

# Project Proposal For Model Village Development Program

*Submitted To*

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*Submitted By*

A PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST

ESTD - 2017

**DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION**

Registered under West Bengal Trust Act. 1962  
GOVT.REG.NO:- IV – 190303374/2017

**Address –**

**Vill – Hospital Para, P.O+P.S – Kaliyaganj, Dist – Uttar Dinajpur  
State – West Bengal, Country – India, Pin – 733129**

**Mobile. No – 8900371848 / 9933846576.**

**Email id – [diyasocialfoundation.21@gmail.com](mailto:diyasocialfoundation.21@gmail.com)**

**Website – [www.diya-foundation.in](http://www.diya-foundation.in)**



# DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION

A Government Registered Trust Reg No- IV-190303374/2017

HOSPITAL PARA, KALIYAGANJ, UTTAR DINAJPUR, W.B., INDIA, 733129

Email- [diyasocialfoundation.21@gmail.com](mailto:diyasocialfoundation.21@gmail.com),

Mob : 9933846576/9932276939/9933033373

Website- [www.diya-foundation.com](http://www.diya-foundation.com)

Ref. No.

Date .....

To,

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**Subject :- Submission of Project Proposal for “Model Village Development Program” at 100 Revenue Village in the Dist – Uttar Dinajpur (W.B).**

**Respected Sir,**

We are submitting an application along with all the relevant documents for Financial Assistance, the program at Submission of Project Proposal for “**Model Village Development Program**” at the 100 Revenue Village in the Dist – Uttar Dinajpur (W.B). We have read all the terms and conditions of above scheme and undertake to abide by these rules.

It is requested that our request may kindly be approved.

**With warm regards,**

**Yours Faithfully**

FOR, DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION  
*Prasenjit Chakraborty*  
**CHAIRMAN**



**Prasenjit Chakraborty**  
**Chairman**  
**DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION**

# Application Form

Sl.No	Particular	Details
1	Name of The Organization With Full Address	DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION Vill – Hospital Para, P.O+P.S – Kaliyaganj, Dist – Uttar Dinajpur, State – West Bengal, Country – India, Pin – 733129
2	Status	Non Government Organization
	Project Working Area	Dist. – Uttar Dinajpur (W.B)
	Nature of Project	“Model Village Development Program” at 50 Revenue Village
3	Name Of The Person With Whom Correspondence Is to Be Made, Together With His Telephone & Telegraphic Address / Fax Number, If Any.	Prasenjit Chakraborty (Chairman) Mobile.No – 8900371848 / 9933846576 Email.Id – <a href="mailto:diyasocialfoundation.21@gmail.com">diyasocialfoundation.21@gmail.com</a> Website – <a href="http://www.diya-foundation.in">www.diya-foundation.in</a>
4	a) Registration Number b) Registration Date c) PAN Number	IV – 190303374/2017 28/06/2017 AACTD7510N
5	Whether Registered Under The Registration Of Trust Act. 1962 Or Any Similar State Statute (Registration Number & Date To Be Given) 7 Attach An Certificate By Gazette Officer In Case Of Ngo’s) – [Whether Applicable]	(Registered Under West Bengal Trust Act. 1962)
6	Major Objectives Of Organization. Attach Certified Copy Of Bye-Laws Of The Trust By Gazette Office In Case Of Ngo’s [Whether Applicable]	Attached
7	Total Number Of Members In The Organization As On 31 <sup>st</sup> March (Year To Be Mentioned) In Case Of Ngo’s, Association Of Growers [Whether Applicable]	Attached
8	Summary Of The Activities Undertaken By The Organization In The Last Year	Attached
9	Audited Balance Sheet Of Last 3Years Duly Certified By C.A. [Whether Applicable]	Attached



10	Other Sources From Which Financial Assistance Is Received By The Organization	Attached (Show In The Audit Reports)
11	Whether The Organization Agrees To Maintain A Proper Separate Account Of The Grant Sanctioned By The Board	Yes
12	Details Of Financial Assistance Already Received From The Board, If Any, And The Purpose For Which It Was Received	No
13	<b>Bank Details</b> Bank Name Address  A/C No IFSC Code SWIFT Code	State Bank of India FCRA cell, 4 <sup>th</sup> floor, State Bank of India, New Delhi Main Branch, 11 Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110001. 41052147834 SBIN0000691 SBININBB104



**Yours Faithfully**

**FOR, DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION**  
*Prasenjit Chakraborty*  
**CHAIRMAN**

**Prasenjit Chakraborty**  
**Chairman**  
**DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION**

# PROPOSAL

## Introduction

India is an agro based country with its 70% of population residing in rural areas. After independence in 1947 all the governments focused to develop the villages on priority. As on today the investments were made in Health, Irrigation, Communication, and Education in our Five year plans, and measurable growths are seen in all these sectors. Realizing the dreams of Mahatma Gandhi's *Rural India* an era of Watershed management also emerged as a new entity in rural development, and accordingly there are success stories in our country. To further boost the community development as stated in the vision of our beloved Ex.President of India Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, there are three forms of communication namely **Roads, Railways** and **Telecommunication** for a village to be a developed village.

Rural development has always been an important issue in all discussions pertaining to economic development, especially of developing countries, throughout the world. In the developing countries and some formerly communist societies, rural mass comprise a substantial majority of the population. Over 3.5 billion people live in the Asia and Pacific region and some 63% of them in rural areas.



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Although millions of rural people have escaped poverty as a result of rural development in many Asian countries, a large majority of rural people continue to suffer from persistent poverty. The socio-economic disparities between rural and urban areas are widening and creating tremendous pressure on the social and economic fabric of many developing Asian economies. These factors, among many others, tend to highlight the importance of rural development. The policy makers in most of the developing economies recognize this importance and have been implementing a host of programs and measures to achieve rural development objectives. While some of these countries have achieved impressive results, others have failed to make a significant dent in the problem of persistent rural underdevelopment.

Rural Development Ministry presents a holistic vision of development in which model villages are connected to the internet and where all households have access to clean water, sanitation and low-carbon energy.

In Education sector the World Bank Assisted project started in the year 1991 in Gujarat, thereafter its implementation in Maharashtra followed by Karnataka and Goa. The emphasis here was to strengthen teaching & learning process by faculty development through training and research, infrastructure and community development.



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## ***The United Nations defines Rural Development as:***

Rural Development is a process of change, by which the efforts of the people themselves are united, those of government authorities to improve their economic, social and cultural conditions of communities in to the life of the nation and to enable them to contribute fully to national programme.

Rural Development is a process of bringing change among rural community from the traditional way of living to progressive way of living. It is also expressed as a movement for progress.

## **Scope and Importance of Rural Development**

Rural development is a dynamic process, which is mainly concerned with the rural areas. These include agricultural growth, putting up of economic and social infrastructure, fair wages as also housing and house sites for the landless, village planning, public health, education and functional literacy, communication etc.

Rural development is a national necessity and has considerable importance in India because of the following reasons.

- 1.About three-fourth of India's population live in rural areas, thus rural development is needed to develop nation as whole.
- 2.Nearly half of the country's national income is derived from agriculture, which is major occupation of rural India.
- 3.Around seventy per cent of Indian population gets employment through agriculture.



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4. Bulks of raw materials for industries come from agriculture and rural sector.

5. Increase in industrial population can be justified only in rural population's motivation and increasing the purchasing power to buy industrial goods.

6. Growing disparity between the urban elite and the rural poor can lead to political instability. The main objective of the rural development programme is to raise the economic and social level of the rural people

## **Community:**

1. A community is a group of people, who live in a geographical area and have an interest in each other for the purpose of making a living. It is a form of social organization existing between the family and state.

2. The people with common interests living in a particular area

3. An interacting population of various kinds of individuals (as species) in a common location

4. A group of people with a common characteristic or interest living together within a larger society

## **• Development:**

The term development connotes growth or maturation. It implies gradual and sequential phase of change.

## **• Community Development:**

Community development is encom **DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION** in any and every efforts towards the advance of community interests.



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## **Need and Importance of rural development**

Rural development is a national necessity and has considerable importance in India because of the following reasons.

1. To develop rural area as whole in terms of culture, society, economy, technology and health.
2. To develop living standard of rural mass.
3. To develop rural youths, children and women.
4. To develop and empower human resource of rural area in terms of their psychology, skill, knowledge, attitude and other abilities.
5. To develop infrastructure facility of rural area.
6. To provide minimum facility to rural mass in terms of drinking water, education, transport, electricity and communication.
7. To develop rural institutions like Village, cooperatives, post, banking and credit.
8. To provide financial assist to develop the artisans in the rural areas, farmers and agrarian unskilled labor, small and big rural entrepreneurs to improve their economy.
9. To develop rural industries through the development of handicrafts, small scaled industries, village industries, rural crafts, cottage industries and other related economic operations in the rural sector.
10. To develop agriculture, animal husbandry and other agricultural related areas.
11. To restore uncultivated land, provide irrigation facilities and motivate farmers to adopt improved seed, fertilizers, package of practices of crop cultivation and soil conservation methods.
12. To develop entertainment and recreational facility for rural mass.
13. To develop leadership quality of rural area.
14. To improve rural marketing facility.
15. To minimize gap between the urban and rural in terms of facilities availed.



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16. To improve rural people's participation in the development of state and nation as whole.
17. To improve scopes of employment for rural mass.
18. For the sustainable development of rural area.
19. To eliminate rural poverty.
20. To solve the problems faced by the rural mass for their development.

## **Problems in Rural Development**

### **• People related:**

1. Traditional way of thinking.
2. Poor understanding.
3. Low level of education to understand developmental efforts and new technology.
4. Deprived psychology and scientific orientation.
5. Lack of confidence.
6. Poor awareness.
7. Low level of education.
8. Existence of unfelt needs.
9. Personal ego.

### **• Agricultural related problems:**

1. Lack of expected awareness, knowledge, skill and attitude.
2. Unavailability of inputs.
3. Poor marketing facility.
4. Insufficient extension staff and services.



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5. Multidimensional tasks to extension personnel.
6. Small size of land holding.
7. Division of land.
8. Unwillingness to work and stay in rural areas.

## • **Infrastructure related problems:**

Poor infrastructure facilities like water, electricity, transport educational institutions, communication, health, storage facility etc

## **Economic problems:**

1. Unfavourable economic condition to adopt high cost technology.
2. High cost of inputs.
3. Underprivileged rural industries

## **5. Social and Cultural problems:**

1. Cultural norms and traditions
2. Conflict within and between groups, castes, religions, regions, languages.

## • **6. Leadership related problems:**

1. Leadership among the hands of inactive and incompetent people.
2. Malafied interest of leaders.
3. Biased political will.



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## • 7. Administrative problems:

1. Earlier, majority of the programmes were planning based on top to bottom approach and were target oriented.
2. Political interference.
3. Lack of motivation and interest.
4. Unwillingness to work in rural area.
5. Improper utilization of budget.



## The Idea of a model village

68.9% of our population lives in rural areas (Census 2011). Though number is expected to fall in the coming years, it is still estimated that more than half of our population would be rural even in 2050. Despite there being several past initiatives by governments at all levels – Central, State and Local – in the past, the level of improvement has not kept pace with the rising aspirations among Indians. On most development parameters, there is still a significant gap between rural and urban India, as the table below illustrates:

Sector	Parameter	Urban	Rural
Expenditure poverty	% people below poverty line (2011-12) (Tendulkar estimates)	14%	26%
	% people below poverty line (2011-12) (Rangarajan estimates)	27.2%	31.3%
Education	Literacy Rate - 2011#	85%	68.9%
	Average years of school education of working population*	8.42	4.72
Health	Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) – 2011##	28	46
	Life Expectancy at birth - 2002-06 **	68.8	62.1

One reason for the failure of rural development schemes has been the lack of a holistic focus on the village as a unit. Separate flagship schemes targeting different sectors such as health (NRHM), education (SSA) and livelihood (NREGA, NRLM) have been launched in the past, but met with limited success. The “Model Village” concept could address these challenges comprehensively. It can address resource deficits in each of these sectors, with adequate focus on the special needs of every village.

# About DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION:

## Basic Information –

DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION is located in Uttar Dinajpur district in West Bengal state. DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION is registered as a Public Charitable Trust with NGO Unique ID – ‘WB/2017/0159359’.

Registration done with registration number: IV – 190303374/2017 on the date of 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

The Chairman of DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION is Prasenjit Chakraborty and Secretary is Suddhadeb Mohanta and Treasurer Bipul Kumar Shaw.

## About Us

The DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION, assembled under the leadership of the present chairman had decided to establish DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION, Uttar Dinajpur in the year 2017-2018. The Trust has been registered, under the Trust Act 1962 of West Bengal, Reg.No – IV – 190303374/2017.

The DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION could not receive any type of fund from govt. of West Bengal, govt. of India & other private trust. Till running the organization to collect donation from public and member. Now the 50, a group of energetic youth & local people to help for social welfare activities. Our project area has no modern (latest) Health Institute. But our area covered many type of ‘JANAJATI’ like – Santhal, Mech, Rava, Munda, Dukpa, Nepali, Gorkha, Lepcha, Mog & one types of named ‘TOTO jati’. The area of our projects covered by the forest, Agriculture land & River areas. Many type of undeveloped person resides here & they could not achieve Modern Health Facility, Education & Drinking Water. Our goal tries to our level based for the “Promotion of sustainable development of the people in need”.

## NGO Name

DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION

## Niti Aayog Unique Id fo NGO

WB/2017/0159359

## Chairman

PRASENJIT CHAKRABORTY

## Secretary

SUDDHADEB MOHANTA

## Treasurer

BIPUL KUMAR SHAW

FOR, DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION  
Prasenjit Chakraborty  
CHAIRMAN



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## DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION Major Activities and Achievements

We serve our main activities in the rural area as like – Health, Education, Environment, Drinking Water, Disaster, Awareness Program, Child Labour Welfare, Mother & Child Nutrition, Women & Children Trafficking, Assisting Physically Handicapped person and other Social Welfare Activities continue of our district level etc. In the previous years we serve as Free Medical Camp at Kaliyaganj, Raiganj, Itahar, Hemtabad, Goalpokhar-I, Islampur, Goalpokhar-II, Karandighi, Chopra etc. with our Awareness Camp in various block in Uttar Dinajpur district.



### How do we achieve this?

To achieve the mission the organization adopts the strategy of institutionalization of the target group, capacity building, community participation, developing network linkages and convergence.



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# OBJECTIVES

A model village project has the following important objectives:

- Provide academic support to schools and high schools
  - Under take rural technology transfers
  - Providing information and work in collaboration with Village .
  - Undertaking educational tours (2 – way)
  - Disseminate information by conducting seminars and workshops
- Prevent distress migration from rural to urban areas, which is a common phenomenon in India's villages due to lack of opportunities and facilities that guarantee a decent standard of living.
- Make the model village a "hub" that could attract resources for the development of other villages in its vicinity.
- Provide easier, faster and cheaper access to urban markets for agricultural produce or other marketable commodities produced in such villages
- Contribute towards social empowerment by engaging all sections of the community in the task of village development.
- Create and sustain a culture of cooperative living for inclusive and rapid development.



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## Key elements of a model village

A 21st century model village in India needs to incorporate certain key themes which would be essential for its success. The figure below highlights these broad thematic focus areas, and also mentions the important elements under each such theme

Sustainability	Community involvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better health – with special focus on maternal and child health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning for Village Development</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Practical and smart education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobilizing resources for the Plan, with active engagement with elected representative</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing &amp; livelihood</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring the utilization of government funds to increase accountability</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity building of all stakeholders</li> <li>Clean drinking water &amp; sanitation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Influencing personal and community behavior</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental sustainability</li> </ul>	
Technology	Connectivity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivery of government services</li> </ul>	Physical connectivity to towns and other places through roads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ICT and space technology in the aid of farmers</li> </ul>	Easy and cheap means of transportation
Remote sensing for resource mapping and better utilization of existing assets	Digital connectivity and mobile connectivity
Land records modernization	Augmenting power connectivity through off-grid renewable sources Financial connectivity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biometrics for better targeting of services such as PDS, insurance, pension</li> </ul>	



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An intervention under one of these areas could have an effect across other areas as well. For example, technology could be used to improve the quality and delivery of other services such as health and education,

which in turn contributes to sustainable development. Similarly, the use of renewable energy, apart from meeting energy needs, also contributes towards environmental sustainability. Village tree plantation drives could encourage a community participation, benefit the environment, prevent soil erosion and benefit agriculture, conserve water, and finally contribute to the aesthetics of the village. A number of these initiatives have already been taken in different parts of the country, but most of them have been attempted in isolation. The urgent need is to bring about

a convergence of all such initiatives, for which 2 things would be essential – a) grassroots level planning; and b) mobilization of resources.

## Choosing a village for adoption

As per the latest Census, there are more than 640,000 villages in India, and more than 2.5 lakh Gram Villages (GPs). In other words Among these, choosing one (or 3-4) GP for the purpose of adoption is also an important decision to be made. According to the latest guidelines, the NGO may choose any Gram Village with a population of 5000-10000 people in plain areas, and 5000-7000 in river, tribal and difficult areas.



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1. Strong Villages in terms of finances, functions and functionaries – The village will have a pivotal role to play in any village development project.

The financial and functional strength of a Village will be extremely useful in preparing village plans, mobilizing community opinion in favour of a particular initiative, and implementing the initiative in a transparent and time-bound manner.

2. Proximity to an urban centre – Choosing a village close to an urban centre might facilitate access to physical and financial resources, and also help in establishing better connectivity between the village and the urban town. Such a village could also become an extension of the urban centre, and have facilities which could virtually be at par with the urban centre. This would be very similar to the “Rurban” approach announced in the latest Union Budget, which aims to provide city-like facilities in rural areas close to existing cities.

3. Potential for piloting new technologies – Since technology would be at the core of the model village concept, the village must offer avenues for experimenting with such technology. Some examples of such technologies could be the use of solar power for irrigation and domestic lighting, and agricultural innovations based on soil suitability and climate.



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4. Diverse population groups - The real success of such an initiative can be demonstrated if the lives of large and diverse sections of the population can be positively impacted by it. Rather than focusing on any particular religious or caste group, the model village must aim towards the uplift of all sections of the population in the village. However, it is important that special attention is paid to

vulnerable groups such as young children, women and the BPL population.

**Key stages in the preparation of a Village Development Plan under SAGY**

1. Creating an environment for community-led planning
2. Situation Analysis, including baseline surveying and resource mapping.
3. Identification of financial resource streams
4. Finalizing needs
5. Preparation of the Village Development Plan(VDP) by a Working Group set up by the District Collector with representation of experts from diverse fields,
6. Clearance to VDP by the Gram Sabha .



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# Selected Revenue Villege

100 Villages in various 9 block in Uttar Dinajpur district

## Activities

1. Rural water supply, sanitation, Housing, electrification through Solar and minor water projects.
2. Environmental cleanliness drive
3. Technical training and educational tours for farmers.
4. Women education and empowerment.
5. Awareness programs on anti-alcoholism.
6. Insurance for the poor.
7. Providing minimum facilities in the rural schools
8. Information dissimilation through Print, Non print and TV Channels.
- 9 Agriculture



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## **Budget**

<b>SL.NO.</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>AMOUNT (Rs.)</b>
1	Training on vermi-composting. Nos.100 @ Rs. 80,000/- each	80,00,000
2	Training on rain water harvesting. Nos.100 @ Rs. 1,50,000/- each	1,50,00,000
3	Survey of 100 the villages for Technology Transfer. Nos.100 @ Rs. 80,000/- each	80,00,000
4	Motivation towards maths and Science Workshop . Approx 100 X 100000	1,00,00,000
5	Awareness on web resources	20,00,000
6	Electronics and Electromagnetic induction Nos.100 @ Rs. 2,00,000/- each	2,00,00,000
7	Awareness BIO FERTLIZERS Community waste water treatment, Nos.100 @ Rs. 1,50,000/- each	1,50,00,000
8	Bicycle maintenance & supply for school children. Nos.100 @ Rs. 25,000/- each	25,00,000
9	Science concepts Nos.100 @ Rs. 70,000/- each	70,00,000
10	Identification of problems with existing community bio gas plant Nos.100 @ Rs. 1,50,000/- each	1,50,00,000
11	Energy conservation and measures Awareness of electrical safety practices. Nos.100 @ Rs. 1,00,000/- each	1,00,00,000
12	Using web resources, internet and Mobile apps for teaching and learning purpose. Nos.100 @ Rs. 1,00,000/- each	1,00,00,000
13	Information dissemination to farmers Use of IT in rural development. Nos.100 @ Rs. 60,000/- each	60,00,000
14	Nutrition values of food and its significance in communities Environmental health and hygiene awareness in schools and surroundings. Nos.100 @ Rs. 2,00,000/- each	2,00,00,000

	<b>Brought forward</b>	<b>14,85,00,000</b>
15	High School students of 10th Standard will be visiting SDMCET Campus.	<b>1,00,00,000</b>
16	Rural water supply, sanitation, Housing, electrification through Solar and minor water projects. Nos.100 @ Rs. 15,00,000/- each	<b>15,00,00,000</b>
17	Environmental cleanliness drive	<b>20,00,000</b>
18	Technical training and educational tours for farmers.	<b>25,00,000</b>
19	Women education and empowerment.	<b>1,00,00,000</b>
20	Awareness programs on anti-alcoholism.	<b>50,00,000</b>
21	Providing minimum facilities in the rural schools	<b>1,00,00,000</b>
22	Information dissemination through Print, Non print and TV Channels	<b>20,00,000</b>
23	<b>Health camp &amp; facilities</b>	<b>1,00,00,000</b>
24	<b>Transport facilities</b>	<b>40,00,000</b>
25	<b>EXPENDITURE OF 1 G.P.</b>	<b>35,40,00,000</b>
26	<b>Over head charges @5% of the sub total</b>	<b>1,77,00,000</b>
27	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37,17,00,000</b>
28	<b>SUB TOTAL (expenditure of 1 G.P. Rs, 37,17,00,000 ) X14G.P. in the District.</b>	<b>520,38,00,000</b>

**In Words:- Rs. FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY Cr, THIRTY EIGHT Lakhs (INR) Only.**

**N.B. :-**

**As per donation we need additional alteration of project for the received Amount.**

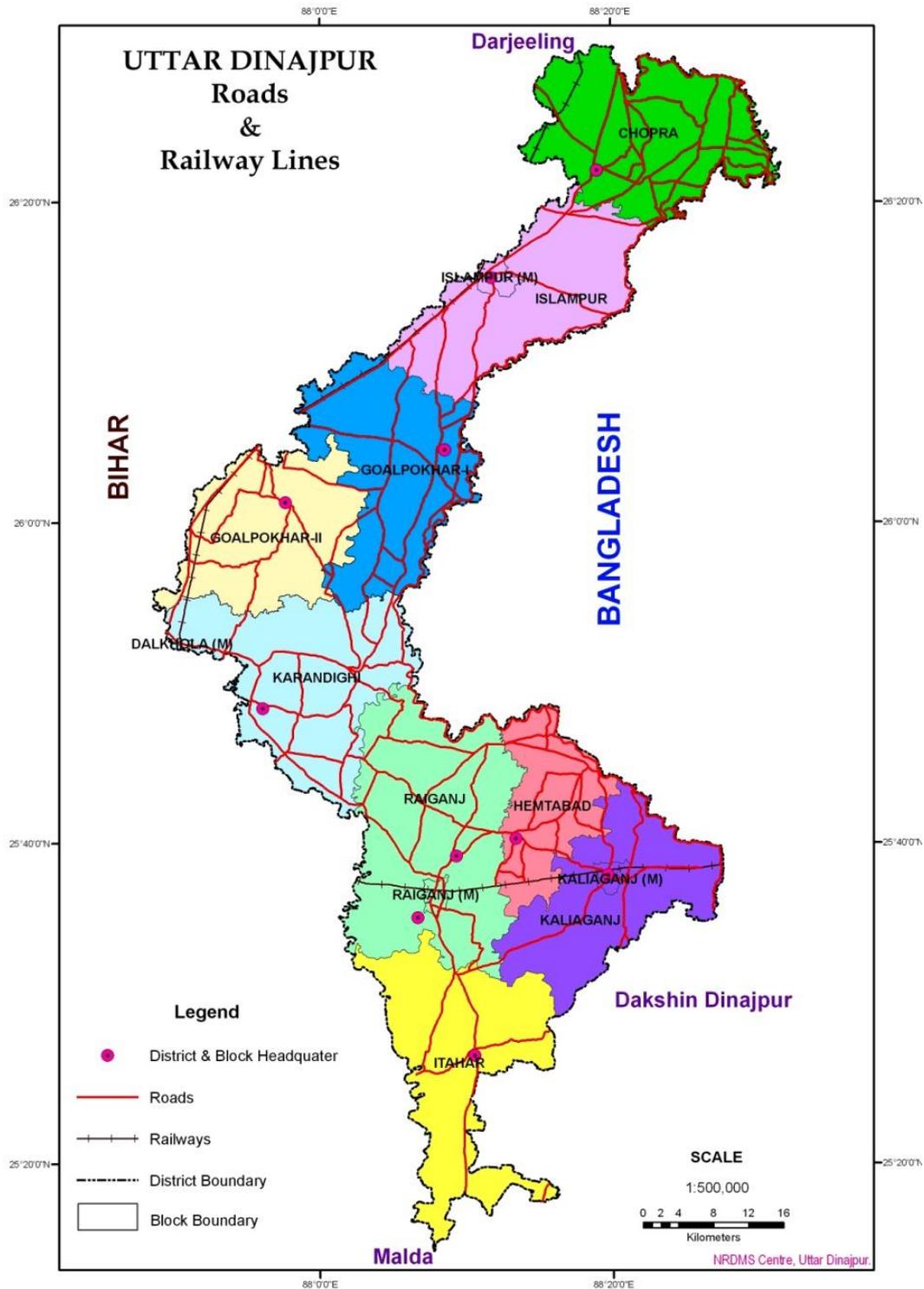


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# DISTRICT PROFILE

## Uttar Dinajpur



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# DISTRICT PROFILE

## Uttar Dinajpur

<b>Location of Uttar Dinajpur in West Bengal</b>	
Coordinates: 🌐 25.62°N 88.12°E	
<b>Country</b>	 India
<b>State</b>	 West Bengal
<b>Division</b>	Malda
<b>Headquarters</b>	Raiganj
<b>Government</b>	
• Lok Sabha constituencies	Raiganj
• Vidhan Sabha constituencies	Chopra, Islampur, Goalpokhar, Chakulia, Karandighi, Hemtabad, Kaliaganj, Raiganj, Itahar
<b>Area</b>	
• Total	3,142 km <sup>2</sup> (1,213 sq mi)
<b>Population (2011)</b>	
• Total	3,007,134
• Density	960/km <sup>2</sup> (2,500/sq mi)
• Urban	362,228
<b>Demographics</b>	
• Literacy	59.1 %
• Sex ratio	939
<b>Time zone</b>	UTC+05:30 (IST)
<b>Major highways</b>	NH 27, NH 12
<b>Poverty (2020)</b>	28.36% below poverty line



Uttar Dinajpur, also known as North Dinajpur, is a district of the Indian state of West Bengal. Created on 1 April 1992 by the division of the erstwhile West Dinajpur district, it comprises two subdivisions: Raiganj and Islampur.

## **History**

Undivided Dinajpur district was part of the Pundra kingdom. The whole of Pundra was part of the Mauryan empire, and Jainism was spread in the region in the fourth century BCE. Their capital was at Pundrabardhan (now in Bangladesh), and two other ancient towns were Gourpur and Kotibarsha, now called Bangarh. Later multiple inscriptions show how the Guptas also controlled Pundra. The district was then under Pala rule from 750 CE. The Senas overthrew the Palas in 1143. In 1204, Bakhtiyar Khilji defeated the Senas and had Bangarh as its capital. After his murder, it was controlled by various governors sent by the Delhi Sultan from Gauda. In 1586, Mughal Emperor Akbar conquered Bengal and Dinajpur was controlled by the sarkars of Tajpur and Panjara. In 1765, it fell under the rule of the East India Company and was ruled from Murshidabad. In the later part of the 18th century, the district was home to the Sanyasi-Fakir rebellion until the early 19th century. The district remained relatively peaceful all through the rest of the 1800s. In 1905, the people of Dinajpur district protested against the Partition of Bengal. They participated in the Freedom struggle by refusing to pay tax, doing hartals, and launching agitations. In 1947, Dinajpur district was split between India and Pakistan with West Dinajpur remaining with India. In 1992, West Dinajpur district was bifurcated to form Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur districts.

## **Geography**

Uttar Dinajpur district lies between latitude 25°11' N to 26°49' N and longitude 87°49' E to 90°00' E occupying an area of 3,142 km<sup>2</sup> (1,213 sq mi) enclosed by Panchagarh, Thakurgaon and Dinajpur districts of Bangladesh on the east, Kishanganj, Purnia and Katihar districts of Bihar on the west, Darjeeling district and Jalpaiguri district on the north and Malda district and Dakshin Dinajpur district on the south. Uttar Dinajpur is well connected with the rest of the state through National Highways, State Highways and Railways. NH-27 and NH-12 pass through the heart of the district.

The regional topography is generally flat with a gentle southerly slope towards which the main rivers like Kulik, Nagar, Mahananda. The District forms a part of the basin lying between Rajmahal hills on the east. The older alluvium is estimated to be Pleistocene age. Uttar Dinajpur is bestowed with a very fertile soil. The soil is very rich in nature due to the alluvial deposition which helps to grow Paddy, Jute, Mesta and Sugarcane etc. Raiganj on the banks of the River Kulik is the District Headquarters where the Raiganj Wildlife Sanctuary, the second largest bird sanctuary in Asia, is situated. In Uttar Dinajpur district, there are two sub-divisions, Raiganj and Islampur, 110 km (68 mi) apart from each other. There are four municipalities, nine blocks and 99 Panchayats covering 1577 villages.

## **Economy**

In 2006 the Ministry of Panchayati Raj named Uttar Dinajpur one of the country's 250 most backward districts (out of a total of 640).[2] It is one of the eleven districts in West Bengal currently receiving funds from the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme (BRGF).[2] but now Dalkhola the main commercial, business town with well connected railway and roadways. increasing the economy of Dalkhola and Uttar Dinajpur District.



## Divisions

### Sub-divisions

Uttar Dinajpur District comprises two subdivisions:

Raiganj Sub-Division and

Islampur Sub-Division

Assembly constituencies

As per order of the Delimitation Commission in respect of the delimitation of constituencies in the West Bengal, the district is divided into nine assembly constituencies

S No.	Name	Lok Sabha constituency
1	Chopra	Darjeeling
2	Islampur	Raiganj
3	Goalpokhar-I	
4	Goalpokhar-II	
5	Karandighi	
6	Hemtabad (SC)	
7	Kaliaganj (SC)	
8	Raiganj	
9	Itahar	Balurghat

Hemtabad and Kaliaganj constituencies are reserved for Scheduled Castes (SC) candidates. Along with six assembly constituencies from Darjeeling district, Chopra constituency forms the Darjeeling (Lok Sabha constituency). Islampur, Goalpokhar-I, Goalpokhar-II, Karandighi, Hemtabad, Kaliaganj and Raiganj constituencies forms the Raiganj (Lok Sabha constituency). Along with six assembly constituencies from South Dinajpur district, Itahar forms the Balurghat (Lok Sabha constituency).

## Demographics

### Historical population

Year	Pop.	±% p.a.
1901	401,121	—
1911	428,300	+0.66%
1921	376,366	-1.28%
1931	403,576	+0.70%
1941	451,684	+1.13%



1951	528,607	+1.59%
1961	760,199	+3.70%
1971	1,087,269	+3.64%
1981	1,415,653	+2.67%
1991	1,897,045	+2.97%
2001	2,441,794	+2.56%
2011	3,007,134	+2.10%

**source:**

According to the 2011 census Uttar Dinajpur district has a population of 3,007,134, roughly equal to the nation of Albania or the US state of Mississippi. This gives it a ranking of 124th in India (out of a total of 640). The district has a population density of 956 inhabitants per square kilometre (2,480/sq mi) . Its population growth rate over the decade 2001-2011 was 22.9%. Uttar Dinajpur has a sex ratio of 936 females for every 1000 males, and a literacy rate of 59.1%. 12.05% of the population lives in urban areas. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes make up 26.87% and 5.41% of the population respectively.

**Religion**

**Religion in Uttar Dinajpur district (2011)**

	Percent
Islam	49.92%
Hinduism	49.31%
Christianity	0.56%
Others	0.21%



**Religion in present-day Uttar Dinajpur district**

Religion	Population (1941): 88–91: 106	Percentage (1941)	Population (2011)	Percentage (2011)
Islam 🕌	266,415	53.61%	1,501,170	49.92%
Hinduism 🙏	200,051	40.25%	1,482,943	49.31%
Tribal religion 🌿	29,763	5.99%	1,622	0.05%
Others	740	0.15%	21,399	0.72%
Total Population	496,969	100%	3,007,134	100%

## **Language**

### **Languages of Uttar Dinajpur district (2011).**

Bengali (68.06%)

Surjapuri (13.22%)

Urdu (9.48%)

Santali (3.77%)

Hindi (3.76%)

Rajbongshi (1.03%)

Others (0.62%)

According to the 2011 census, 68.06% of the population spoke Bengali, 13.22% Surjapuri, 9.48% Urdu, 3.77% Santali, 3.76% Hindi and 1.03% Rajbongshi as their first language.

Bengali is the main language but a sizeable number of Urdu, Hindi and Maithili speaking people live in Islampur sub-division. It is one of the most backward districts of India educationally and economically owing to state neglect. The Bengali dialects here are spoken in the district, are variously called as Varendri and Shershabadia.

## **Education**

As of 2012, there were 3282 schools in the Uttar Dinajpur district. 3100 of these are in rural areas, and 182 urban.

There is Raiganj University in Uttar Dinajpur situated at Raiganj.

Others general degree and diploma colleges are here also.

Some notable colleges such as:

Chopra Kamala Paul Smriti Mahavidyalaya

Dr. Meghnad Saha College

Islampur College

Islampur Government Polytechnic

Kaliyaganj College

Raiganj Government Medical College and Hospital

Raiganj Polytechnic

Raiganj Surendranath Mahavidyalaya

Shree Agrasen Mahavidyalaya



## Flora and fauna

In 1985, Uttar Dinajpur district became home to the Raiganj Wildlife Sanctuary, which has an area of 1.3 km<sup>2</sup> (0.5 sq mi).

## Transport

Major railway stations are Raiganj(RGJ), Radhikapur (RDP), Kaliyaganj, Dalkolha and Aluabari Road Jn (Islampur). Dalkolha is most important stoppage of long-distance train. NH 27 and NH 12 are two National Highways in this District. Radhikapur-Kolkata (RDP-KOAA) Express train and Radhikapur-Howrah Kulik Express (RDP-HWH) are the two direct train for Raiganj to South Bengal Communication. Although RDP-SGUJ DEMU is the only direct train for Raiganj to North Bengal Communication. NBSTC, SBSTC are transport corporations serving the area. Siliguri More is that point zone which connect four district zone North Dinajpur, South Dinajpur, North Bengal and South Bengal through High Ways.

## Tourism

Raiganj Wildlife Sanctuary, the largest bird sanctuary of Asia

Swaminath Temple at Swaminath

Rajbari at Rajbari Gate

Shiv Mandir at Itahar

Danhasori Pithasthal at Chandigram

Shree Shree Ma Bhabani Devi Than at Bouaha

Shidhi binayak Mandir at, Maharaja Hat



## Area

Apart from the Uttar Dinajpur Zilla Parishad, the district contains four census towns rural areas of 98 gram panchayats under nine community development blocks: Kaliyaganj, Raiganj, Itahar, Hemtabad, Goalpokhar-I, Islampur, Goalpokhar-II, Karandighi, Chopra.

The four census towns are Raiganj, Islampur, Kaliyaganj & Dalkhola.

## Blocks

### Raiganj

Rural area under Raiganj block are consists of 14 gram panchayats, viz. Bahin, Gouri, Mahipur, Sitgram, Barua, Jagadishpur, Maraikura, Bhatun, Bindole, Kamalabari-I, Rampur Maharajahat, Birghoi, Kamalabari-II and Serpur.

### Kaliaganj

Rural area under Kaliaganj block are consists of 8 gram panchayats, viz. Anantapur, Baruna, Bhandar, Bochadanga, Dhankoil, Malgaon, Mostafanagar and Radhikapur.

## **Itahar**

Rural area under Itahar block are consists 12 gram panchayats,viz. Chhayghara, Durgapur, Durlovpur, Gulandar I, Gulandar II, Itahar, Jayhat, Kapasia, Marnai, Patirajpur, Sarun I and Sarun II.

## **Hemtabad**

Rural area under Hemtabad block are consists 5 Gram panchayats,viz. Bangalbari, Bishnupur, Chainagar, Hemtabad, Naoda.

## **Goalpokhar I**

Rural area under Goalpokhar I block are consists 14 Gram panchayats,viz. Dharampur I, Dharampur II, Goagaon I, Goagaon II, Goalpokher, Goti, Jaingaon, Khagore, Lodhan, Mahua, Panjipara, Pokharia, Sahapur I.

## **Goalpokhar II**

Rural area under Goalpokhar II block are consists 11 Gram panchayats,viz. Belon, Bidyanandapur, Chakulia, Kanki, Nizampur I, Nizampur II, Sahapur I, Sahapur II, Sujapur I, Sujapur II and Toryal.

## **Islampur**

Rural area under Islampur block are consists 13 Gram panchayats,viz. Agdimti-Khanti, Gunjaria, Matikunda-II, Ramganj-II, Gaisal-I, Islampur, Panditpota-I, Gaisal-II, Kamalgaon-Sujali, Panditpota-II, Gobindapur, Matikunda-I and Ramganj-I.

## **Karandighi**

Rural area under Karandighi block are consists 13 Gram panchayats,viz. Altapur I, Altapur II, Rasakhowa I, Rasakhowa II, Bazargaon I, Bazargaon II, Dalkhola, Domohona, Karandighi I, Karandighi II, Lahutara I, Lahutara II, and Raniganj.

## **Chopra**

Rural area under Chopra block are consists 8 Gram panchayats,viz. Chopra, Chutikhore, Daspara, Ghirnigaon, Haptiagachh, Lakhipur, Majhiali and Sonarpur.



FOR, DIYA SOCIAL FOUNDATION  
Prasenjit Chakraborty  
CHAIRMAN

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