

# Socio-Economic Structure Of Riverine People In Rangpur District Of Bangladesh

Dr. Mst. Shifat Rumana

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## **Abstract**

Bangladesh is a small and one of the most densely populated countries in the world. Excessive population, overwhelming poverty, social inequity, socio-political corruption etc. are major socio-economic problems in our country. Among the multi-dimensional socio-economic problems, Bangladesh faces various natural disasters almost every year. Flood is one of them. Due to flood, a massive area of our country goes under water and damages the physical and cultural environment. Much people especially the riverine poor people suffer an unwanted situation which caused large scale destruction of livelihoods and property. In this research the study area consists by Lakshmitari union at Gangachara upazila and Kaunia Balapara union at Kaunia upazila of Rangpur district. Both upazilas are located beside the Teesta river. Almost every year those areas are being affected by flood and river bank erosion. Lakshmitari and Kaunia Balapara unions are highly flood prone area of both upazilas. Two study unions are rural area and majority of people are engaged in agriculture sector for their livelihood. Both primary and secondary data have been used for analyzing this study. In this study socio-economic structure of Teesta riverine people like population distribution by religion and gender, educational qualification, household size, occupation, income, expenditure, housing type, land ownership, sources of drinking water, sanitation and lighting facilities, health care facilities, etc. have been discussed.

**Keywords:** Socio-economic structure, riverine people, Teesta river.

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## **I. Introduction**

Bangladesh is a riverine country. Many people of this country live in river side and they face different types of challenges in their livelihood. In every year Bangladesh faces various types of natural disasters. Riverine people face and fight against flood and river bank erosion almost every year.

As a result of flat topography of the floodplain and the characteristics of delta formation, one-fifth to one-third of the country is annually flooded by overflowing rivers during the monsoon. At this time the rainfall within the country is also very high (ESCAP, 2003). Due to the geographical position, Bangladesh has a long history of experiencing annual floods and occasionally catastrophic floods. In many respects, these floods are beneficial; however, in some cases, the detrimental effects are believed to outweigh the benefits. Some floods have had devastating impacts on both infrastructures and human lives (Saleh et al., 1998). Flood is more or less recurring phenomena in Bangladesh, and often within tolerable limits. Bangladesh is a land of many rivers, and heavy monsoon rains. Therefore, the country is subject to inundation by overflow due to drainage congestion, rainfall runoff, and storm tidal surges. Some 30 to 35 percent of the total land surface is flooded everywhere during the wet season (Milliman et al., 1989). Bangladesh is particularly flood-prone, and during typical annual floods about 20-22% of the country is inundated between June and October, even in years of normal rainfall (Rasheed, 2008). Normally, monsoonal floods cover about 20% of the territory every alternative year and 37% of the territory one year out of every ten (Parker, 1992). On average, at least one fifth of Bangladesh's territory is flooded every year, and this proportion may increase to almost three quarters in the event of catastrophic floods (Agarwala et al., 2003).

The Teesta river is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest trans-national river in Bangladesh which is situated in the northern part of the country and it is originated from the glaciers of the Himalayas in Sikkim. This international river has been occupied in two neighbor countries including Bangladesh (downstream area) and India (upstream area) (Islam et al., 2004). Teesta riverine people of north-western Bangladesh face different types of problems in their livelihood like other areas people of Bangladesh. They face the problem of pure drinking water, sanitation problem, food problem, communication problem, many kinds of diseases and others household related problems.

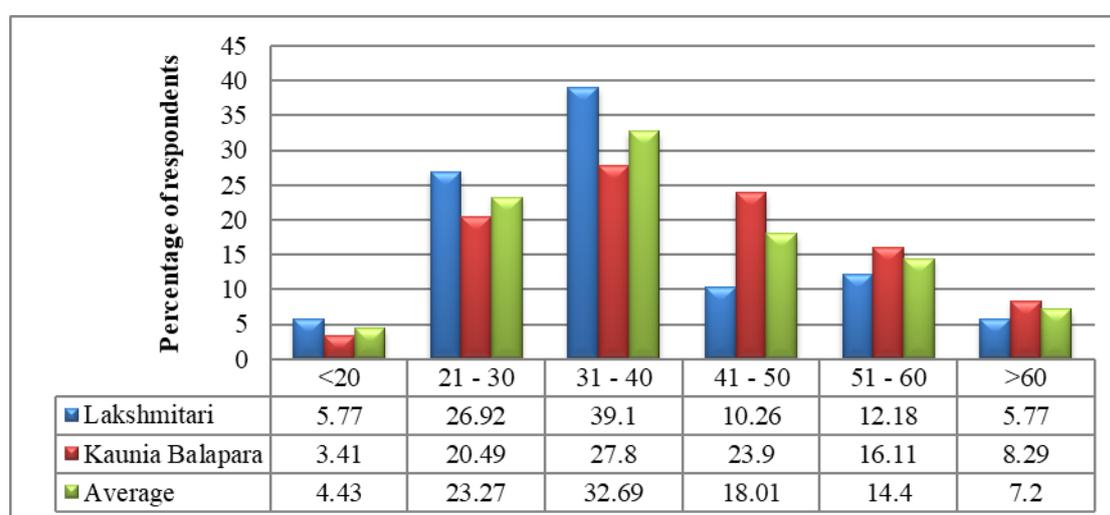
## II. Methodology Of The Study

In this research Lakshmitari *union* at Gangachara *upazila* and Kaunia Balapara *union* at Kaunia *upazila* of Rangpur district were selected as the study area. Teesta river cross in these areas. A questionnaire survey has been carried out at the household level in the selected sample *unions* to collect data and information. Quantitative and qualitative approaches were used to collect data which provide relevant and fruitful information to identify the actual socio-economic structure of flood affected riverine people in the study area. The available secondary data has been provided relevant and useful information for an analytical study. In this study purposive sampling and simple random sampling were used to select study area and sample size. Purposive sampling was used to select study area and sample random sampling was used to get household number for surveying and collecting data and information. To determine the sample size, method of Krejcie and Morgan (1970) was applied. Using this method 361 households were selected as sample size and out of 361 sample size 156 from Lakshmitari *union* and 205 from Kaunia Balapara *union* were taken for the study.

## III. Result And Discussion

### Population Distribution by Age Group-2017

The following figure-1 shows the age distribution of respondents. Number of respondents is many at the age group of 31-40 years. This is 32.69 percent on an average and 39.10 percent at Lakshmitari *union*, 27.80 percent at Kaunia Balapara *union*. On the other hand on an average only 4.43 percent and 7.20 percent respondent's age are less than 20 and more than 60 years respectively.



Source: Field survey, 2017

Figure: 1 Population distribution by age group-2017

### Population Distribution by Age Group -2011

From the population census 2011 (table-1), it is seen that number of people were more at the age group of 30-49 years. People of 60-64 years were very less and this percentage was same in two study areas (only 2.9 percent). On the other side, people of above 65 years were 4.2 percent at Lakshmitari and 5.2 percent at Kaunia Balapara *union*.

Age group (Years)	Population distribution (%)	
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara
0-4	12.9	9.4
5-9	13.5	11.7
10-14	11.2	11.4
15-19	9.1	8.6
20-24	8.4	9.1
25-29	8.8	9.5
30-49	22.8	25.0
50-59	6.3	7.0
60-64	2.9	2.9
65+	4.2	5.2

Source: BBS, 2013

From the overall discussion it can be said that percentage of young population is higher in both study *unions*. In 2011 and at present this situation is same.

### Religion and Gender Based Distribution-2017

Table-2 reveals the religion and gender based distribution of respondents. In this study 91.69 percent of total respondents are Muslim and 8.31 percent are Hindu. Among the Muslim, 79.50 percent of total respondents are male and 12.19 percent respondents are female. On the other side among the Hindu religious respondents on an average 5.82 percent are male and only 2.49 percent are female. So it can be said that in this study most of respondents are male and most of the respondents belong to Muslim religion.

Table: 2 Religion and gender based distribution-2017				
Religion	Gender	Number of respondents (%)		
		Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara	Average
Muslim	Male	80.77	78.54	79.50
	Female	16.03	9.27	12.19
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>96.80</b>	<b>87.81</b>	<b>91.69</b>
Hindu	Male	2.56	8.29	5.82
	Female	0.64	3.90	2.49
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>3.20</b>	<b>12.19</b>	<b>8.31</b>
Total		100	100	100

Source: Field survey, 2017

### Population Distribution by Religion and Gender -2011

In this study, two research areas are Muslim dominated. The table-3 shows that in 2011, 98.66 percent people were Muslim at Lakshmitari and 84.93 percent were Muslim religious people at Kaunia Balapara *union*. The table-3 also discusses that between two study areas male population was higher at Lakshmitari (51.04 percent) whereas at Kaunia Balapara the percentage of female population was higher (50.48 percent) as per population census, 2011.

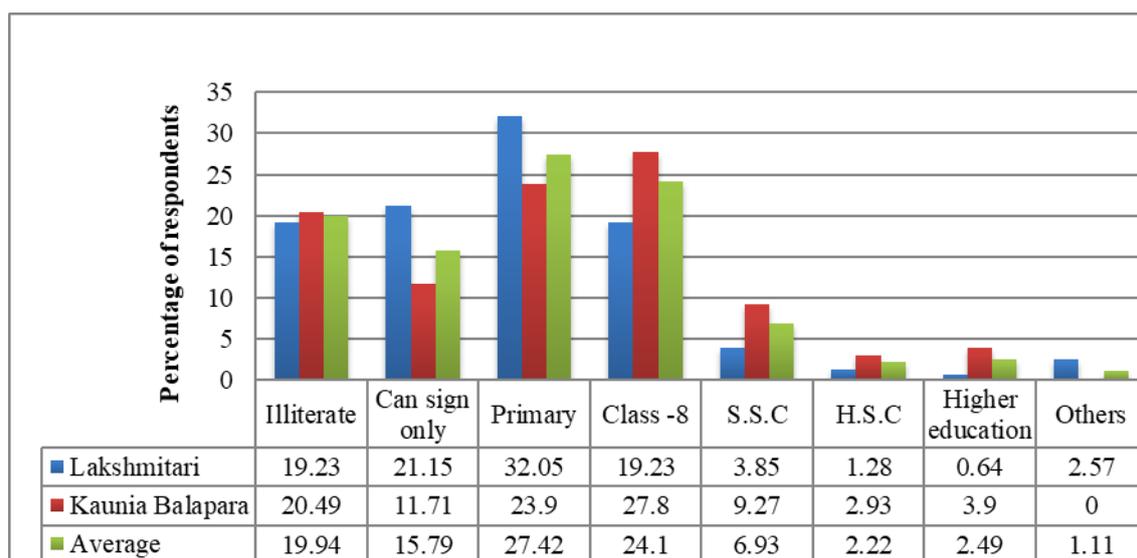
Table: 3 Population distribution by religion and gender -2011					
Status		Lakshmitari		Kaunia Balapara	
		Number	%	Number	%
Religion	Muslim	21005	98.66	28610	84.93
	Hindu	279	1.31	5047	14.98
	Christian	-	-	30	0.09
	Others	7	0.03	1	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>21291</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>33688</b>	<b>100</b>
Gender	Male	10868	51.04	16683	49.52
	Female	10423	48.96	17005	50.48
	<b>Total</b>	<b>21291</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>33688</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: BBS, 2013

From the comparative discussion between population census 2011 and at present, it is identified that both study *unions* are Muslim dominated area and the percentage of Hindu religious people is lower at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara. On the other hand although number of female population was higher at Kaunia Balapara in 2011 but among the respondents percentage of male population is higher in both study areas.

### Educational Qualification-2017

Education level of respondents is not high in the study area. The figure-2 indicates that in both *unions* 27.42 percent respondents have completed primary education. This average percentage is higher among the other education levels. The significant portion of total respondents in two study *unions* is illiterate (on an average 19.94 percent). In this study higher education means respondents have completed B.A pass degree or master degree from a college or a university. Highly educated respondents are only 0.64 percent at Lakshmitari and 3.90 percent at Kaunia Balapara *union*. In this figure-2 others education means education of *madrassa*, technical/vocational education etc. At Lakshmitari 2.57 percent respondents have taken others education but there are no respondents who have taken others education at Kaunia Balapara *union*. From the above discussion it can be said that although educational status is not well in both *unions* but between two *unions* educational status is lower at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara *union*.



Source: Field survey, 2017  
Figure: 2 Educational qualification-2017

### Literacy Rate in the Study Area-2011

The following table-4 gives information about the literacy rate in the study area in 2011. Between two study areas literacy rate of Lakshmitari *union* was little bit higher than the Kaunia Balapara *union*. In terms of male-female ratio, literacy rate of male population was higher than female population in both research areas.

Literacy rate has been reached in satisfaction level in both study *unions* and literacy rate has been increased from previous time. Although literacy rate has been increased in significant rate but in this research it is seen that higher educated person is very less in both study areas. On the other hand the percentage of illiterate person is higher in two *unions*. Actually in this study many aged respondents are illiterate.

Category	Literacy rate (%)	
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara
Both sex	47.5	46.9
Male	50.9	50.0
Female	44.1	44.0

Source: BBS, 2013

### Number of Family Member-2017

The table-5 discusses the number of family member of every respondent in the study area. In two *unions* family consisting four members are higher and this is 22.71 percent on an average. Family consisting five members are also high in the research area, this is 21.33 percent on an average. The average number of family member is five at Lakshmitari and four at Kaunia Balapara *union*. During the survey it is observed that although the percentage of nuclear family is higher but the percentage of family consisting four and five members are higher than three members in a family. People make their nuclear family having two, three, four and sometime five sons/daughters. So it can be said that people of survey area are not fully conscious about birth control system.

Number of person	Number of respondents (%)		
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara	Average
<3	12.82	20.98	17.45
4	19.23	25.37	22.71
5	26.28	17.56	21.33
6	21.79	14.63	17.73
7	10.26	12.68	11.64
>7	9.62	8.78	9.14
Total	100	100	100
Average (No.)	5	4	5

Source: Field survey, 2017

### Number of Family Member -2011

The table-6 shows that the number of family member or household size in the study area in 2011. Family consisting four members was higher in two research areas in 2011. Family consisting two and three members was lower at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara. But having five, six, seven and above eight members in a family were more at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara. The table-6 also represents the average size of household. It is seen here average household size was 4.2 at Lakshmitari and 4.0 at Kaunia Balapara in 2011.

From the above discussion about household size between 2011 and 2017, it can be said that the scenario of household size is almost same in 2011 and at present. Still now the percentage of having five, six or more members in a family is higher at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara.

### Main Occupation-2017

Number of person	Household comprising (%)	
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara
1	3.6	5.2
2	10.6	11.3
3	19.8	24.6
4	26.3	28.1
5	19.2	16.1
6	11.3	7.6
7	5.1	3.3
8+	4.1	3.7
Average size of household	4.2	4.0

Source: BBS, 2013

The survey area is a rural area of north-western Bangladesh. Being the rural and agriculture based area most of the respondents involve in agriculture sector. The table-7 represents that 42.11 percent of total respondents are farmer. Besides, on an average 12.46 percent respondents are day labor, 1.39 percent fisherman, 14.68 percent businessman, 3.32 percent private or Govt. service holder, 1.94 percent driver and only 0.83 percent respondents rickshaw puller. There are no dependent/unemployed respondents at Lakshmitari *union*. On the other side 3.41 percent respondents are dependent/unemployed at Kaunia Balapara *union*. The table-7 explains that on an average 11.08 percent respondents are involved their household activities or housewives. Some female respondents are engaged with other economic activities besides their household activities like day labor, tailoring, sewing *tupi* etc.

Occupations	Number of respondents (%)		
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara	Average
Farmer	51.92	34.63	42.11
House wife	11.54	10.73	11.08
Day labor	18.59	7.81	12.46
Fisherman	0.64	1.95	1.39
Businessman	7.05	20.49	14.68
Privet/Govt. service	0.64	5.37	3.32
Driver	1.92	1.95	1.94
Rickshaw puller	-	1.46	0.83
Dependent/unemployed	-	3.41	1.94
Others	7.69	12.19	10.25
Total	100	100	100

Source: Field survey, 2017

### Monthly Income-2017

Income is related to occupation. Income is the main component of economy. From the table-8 it is seen that monthly income level is classified into six classes. The survey data shows that one third of total respondents (33.52 percent) earn between 4001-8000 taka. In both *unions* average monthly income of household head is 9958 taka. At Lakshmitari this is 9322 taka and at Kaunia Balapara it is 10442 taka. So it is seen that economic condition or income level is lower at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara *union*.

Monthly income (TK)	Number of respondents (%)		
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara	Average
<4000	17.31	12.20	14.40
4001 - 8000	31.41	35.12	33.52
8001 - 12000	30.12	21.46	25.21

12001 - 16000	13.46	14.64	14.13
16001 - 20000	3.21	8.78	6.37
>20000	4.49	7.80	6.37
Total	100	100	100
Average (TK)	9322	10442	9958

Source: Field survey, 2017

### Monthly Expenditure-2017

Expenditure fully depends on income. The table-9 displays that most of the respondents (40.17 percent) in both study areas spend between 4001-8000 taka for their livelihood. Income level of most of the respondents is between 4001-8000 taka (table-8). So their monthly cost is below 8000 taka naturally. On an average expenditure of 18.28 percent respondents is less than 4000 taka. On an average 5.54 percent and 4.16 percent respondents said that their monthly expenditure is 16001-20000 taka and more than 20000 taka respectively which percentage is lower at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara. The average monthly cost of people at Lakshmitari is 8268 taka, at Kaunia Balapara this is 9299 taka. Within two unions income level is lower at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara. So expenditure level is lower at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara union.

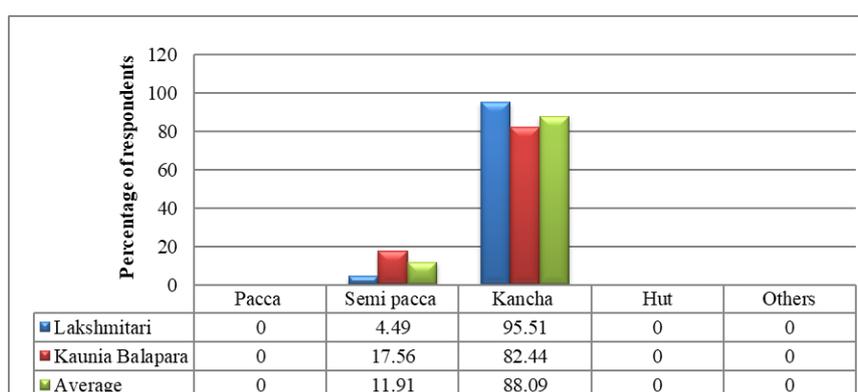
Table: 9 Monthly expenditure-2017

Monthly expenditure (TK)	Number of respondents (%)		
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara	Average
<4000	22.43	15.12	18.28
4001 - 8000	39.10	40.98	40.17
8001 - 12000	25	16.09	19.94
12001 - 16000	5.77	16.59	11.91
16001 - 20000	3.85	6.83	5.54
>20000	3.85	4.39	4.16
Total	100	100	100
Average (TK)	8268	9299	8854

Source: Field survey, 2017

### Housing Type-2017

Housing pattern is an important parameter in social structure. The figure-3 depicts that in both unions among the respondents there are no *pacca* house and do not found any hut. At Lakshmitari union only 4.49 percent respondents have semi *pacca* house which is lower than that of Kaunia Balapara union (17.56 percent). Most of the people in both study areas live in *kancha* houses and their houses are made by thatched, bamboo, wood, tin etc. So it may be said that the study area is a remote area of north-western Bangladesh.



Source: Field survey, 2017  
Figure: 3 Housing type-2017

### Housing Type-2011

The table-10 describes the housing type in 2011. It is seen that in both study areas maximum houses were *kancha* and the rate of *kancha* houses were more at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara. Except this at Lakshmitari union 0.9, 3.1 and 6.6 percent people lived in *pacca*, semi *pacca* and *jhupri* house respectively. On the other hand 2.6, 12.3 and 0.9 percent people had *pacca*, semi *pacca* and *jhupri* house respectively at Kaunia Balapara union in 2011.

Housing type of people in the study area is almost same between 2011 and at present. Although majority of people have *kancha* house in two unions but this percentage is higher at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara union. In terms of *pacca* and semi *pacca* house, Kaunia Balapara union is better than Lakshmitari union.

Type of house	Household (%)	
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara
<i>Pacca</i>	0.9	2.6
<i>Semi pacca</i>	3.1	12.3
<i>Kancha</i>	89.4	84.1
<i>Jhupri</i>	6.6	0.9

Source: BBS, 2013

### Land Ownership-2017

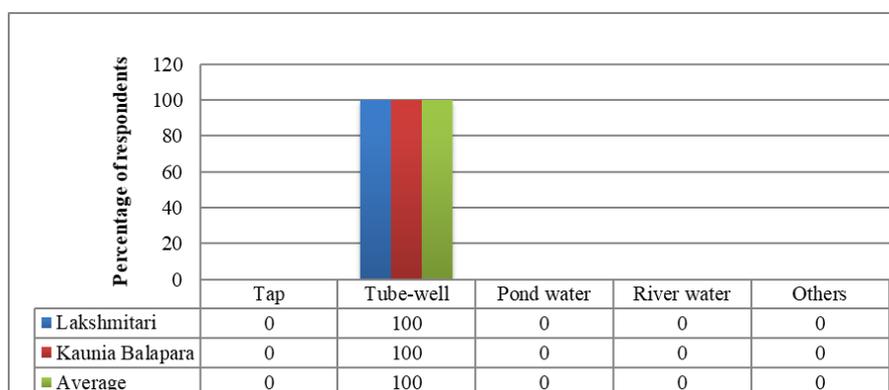
Economic condition of rural people depends on their land ownership which leads to social status also. From the table-11 it is seen that on an average 6.09 percent respondents are land less. Some of them live in *khas* land, some people live in road side and some people live in their neighbor's land. In the both study areas on an average 16.62 percent respondents have more than 1 acre land. At Lakshmitari average amount of land of respondents is 0.67 acre. On the other hand at Kaunia Balapara respondents have average 0.64 acre land. From the overall discussion it is identified that in both study *unions* maximum people have 0-0.20 acre land.

Amount of land (Acre)	Number of respondents (%)		
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara	Average
No land	7.69	4.88	6.09
0 - 0.20	29.49	38.54	34.63
0.21 - 0.40	26.28	22.44	24.10
0.41 - 0.60	8.33	10.73	9.70
0.61 - 0.80	8.33	3.41	5.54
0.81 - 1	3.85	2.93	3.32
1+	16.03	17.07	16.62
Total	100	100	100
Average (Acre)	0.67	0.64	0.66

Source: Field survey, 2017

### Sources of Drinking Water-2017

Water is the most important component of human life. But polluted water is harmful for human body. So drinking water have to be pure. In the research area almost all people drink tube-well water. Some respondents said that they got pure water bottle from different Govt. and non-Govt. organizations as relief during and post flood in different flooding year. But this was not sufficient. They depend on tube-well for drinking water. During flood some tube-wells are useless, in that time people collect tube-well water from other families. During the survey it is seen that some respondents do not have tube-well, they use the other family's tube-well as a source of drinking water.



Source: Field survey, 2017  
Figure: 4 Sources of drinking water-2017

### Sources of Drinking Water-2011

Bangladesh is a rural dominated country and almost hundred percent people of rural area use tube-well water for drinking. As like the study area is a rural area and tube-well is the main source of water of people for drinking purpose. Except this a few percent people use tap and other sources for drinking water.

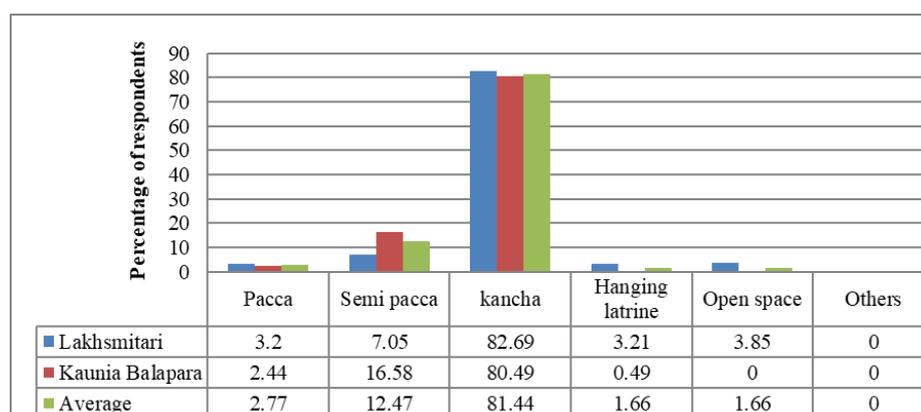
Sources	Household (%)	
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara
Tap	0.1	0.7

Tube-well	95.5	97.7
Others	4.3	1.6

Source: BBS, 2013

### Sanitation Facilities-2017

Better sanitation facility is more essential for human health. The figure-5 divulges that, on an average only 2.77 percent respondents have *pacca* latrine and 12.47 percent use semi *pacca* latrine. Most of the respondents (81.44 percent) use *kancha* latrine as their sanitation facilities in both study areas. Hanging latrine is used by some respondents (on an average 1.66 percent). The percentage of respondents using hanging latrine is increased in every flood period in both study areas. Without these at Lakshmitari some of respondents (3.85 percent) use open space which percentage is increased during flood. On the other side at Kaunia Balapara there are no respondent who use open space for sanitation. But in flood period some people use open space at Kaunia Balapara like Lakshmitari *union*.



Source: Field survey, 2017

Figure: 5 Sanitation facilities-2017

### Sanitation Facilities-2011

The table-13 gives information about the sanitation facilities of the study area in 2011. It is seen from this table, the percentage of sanitary (with water seal) and sanitary (no water seal) toilet user was lower at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara. On the other side non sanitary/*kancha* toilet user were more at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara *union*. A number of people did not have any toilet facilities, they used open space which percentage was also high at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara *union* in 2011.

Type of toilet	Household (%)	
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara
Sanitary (With water seal)	15.6	22.3
Sanitary (No water seal)	28.4	40.9
Non sanitary	40.5	28.9
None	15.5	7.9

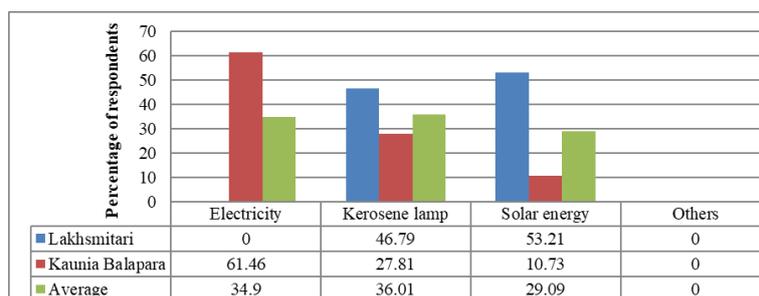
Source: BBS, 2013

From the overall discussion it can be said that sanitation facilities in both study areas is not too good. During flood this situation becomes more vulnerable and many people suffer from various types of diseases for lacking of better sanitation facilities.

### Lighting Facilities-2017

Long ago kerosene lamp was the main source of light at night. But now maximum people of Bangladesh use electricity not only as a source of light but also to fulfill their many other necessities. Use of solar energy is a new invention of science. Using solar energy people can fulfill their lighting demand, at the same time it is used in many other purposes. The figure-6 delineates that at Lakshmitari there are no respondents who have electricity connection in their family whereas at Kaunia Balapara maximum people use electricity. On an average 36.01 percent respondents use kerosene lamp. This percentage is higher at Lakshmitari (46.79 percent) than Kaunia Balapara (27.81 percent). Besides in both study areas solar energy is used by 29.09 percent respondents. From the overall discussion it can be said that because of having no electricity connection of respondents at Lakshmitari *union*, kerosene lamp and solar energy are used here and popularity of using solar energy is increasing day by

day. During the survey it is known that electricity supply is not good and power of solar energy is decreased for lack of sunshine during flood or rainy season. For these reason people depend on kerosene lamp for the lighting purpose in flood period or rainy season. Still now many people use kerosene lamp to meet their lighting requirements in the study area.



Source: Field survey, 2017  
Figure: 6 Lighting facilities-2017

### Electricity Connection-2011

The following table-14 shows the electricity user family in the study area in 2011. There was high deference between two study areas in uses of electricity. At Lakshmitari only 16.8 percent people used electricity. On the other side at Kaunia Balapara electricity user family was more than tripled (54.9 percent) from the Lakshmitari *union*.

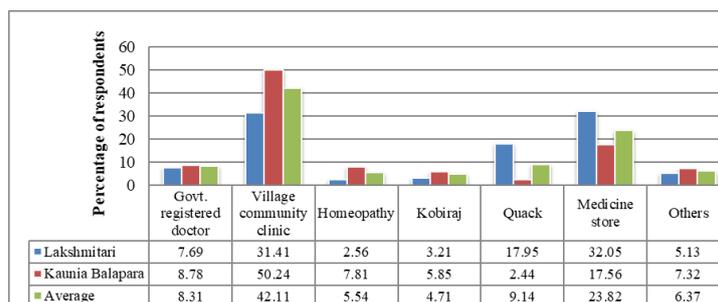
Table: 14 Electricity connection-2011		
Electricity user	Household (%)	
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara
	16.8	54.9

Source: BBS, 2013

It is seen from the figure-6 there is no respondent who use electricity at Lakshmitari. They use kerosene lamp and solar energy. Whereas at Kaunia Balapara majority of the respondents use electricity. Again the table-14 narrates that at Lakshmitari a very few percent family used electricity in 2011. But at Kaunia Balapara electricity user was more than fifty percent. So it can be said that scenario of use of electricity in both *unions* is not changed. Still now there is long deference between electricity user family and non-user family at Kaunia Balapara and Lakshmitari *union* respectively.

### Sources of Health Care Facilities-2017

The figure-7 exposes that respondents of both *unions* take medical facilities from different sources. A few number of respondents take their medical facilities by Govt. registered doctor in two *unions*. A remarkable number of respondents (42.11 percent of total respondents) get their health care from village community clinic. At Lakshmitari about one third (32.05 percent) of respondents buy different types of medicine from medicine store for their health care. At Kaunia Balapara this is only 17.56 percent. Again 17.95 percent respondents of Lakshmitari *union* go to quack for their health care, this percentage is also high whereas at Kaunia Balapara it is only 2.44 percent. From the above discussion it is said that sources of health care of respondents are not better at Lakshmitari than Kaunia Balapara. There are two main causes are responsible for the situation of Lakshmitari *union*, first of all they are very poor than the people of Kaunia Balapara *union*, on the other hand they are not conscious about their health care.



Source: Field survey, 2017  
Figure: 7 Sources of health care facilities-2017



Table: 17 Irrigation pattern-2017

Irrigation pattern	Number of respondents (%)		
	Lakshmitari	Kaunia Balapara	Average
No cultivation	20.51	33.17	27.70
River water	19.23	23.42	21.61
Motor (Electricity)	-	14.63	8.31
Shallow machine (Oil)	60.26	27.32	41.55
Deep tube-well	-	1.46	0.83
Total	100	100	100

Source: Field survey, 2017

### At a glance Socio-economic Structure of the Study Area

The study area is a rural dominated area. Maximum people of this area involve with agriculture sector or primary economic activities. Their education status is not good but new generation is being educated. Majority of people live in *kancha* house and use *kancha* latrine. Still now a remarkable number of people in this area use kerosene lamp for their lighting purpose. So it can be said in a ward, their life standard is not much good. Besides almost every year people of this area are affected by flood which has adverse impact more or less in all sectors on their livelihood. The table-18 focuses the overall socio-economic structure of the study area.

Table: 18 At a glance socio-economic structure of the study area

Social structure	Status	Level of concern	Remarks	Source
Young population	Increased	Moderate	Young population was higher in 2011 and at present the percentage of young population is increasing.	Figure: 1 and Table: 1
Muslim dominated region	No change	-	In 2011, the study area was Muslim dominated, now this situation is same.	Table: 2 and Table: 3
Educational status	Increased	Moderate	During the survey, it is observed that educational status is increasing from previous time. But in this study many aged respondents are illiterate.	Figure: 2 and Table: 4
Average household size	No change	-	Average household size is almost same in 2011 and at present in both research areas.	Table: 5 and Table: 6
Housing type	No change	-	In 2011, majority of people lived in <i>kancha</i> house. At present this scenario is same.	Figure: 3 and Table: 10
Sources of drinking water	No change	-	In 2011, almost hundred percent people of the study area used tube-well water for drinking purpose. At present this situation is same.	Figure: 4 and Table: 12
Sanitation facilities	Increased	Moderate	In 2011, many of people did not have any toilet facilities. Now open space user are very less. But still now majority of people use <i>kancha</i> latrine.	Figure: 5 and Table: 13

### IV. Conclusion

From the result and discussion of this study it can be said that socio-economic structure of Teesta riverine people is not too good. In this research area education level of people is not better. Higher educated person is very less. Although their family is made by only their son and daughter that means nuclear family but the number of their son and daughter are more. The study area is a rural area. So agriculture is the prime occupation in here. Income and expenditure level of people of study area are not very high. In both *unions* majority of the respondents live in *kancha* house and use *kancha* latrine which are affected by flood about every year. Still now maximum people use kerosene lamp as their lighting facilities.

In the study area riverine people become economically valuable. In dry season they face water crisis in Teesta river which is affected in agriculture system. On the other hand they suffer due to flood and riverbank erosion almost every year which are also affected their livelihood relevant issues like shelter, income, treatment, education etc. Government and non-government organizations give support to them to overcome from their difficulties. But these are not sufficient. So it is urgent to get long term policy to enrich the life standard as well as socio-economic structure of riverine people in the research area.

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