Occupational Structure: An Introduction of Rudraprayag District (Uttarakhand)

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Abstract

The word '*industry*' is often used in the sense of '*occupation*'. Therefore, the classification of occupation (occupational structure) of population is also known as **industrial classification** of population. There are different types of economic activities in all over the world which are different by types and quantity. It is not easy to merge all of them into some category.Therefore, United Nations has made a standard of the occupational structure for the world level. Many countries provide the occupational data to the United Nations according to this standard, although these countries might use some other standard for their own country.The industrial classification of India is also followed same, but with some changes as the standard of United Nations. We classified Agriculture more specifically by cultivators and agricultural laborers. Hence, the occupational structure of the Rudraprayag district is presented in this paper.

Keywords: Industrial Classifications, Occupational Structure.

Introduction

The concept of occupation is very dynamic which is changed according to the time and place. *R.N. Singh* and *S.D. Maurya* defined occupation as, *"Occupation is a continuous process secured by a man to achieve the livelihood and a social level. This is a special economic activity, by which a man could get livelihood. Therefore, all the economic activities are the part of occupation. Hunting, animal husbandry, fishing, forestry, agriculture, mining, industry, transport and service etc are all occupation activities. In this way, the occupation is the permanent source of economy."* The occupational structure of the population means the distribution of the total working population in the different occupations or classifications of occupations. Since the time when civilization existed in the world, people involve in many activities to earn their livelihood. They started from the agriculture activities, turned to industrial activities and now we are focusing on improving the skill, i.e. education, research etc.

The word 'occupation' consists of those economic activities by which a man could earn the livelihood. All the occupations (economic activities) are classified in primary, secondary and tertiary activities. Primary occupation includes hunting, fishing, animal husbandry, collection of natural goods, mining, agriculture etc. The activities or occupations which are dependent on the primary productions are called secondary occupations. Manufacturing industry, real estate sector, construction of road etc all are the activities of secondary occupations. Tertiary occupations include those activities which do not produce directly, but they help in the production indirectly. These are transport, communication, business and commercial activities. The education, administration, medical activities, entertainment, defense etc are also included in this category. In the present time the art, literature, science, technology, research and allied activities are included in the fourth category. This category is known as quaternary occupation.

The human occupations are controlled by many physical, social, economic and individual factors. All the controlling factors are summarized into internal and external factors. Internal factors are related to the physical and mental capacity of man. They are age, sex, health, education etc. The external factors are controlled by physical-biological and social-cultural and economic activities, which are also closed to each other. The sex determines the occupational activities of man and women. Women especially involve in the domestic and allied activities, but in the present time they are getting engaged in education, medical, entertainment etc. The industrial sector is basically dominated by man due to hard physical activities. In the study area, the working participation and time of women is
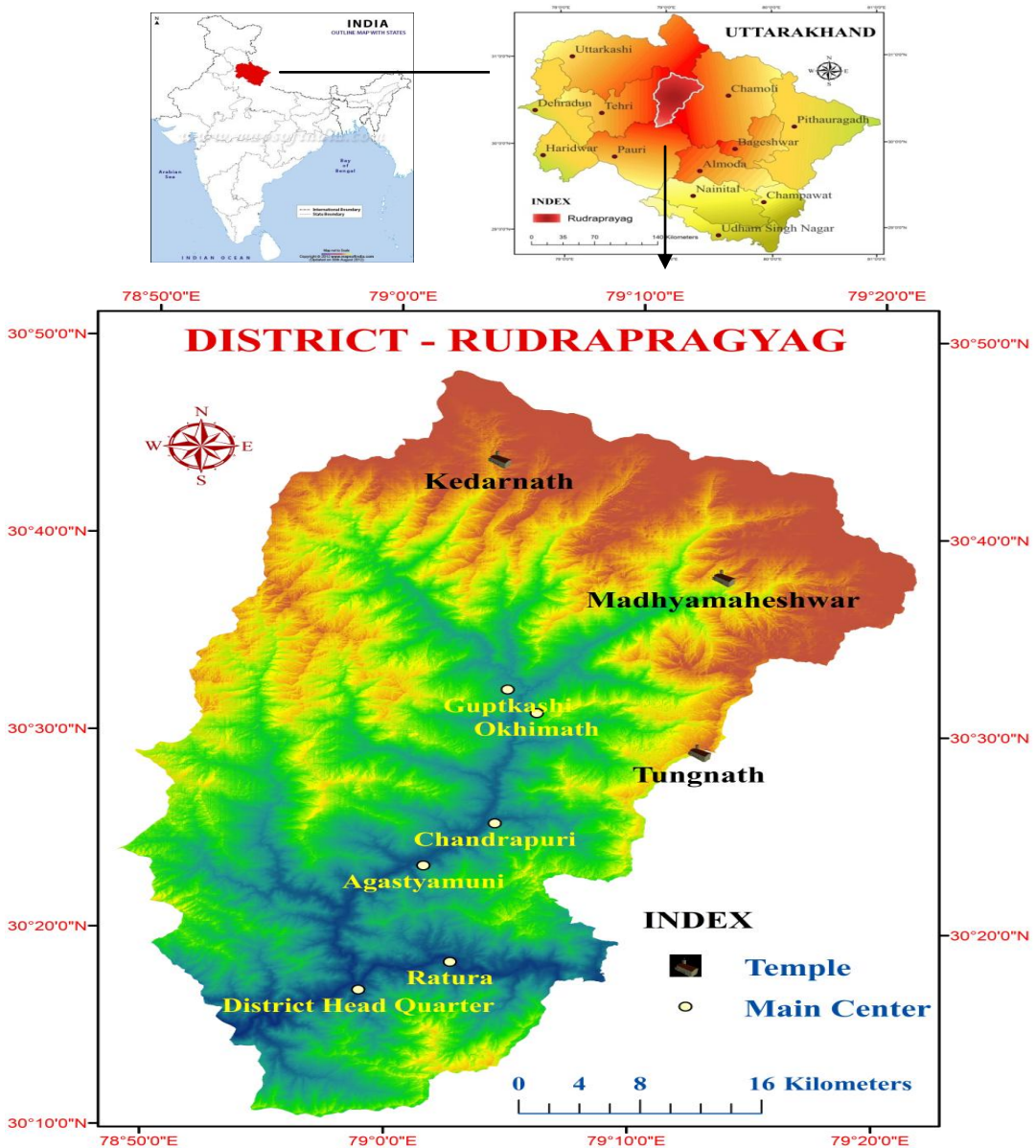
Remarking An Analisation

more than male member because the agriculture and allied activities are done more than industrial activities. The age factor determines the occupation activities. The more share of adults involve in the different occupations, while the children and the old citizens are dependent on them (adults). The study area is more dominated by adults (56.92%). The education and technology also determine the classes of occupation. The educated and well qualified labor involve in secondary and tertiary activities, while the uneducated population always involve in primary activities.

Study Area

Rudraprayag district is located in the central part of the Garhwal region. It is located from 30^0 10' N – 30^0 47'N latitude and 78^0 45' E – 79^0 30' E longitude. It covers 1990 km^2 area of the ground. The altitude of the region ranges from 670 M. to 6968 M. Uttarkashi lies on the North and North-Western side, Tehri lies on the Western side, Pauri lies on the Southern side and Chamoli lies on the Eastern side. The almost part of the district is covered by the MandakiniRiver catchments. The Mandakini and its tributaries, i.e. MadhyamaheshwarRiver, KaliRiver, Lastar Gad etc. made different structures and landforms in the valley and people are living and establishing their colonies on the river terraces side by the river. The Geographical location of Rudraprayag district is presented in the Fig-1.

Fig – 1
The Location of The Study Area

Source: Aster DEM & Arc Gis 9.3 Software

Research Methodology

The present study attempts to present the occupational condition in Rudraprayag district. To study the status of occupation in Rudraprayag district, 16 villages are selected. The demographic and occupational data were delineated using primary survey. Field survey using portable handheld Garmin Montana 650 GPS has been conducted for ground thruthing. The spatial mappings of demographic characteristics and migration conditions have been done using Arcgis 9.3 software.

Aims Of The Study

The present study is based on the occupational structure of the Rudraprayag district, Uttarakhand. Therefore, the main objective of the study is to identify the population distribution in the different sectors (primary, secondary or tertiary) of employments. It is important to identify the clear picture of industrial classification of labor for a mountainous region.

Results and Discussions

The industrial classification of India is also followed same, but with some changes as the standard of United Nations. We classified Agriculture more specifically by cultivators and agricultural laborers. The construction is described as manufacturing and is classified in household industry and other than house hold industry. It is adopted in 1951 with some changes as follows -

1. Cultivators
2. Agricultural Laborers
3. Animal Husbandry, Fishing, Horticulture and Allied Activities
4. Mining and Quarrying
5. Manufacturing, Processing and Repairs
a. Household Industry
b. Other than Household Industry
6. Construction
7. Trade and Commerce
8. Transport, Storage and Communication
9. Other Services

. The above classification of occupational structure followed by India is almost same as the standard made by United Nations, but the subdivision of occupational activities are changed according to the regional conditions. The first category of United Nations are classified into 3 different classes in Indian census, because there are found a lot of differences in the nature and economic conditions of cultivators, agricultural laborers and the people who are involved in different primary activities and a high percentage of people are involved in it. Therefore, it was necessary to reclassify this category. The manufacturing sectors are also classified into 2 different categories due to the basic differences in the nature of work and the quantity of production – i. Household industry and ii. Other than household industry.
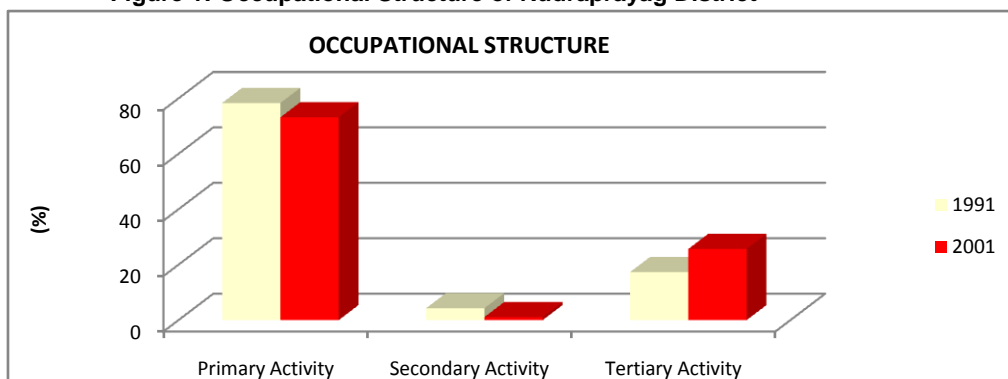
The availability of man force and their use are studied in the occupational structure of population. On the basis of their activity, the population can be divided into employed and unemployed. Occupational structure includes that population who are busy in different economic activities. In this way, the occupational structure defines the involvement of active population (employed population) into different economic sectors. Therefore, the occupational structure of population is influenced by cultural, social, economic, demographic and physical factors. The study of occupational structure is very important in the study of population, because we could get the information of available man force. The presented table 1 (Bhandari, 2007) presents the occupational structure of the Rudraprayag district of 1991 and 2001.

Table 1: Occupational Structure of Rudraprayag District, 1991&2001

Blocks	Primary Activity	Secondary Activity	Tertiary Activity
Ukhimath	76.1	4.2	19.7
Agastyamuni	76.5	3.9	19.6
Jakholi	82.5	4.8	12.7
Rudraprayag (1991)	78.36	4.3	17.33
Rudraprayag (2001)	73.2	1.11	25.7

Source: Unpublished thesis by ManjuBhandari, 2007

Figure 1: Occupational Structure of Rudraprayag District

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The most of the participations of the occupation in the district are of women, who represent the most part of the workforce. It is because of the involvement of female in the agriculture sectors in the villages. The domestic as well as the agricultural part of the villages is totally done by females. Generally the agriculture is done for the individually purpose and the villagers are not so rich to hire the labor for agriculture. The land is so steep, un-irrigated and therefore, the agriculture is done according to the bunds. It is also called contour agriculture. The agriculture is done with the help of shovel because the land is not so large to use the tractor. Therefore man power is needed more and the males are outside for jobs (secondary or tertiary activities). Therefore, the agriculture is totally dependent on the females. The present agriculture in the mountain area cannot be imagined without females.

The above table reveals the primary, secondary and tertiary activities of Rudraprayag district. The participants of primary and secondary activities are decreased by 1991. There were 78.36% primary activist in 1991, but in 2001, they are 73.2%. There is 5.16% decrease of the primary activities. The secondary activities were 4.3% in 1991 while it came to only 1.11% in 2001. It is decreased by 3.19%. But,

there were increased the population in tertiary activities. In 1991, there were 17.33% people involved in it, but in 2001, 25.7% were busy in different sectors of tertiary activities. It is increased by 8.37%. It shows that the share of primary and secondary activities decreases than tertiary activity. It could be increased only because of improvement of education level. People are getting more skills and they are getting jobs in different government and private sectors. A person could get more livelihoods in less time in the tertiary sectors, while it takes a lot of hard work and fewer livelihoods in primary and secondary sources. Therefore, the interest in these two sectors is getting down. As it is revealed that the most of the population in primary sectors are involved in Jakholi block. It is due to the good and maximum facility of well irrigated agriculture land. Ukhimath and Agastyamuni blocks are similar in tertiary activities, while the least population is involved in Jakholi block in tertiary activities. The occupational structure of the people is also determined by the place and chances of employment that one may have at that particular place. The people are involved in many activities. As the villagers used to busy in agriculture and allied activities but now they are going to busy in services and the agricultural activities are left behind.

Table 2: Occupational Structure of the Sample Villages, 2014

S.No.	Villages	Primary (%)	Secondary (%)	Tertiary (%)
1	Balsundi	43.9	1.2	54.9
2	BarawTalla	56.4	1.9	41.7
3	Bhainsgawn	49.5	5.1	45.4
4	Dovalya	33	4.6	62.4
5	Tankila	49.4	2.5	48.1
6	TemariyaPalla	43.5	8.8	47.7
7	Hyuna	37	0.1	62.9
8	Jai Khanda	40.8	9.7	49.5
9	Jurani	47.1	4.7	48.2
10	Mathya	53.2	3	43.8
11	Dhariyanj	39	4	57
12	Sirwadi	49.1	3.5	47.4
13	Kapaniya	46.9	3	50.1
14	Sisau	51.5	1.5	47
15	Ghengad	48.9	2	49.1
16	Arkhund	48.5	2.2	49.3
	Average	46.1	3.6	50.3

Source: Primary Data Survey

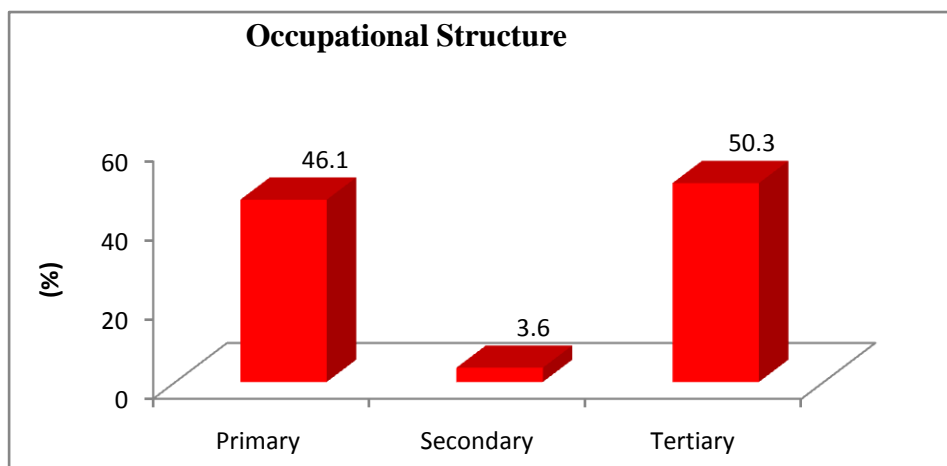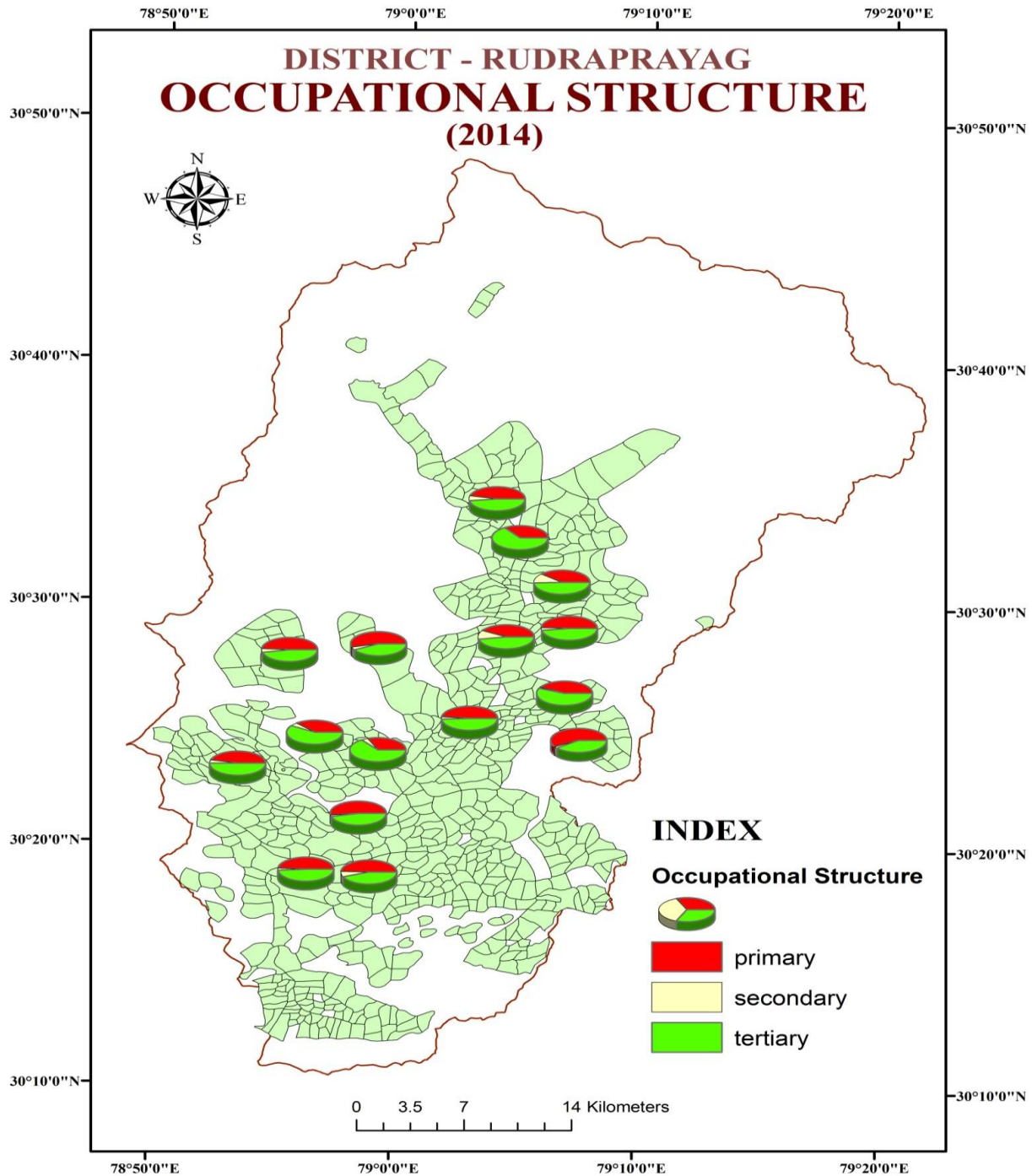**Figure 2: Occupational Structure of the Sample Villages**

Table 2 presents the occupational structure of the sample villages. It shows that most of the respondents are involved in tertiary activities. There is 50.3% population involved in it. This population is migrated outside of the villages. They work in the government and private sectors of the many urban and rurban areas of the country. The share of the people in primary sector is 46.1%. The people are involved in agriculture basically in the primary sector. The secondary sector has only 3.6% people involved.

Figure 3

Source: Census of India Maps &Primay Survey Data, 2014

The basic activity in the villages is agriculture. It has been subsistence for the people. Even, the villagers are still following the traditional pattern of agriculture. The transport, business and market are not well established. The geomorphology of the region is so tough, high relative relief and full of

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diversified climatic condition, therefore, the economic growth of the region moved very slowly. The agrarian population is so much in this region. There isaverage 45.55% populations involve in agriculture and 0.55% people have animal husbandry occupation. The construction and manufacturing industry include only 3.6% population (Primary Survey Data). There is 1.67% population in business, 13.77% people are services and 34.86% people are involved in other activities (Primary Survey Data). The most of the share is of agriculture. TemariyaPalla has 43.5%, Tankila has 48.95%, Bhainsgawn has 49.5% and Hyuna has 36.45% population involved in agriculture. Jai Khanda has 40.8%, Jurani has 46.55%, Dovalya has the same 33%, Mathya village has 52.65% and Sisau has 51.5% population involved in agriculture. Most of the people of these villages are involved in secondary and tertiary activities. Therefore, the out-migration in these villages is very much. Jai Khanda has 40.9% out-migration, Dovalya has 30.65%, Mathya village has 24.18% and Sisau village has 23.05% out-migration. The least share of agriculture is found in Mathya village. There are only 45.55% people who are involved in agriculture activities. The basic reason behind this is that the agriculture land is not too much here and these areas are very remote by accessibility. Therefore, the people move outside in search of better livelihood conditions and women do agriculture.

Conclusions

There are 14.51% people who have, due to their education, entered into different service sector and have made a departure from the primary sector. Most of them are in hotel industry and private companies. Besides, 4.52% people are working as a labor. They work as a mason. Further 1.71% people started business. There are a few respondents (0.025%) who work as folk artists. 0.85% people chose driver as their profession. The reason for greater dependency on primary sector is perhaps associated with educational conditions (primary observation). It was observed in the context of educational conditions that almost 13.69% people are illiterate and the rest people who are graduates and post graduates, they are not more qualified and helpless to involve in agriculture, driver, laborer etc. This is the reason that by and large people are in the villages and dependent on such activities for their livelihood.

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