the decline in the share of employment in the agricultural sector in Assam by generations are- inadequate public investment, inadequate access to credit, underdeveloped irrigation facilities, poor marketing policies of the government, poor land reform policies and low returns from agriculture.

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