

CENSUS OF INDIA 1981

PART—XB
SERIES—30

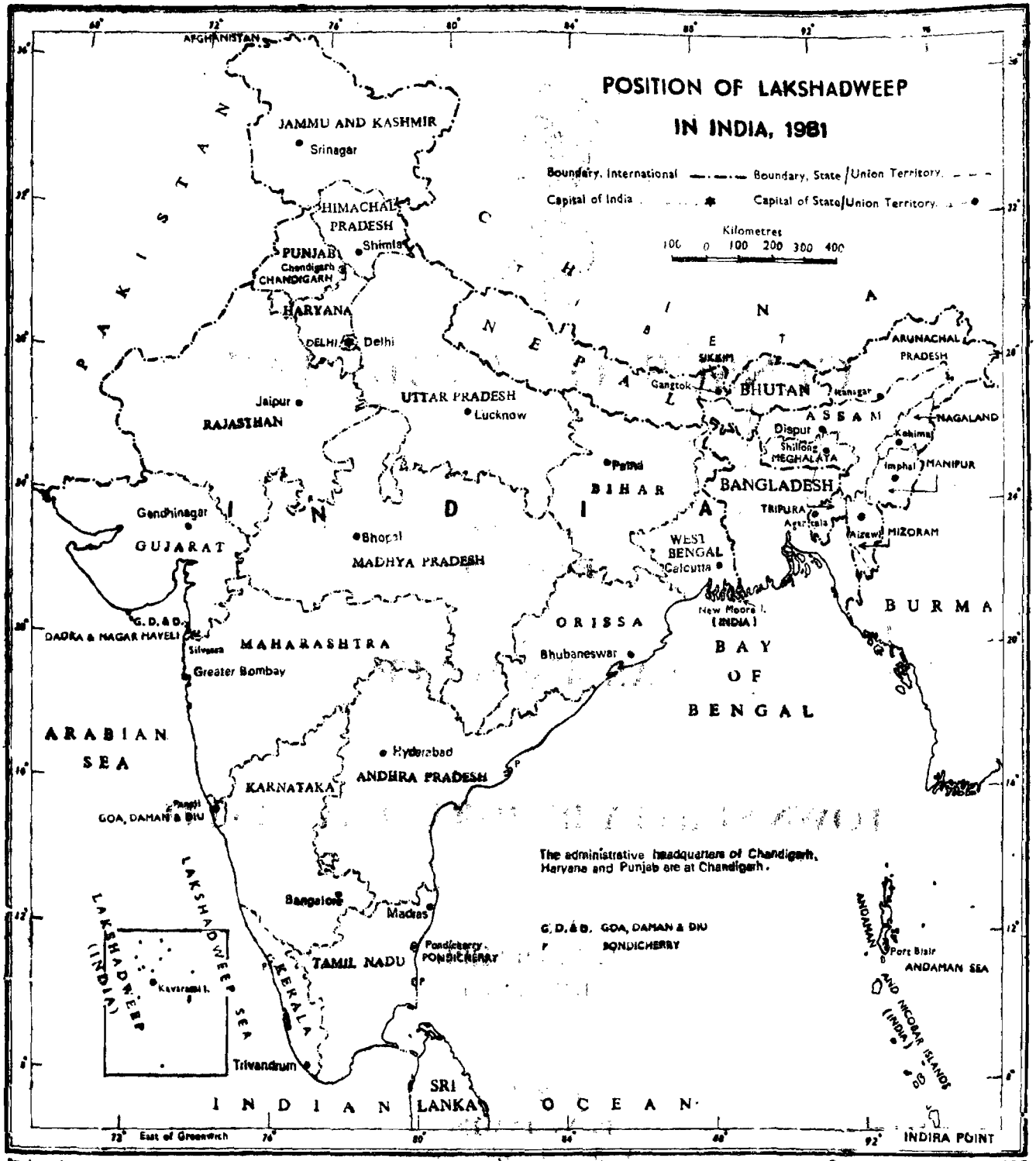
LAKSHADWEEP

TOWN SURVEY REPORT—KAVARATTI

Drafted by
A. V. OUSEPH
Investigator

Edited by
P. V. JAMES
Assistant Director

Guided by
WAJAHAT HABIBULLAH
OF THE INDIAN ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE,
Director of Census Operations,
Lakshadweep



Based upon Survey of India map with the permission of the Surveyor General of India.

The territorial waters of India extend into the sea to a distance of twelve nautical miles measured from the appropriate base line.

The boundary of Meghalaya shown on this map is as interpreted from the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971, but has yet to be verified.

© Government of India Copyright 1989

FOREWORD

Apart from the decennial enumeration of population, the Indian Census is steeped in the tradition of undertaking a variety of studies of topical interest. In fact, the publications brought out in connection with the earlier censuses contained veritable mines of information on racial, cultural, linguistic and a number of other aspects of life of the people of this country. With the advent of freedom, however, the scope and dimension of these special studies had to be restructured in a manner that would provide the basic feedbacks on the processes of development taking place in different spheres of life of the people especially under planned development.

Thus, in connection with the 1961 Census, a massive programme was launched, *inter-alia* to conduct socio-economic survey of about 500 villages selected from different parts of the country. The main objective of this study was to know the way of life of the people living in Indian villages which accounted for 82 per cent of the total population as per the 1961 Census. There was, however, an imperative need to extend the area of the study to urban centres as well, to provide a complete coverage of the people living in diverse socio-economic conditions. It was with this objective in view ancillary studies on towns were launched as part of the social studies programme in connection with the 1971 Census.

The programme of social studies taken up in connection with the 1971 Census, was continued without any major change at the 1981 Census as well. A study on traditional rural based handicrafts was, however, added as a new item under the social study projects of the 1981 Census. For the conduct of urban study, 64 small and medium towns were selected from different parts of the country following the criteria such as (a) size, (b) demographic features, (c) functional characteristics, (d) specific industry or occupation dominating the economy, (e) location, (f) concentration of different castes and communities, and (g) other social and cultural phenomenon like temple town, health resort etc.

The research design, tools for data collection and formats for data tabulation and report writing required for urban studies were originally formulated by Dr. B. K. Roy Burman, the then Deputy Registrar General, Social Studies Division. His successor, Dr. N. G. Nag took considerable pains to revise all the formats to make them more comprehensive. Dr. K. P. Ittaman, the present Deputy Registrar General heading Social Studies Division, co-ordinated these studies at different levels as well as rendered necessary guidance to the Directorates of Census Operations for their successful consumation. Shri M. K. Jain, Senior Research Officer with the able assistance of Investigator Shri R. K. Mehta did a commendable job in scrutinising the reports and communicating the comments thereon to the Directorates. I am grateful to all of them.

The present report is the out-come of a study on Kavaratti town undertaken by the Directorate of Census Operations, Lakshadweep. I am indebted to Shri Wajahat Habibullah, I.A.S., Director, Shri P. V. James, Assistant Director and his colleagues in the Census Directorate for their painstaking efforts in bringing out this report.

New Delhi, the
1st of June, 1988.

V. S. VERMA,
Registrar General, India.

PREFACE

This intensive study of a Town in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep has been undertaken as ancillary to the 1981 Census. Kavaratti, the headquarters island which is among the three islands which have been declared Census Towns for the first time in that Census, has been selected for this study. The report is based on data collected through the 1981 Census supplemented by a socio-economic survey in selected households and a large wealth of information being continuously collected by departments, organisations and institutions and through field enquiry.

The methodology of this study was that Kavaratti was divided into four localities based on socio-economic factors. 250 households were selected by the systematic random sampling method from various localities. The data of the survey has been processed in 200 tables which have been analysed intensively and calculations derived therefrom reflected in appropriate places in the report. The field survey of intensive household schedules was conducted over a period for four months from September, 1986.

I trust that this study will be of use not only to bureaucrats and specialists but to the general public interested in the socio-economic dynamics of the development of Lakshadweep. The contributory factors from Kavaratti are similar to those of other islands and will help in arriving at an accurate picture of the levels of prosperity, economic activity and social organisation existing in the islands.

The canvassing of household schedules was carried out by Shri T. P. Abdullakoya, Statistical Assistant assisted by Shri A. Kidave, Computor and the tables prepared by Smt. Sarasamma Pillai and Smt. Mary Joseph, Computors and Shri M. Muthukoya, Assistant Compiler under the supervision of Shri A. V. Ouseph, Investigator.

The draft of the report was prepared by Shri A. V. Ouseph, Investigator which was edited and finalised by Shri P. V. James, Assistant Director of Census Operations. The typing work was attended to by Shri C. Gnanasilan, Senior Stenographer and Smt. M. Kunjumole, Lower Division Clerk. The maps and diagrams were prepared by S/Shri T. Trinadh and G. Mariyanna, Draftsmen of Andhra Pradesh Census Directorate. The cover page was designed by Shri R. Venu Nair of Kerala Census Directorate. Most of the photographs were taken by Shri P. V. James, Assistant Director. Lakshadweep administration also has supplied some photographs. The entire operations on this Special Study was co-ordinated and supervised by Shri P. V. James, Assistant Director of Census Operations. I wish to acknowledge the hard labour put in by the above officers in bringing out this volume.

I am grateful to Dr. K. P. Ittaman, Deputy Registrar General (SS) and Shri M. K. Jain, Senior Research Officer under whose overall guidance the intensive survey was conducted and who also scrutinised the report resulting therefrom. Their suggestions and those of their colleagues were valuable and have been incorporated in the body of this report.

Finally I must acknowledge with gratitude the encouragement and guidance received from Shri V. S. Verma, Registrar General, India and Shri Mahendranath, Joint Registrar General, India, without whose active support the project could not have been completed in a wholesome manner.

WAJAHAT HABIBULLAH
Administrator & Ex-officio *Director of Census Operations*,
Lakshadweep.

KAVARATTI
24-2-1989.

ERRATA

Item	*For*	*Read*
Page 18, table IV-1 heading	198	1981
Page 23, para 13.1, line 8	As such as	As much as
Page 24, line 2	have been	have
,, para 14.1, line 2	27.67	27.66
,, para 14.2, line 8	table IV-16	table IV-14
,. Table IV-14, Col. 1	Unskilled manual Skilled manual	Unskilled manual
,, ,, Total, Col. 6	(0.027)	(0.27)
Page 40, para 2.1, line 23	It is seen that more the facilities in surface communi-	is a retouch of ships in the town before their
Page 45, para 7.2, line 9	2.78 per cent	2.78 per cent each
Page 48, para 15.3, line 10	84.12	34.12
Page 50, para 1.1, line 21	*Eli Nazattu*	*Elinayattu*
Page 54, para 4.1, line 8	8.79	78.79
Page 63, para 7.10. line 5	alone and 20 households (8.40 per eent) use both	households, 202 households (84.88 per cent) use
,. para 7.12, line 12	full skirt and blouse while going outside.	full skirt and blouse at home and put saree over the full skirt and blouse while going outside.
Page 91, Table 7,		
(i) Scheduled Tribes 20-24, Col. 8	66	65

CONTENTS

		Page
	Foreword	(i)
	Preface	(iii)
I.	Introduction	1
II.	History of Growth of the Town	5
III.	Amenities and Services—History of Growth and the Present position	10
IV.	Economic Life of the Town	17
V.	Ethnic and Selected Socio—Demographic Characteristics of the population	28
VI.	Migration and Settlement of Families	40
VII.	Neighbourhood Pattern	50
VIII.	Family Life in the Town	53
IX.	Housing and Material Culture	58
X.	Slums, Blighted and Other Areas with sub-standard Living Conditions	65
XI.	Organisation of Power and Prestige	66
XII.	Leisure and Recreation, Social Participation, Social Awareness, Religion and Crime	70
XIII.	Linkages and Continua	76
XIV.	Conclusion	80

APPENDIX

Tables from Household data

1.	Distribution of Population by Age, Sex and Marital status	85
2.	Distribution of Households and Population by Locality, Caste/Tribe/Community and Sex	86
3.	Distribution of Households by number of Members, Migration status and Place of Birth of Head of Household	87
4.	Distribution of Households by Nature of Relation of members to head of Household and Migration status of Head of Household	87
5.	Distribution of Households by Number of members and Occupational Diversity (i.e. Different members having Different occupation)	88
6.	Place of Last Residence of Members of Households as Related to Place of birth	90
7.	Age, Sex and study in Educational institutions by Scheduled Tribe and others	91
8.	Distribution of Population by Age, Sex and Educational level.	92
9.	Distribution of workers and Non-workers by Sex, Caste/Tribe/Community and Broad age-group	93
10.	Non-workers by Sex, Age and type of activity	94
11.	Travel Index of Persons, Males and Females by Caste/Tribe/Community	95
12.	Employment status of workers by Caste/Tribe/Community and Sex	95
13.	Number of persons seeking employment by Age, Sex, Educational Level and Registration with Employment Exchange	96
14.	Households Defaulting in Enrolling school going children by Caste/Tribe/Community of Head of Household.	97
15.	Households classified by locality and per capita floor space	97
16.	Availability of amenities by Locality	98
17.	Presence of Luxury and Costly goods by Education Level of Head of Household	99

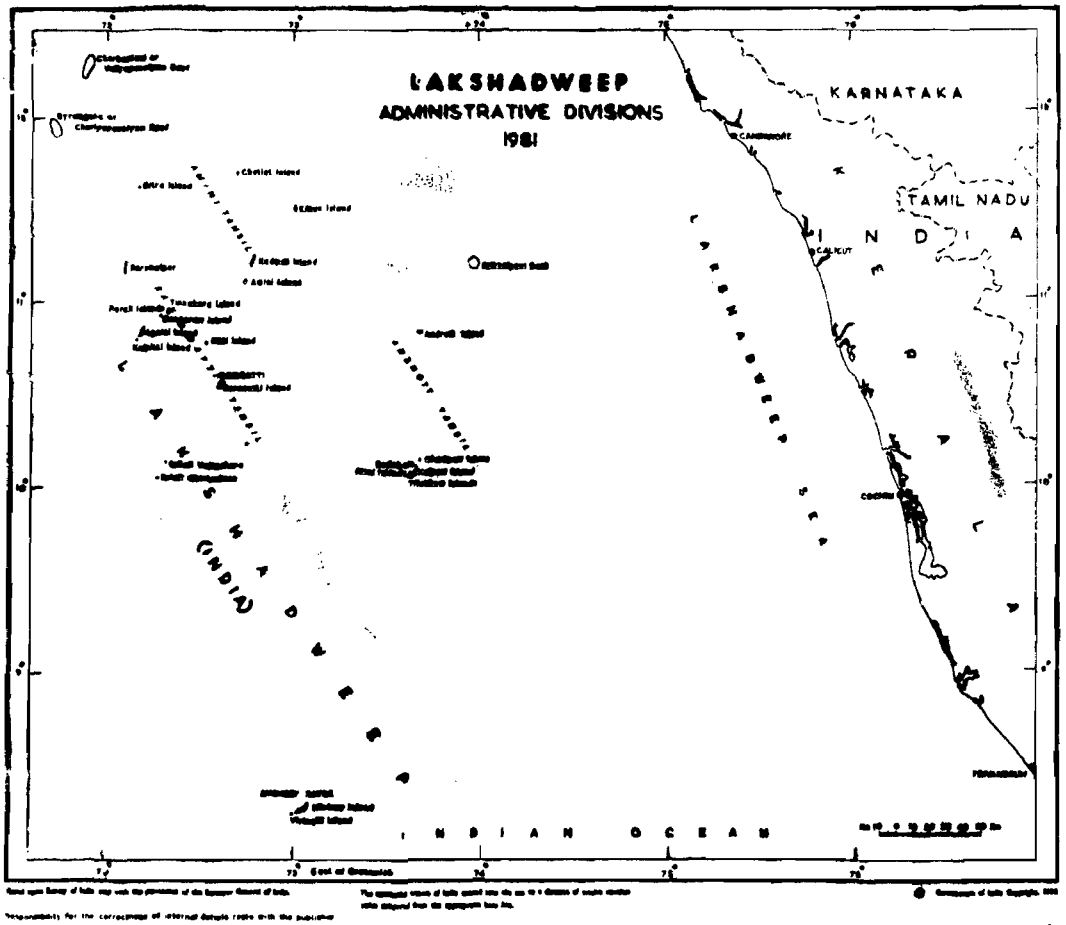
ILLUSTRATIONS—PHOTOGRAPHS

Plate		After Page
1.	A traffic Junction	2
2.	A bread fruit tree—A common tree in the Island	,,
3.	Post Office	,,
4.	Guest House	,,
5.	Amin Kutchery	,,
6.	Kutchery Jetty—Disembarkation	,,
7.	Port Office—on the ground floor functions the Education Office	6
8.	Sub-Court	,,
9.	Telephone Exchange	,,
10.	Overhead tank for water supply under construction	,,
11.	Youths supply potable water at the southern end of the residential area	,,
12.	Power House	,,
13.	Bharat Seema with its hatch opened	,,
14.	Passenger Hall—in front an Autorikshaw engaged in passenger transport	,,
15.	Boat Building Yard—A distant view	,,
16.	Tharkyathul Islam Complex (Madrassa)	,,
17.	Directorate of Medical and Health Services	18
18.	Syndicate Bank	,,
19.	Lagoon fishing using Tharappam	,,
20.	Fish caught by spikes	,,
21.	Breaking coconut for making copra—behind is a pile of coconut husk	,,
22.	Kernel being separated from shells	,,
23.	Kernel being sundried	,,
24.	Employment Exchange	,,
25.	T.V. station with Solar battery	56
26.	Indira Nagar—Mini Railway Station for the entertainment of children	,,
27.	Botanical Garden	,,
28.	Lakshadweep Bhavan	,,
29.	Inside view of Central Library	,,
30.	Lakshadweep Sahithya Kala Academy	,,
31.	Arabic College	72
32.	Old Juma Mosque	,,
33.	Juma Mosque	,,
34.	Tank believed to contain medicinal water behind the Ujira Mosque	,,
35.	Makbara in front of Ujira Mosque	,,
36.	Intricate carvings in Ujira Mosque	,,
37.	Group of staff and students — J.N. College	,,

2—16 RGI/ND'88

MAPS, CHARTS AND DIAGRAMS

1.	Position of Lakshadweep in India, 1981	Frontis piece
2.	Lakshadweep – Administrative Divisions	Facing page 1
3	Growth of population 1880—1981	,, ,, 8
4.	Workers classified by age and sex	,, ,, 18
5.	Category of non-workers	,, ,, 22
6.	Age, Sex and marital status	,, ,, 30
7.	Age, literacy and educational level	,, ,, 32
8.	Households with per capita floor space	,, ,, 60


LAKSHADWEEP
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS
1981
KARNATAKA
TAMIL NADU
I N D I A
ARABIAN SEA
LAKSHADWEEP SEA
I N D I A N O C E A N

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Kavaratti Census Town, the headquarters of the Lakshadweep group of islands. is one among the three census towns in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. It is a Non-Municipal town. The other Census towns in this Union Territory are Minicoy and Amini. Till 1981 the entire area of the territory was treated as rural. These three islands were declared as census towns for the first time during 1981 Census. The Administration of the Union Territory of Lakshadweep has not, so far, raised the Headquarters island-Kavaratti to the status of a statutory town. Still there is no local bodies of Panchayat or Municipality or the like in the island. Except in the case of Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Capitals of States/Union Territories all over India are statutory towns/cities with Municipalities/Corporations.

Location

2.1. The Census town kavaratti is away from Calicut by 346 kms., from Cochin by 404 kms. and from Mangalore by 352 kms. This island is a narrow strip of land lying from north to south not more than 3 to 4 metres above the sea level with shallow lagoon on its western side bounded by a coral reef and a storm beach on its eastern side.

Important characteristics of the town

3.1. Kavaratti Census town is predominantly inhabited by Muslims. The indigenous population of the town belong to Islam. The population other than this are the temporary migrants from the neighbouring states in India who form the Government Employees, their families and imported labourers. 86 per cent of the population of the town are Muslims. Majority of them belong to the *shafi* school of the *Sunni* sect and acknowledge besides the *Quaran* the authority of the *Sunnet*. The other sects among the Muslims are Wahabis and Ahamadiyyas. They constitute only a microscopic minority. According to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe list (modification orders), 1956, the inhabitants of Lakshadweep who and both of whose parents were born in those islands are treated as Scheduled Tribes. No Scheduled Caste has been returned in relation to this Union Territory. Malayalam is the language spoken in the town. As much as 99 per cent of the total population of the town speak Malayalam.

3.2. Coconut growing, copra making and fishing are the main occupation of the indigenous population of the town and mainstay of the economy. These are traditional occupations and they still continue even after the town has shown marked developments in all respects. 24 per cent of the population in Kavaratti are workers including main as well as marginal workers. Except the workers under the Government or Co-operative sectors, all others are found to be engaged in some or other kind of work. Work is of two types. One is seasonal due to the nature of work, eg: copra making, fishing etc. and the other is subsidiary on account of special set up of the island, eg, fishing or *odam* repairing after office hours. But, both are inter-mingled.

3.3. Kavaratti is the centre of Administration due to its position as the headquarters of the Union Territory. The Secretariat and various department offices of the territory are functioning here. On account of this unique position it is the centre of communication and transport, educational and medical facilities.

Size and Population

4.1. Kavaratti Census town is larger in area and population among the two inhabited islands of Kavaratti tahsil. It has an area of 3.63 Sq. kms. with 6 kms. of length and maximum breadth of about one km. The lagoon on the western side is about 1.5 kms. wide. According to Census the population of the town in 1951 was 2,390. At the 1961 census, population was 2,828 marking an overall increase of 18.33 per cent. In 1971 the population of the town has gone up to 4,420 with the decadal variation of population of 56.29 per cent. This unhindered upward trend is attributed to the shifting of headquarters from Calicut to Kavaratti. In 1981 the population of the town was 6,604 marking an overall increase of 49.41 per cent. The period 1951-81 marked a growth rate of 176.32 per cent which is the highest among the islands except that of the island Bitra. The union territory growth rate of population during that period was 91.34 per cent.

Density of Population

5.1. The density of the Union Territory is 1,258 per sq. km. The density of population of Urban area is 1,759 per sq. km. and that of Kavaratti is 1,819 per sq. km. Kavaratti ranks the second in density of population among the islands in the Union Territory.

Topography and Physical environment

6.1. The town is largely low levelled flat-topped with a few metres height above the sea level. The western side appears to have a slightly higher elevation than the easternside. At the north-east side of the island small heaps of soil (*kunnu*) are found here and there with low lying area in between these small hills (kunnu) suited for the coconut nursery. The lagoonal shores of the island consist of sandy beach.

The eastern sea-ward shore is marked by storm beaches. These consist of coral pebbles and boulders piled up well above the high tide Top mark. The sandy soil of the island is saline with large deposits of minerals coupled with the low lying area is best suited for coconut growing. The island is thickly planted with coconut trees. Paddy is not cultivated here. There is no forest area in the town.

Geomorphology

6.2. It is believed that the island was formed as a result of coral growth over the continuation of Aravalli and Rajasthan rock system from the late tertiary period. The atoll with a wide reef lies on the ridge. The central part of the lagoon is deep. There are two boat passages to the lagoon. The island is situated on the eastern reef margin. The atoll of the island Kavaratti shows an advanced or mature stage of development. The island does not have any rivers or creeks. Phosphate deposits (Guano) on the island and calcium carbonate in lagoons are found in plenty.

Flora and Fauna

6.3. Coconut palms form the chief flora of the town. The town is not rich in other vegetations. Exempting coconut (*Cocos nucifera*), other crops grown in the town are drumstick (*Moringa oleifera*), bread fruit (*Artocarpus incisa*), banana (*musa paradisiaca*), colocasia (*Colocassia antiguorum*), chilli (*Capsicum annum*) and cucumber (*Cucumis sativus*). Of late, plants like common pepper (*Piper nigrum*) and tapioca (*Manihot utilissima*) have been introduced. The plants like seagrass namely, *Thalassia hemprichii* and *Cymodocea isoetifolia* grow abundantly in the lagoon.

6.4. The islands are conspicuous by the absence of varieties of animal species. Two species of rat viz. *Mus rattus* and *Mus refescens* are very common. Birds such as *Tharathasi* (*Sterna fuscata*), *katalkakka* (*Sterna bergiivelox*), *Karifetu* (*Anous stolidus piletus*), *chullu* (*Pluvialis domirical*), *koluvayam* (*Nuemenius phaeopus*) and heron annal (*Ardeola grayii*) are commonly seen in the town. Among reptiles, lizards are found mostly i.e. *gecko* species, *calotes versicolar* and mabuya *carinata*. Snakes are practically absent in the town. Other reptiles deserving mention are turtles such as *Chelonia myda*, *Eretmochelys imbricata*, *Dermochelys coracea*, etc. Among the frogs, *Rana tigrina* is the most common species here. Rhinoceros beetle (*Oryctus* species), cockroaches (*periplanata americana*), mosquitoes of both culex and anophilis species are largely found in the town. The island is characterised by the presence of various types of corals, the most common of these are *Acropora formosa*, *porites* species. *Diploastrea* species, *Goniastrea* species and *Lobophyllia* species. The surrounding sea abounds in varieties of fishes. The most common of which are tuna (skipjack), seerfish, sailfish, garfish, kingfish, croaker, streaker, parrot-fish; trigger fish, etc.

Climate

Temperature

6.5. Temperature in the town is generally as found in other islands of the territory. The town is free from very hot as well as extreme cold due to its proximity to the sea. Temperature begins to rise from February. April and May are the hottest months in the year. With the setting in of the southwest monsoon temperature drops by a degree or two. In October there is slight increase in day temperature. There is not much change in temperature thereafter till January. The maximum temperature recorded is 30.5 centigrade and the minimum 24.9 centigrade in the town.

Rainfall

6.6. The rainfall in the southern islands is more evenly distributed than in the northern islands. During monsoon period i.e. June to September the town gets 59 per cent of the annual rainfall. In the post monsoon months i.e. October to December the town gets 24 per cent of the annual rainfall. On an average the number of rainy days in an year is between 85 to 95. The annual rainfall of the town is 1236.7 mm.

Communication with other places

7.1. The town has always been a centre of communication with other places. Two all-weather ships viz. M. V. Amindivi with passenger capacity of 242 persons and cargo 800 M.T. and M. V. Bharatseema having capacity to carry 380 passengers and 160 M.T. of cargo ply between the islands and mainland ports. The ship M. V. Bharatseema is put in operation with pre-fixed programmes. The programmes of this ship for the whole fair season i.e. from 16th September to 15th May are fixed in advance at the opening of the season. Besides these two ships, a ferry vessel named Dweepsetu is also available for inter-island service during fair season with pre-fixed programmes as the ship M. V. Bharatseema. Dweepsetu touches the mainland port (Beypore) with the passengers. It can carry 150 passengers and 40 M.T. of cargo during her voyage. During fair season at the time of emergency mechanised boats are also pressed into service. One barge is also available for transportation of diesel oil. In all the ship programmes prominence is given to the town and usually the first port of call of the ships is at Kavaratti and they, generally retouch while returning to the mainland ports. One helicopter has also commenced its trips from Cochin to Kavaratti and then to other islands. The town is the base station for the helicopter. Vayudoot is also in service from 15th April, 1988. It connects Cochin and Agatti island, which is only 57 kms. from Kavaratti. The passengers of vayudoot are taken to other islands by helicopter or ship.

7.2. Post office and wireless station are functioning in the town. Telephone has been installed in the town with STD facilities to mainland and Minicoy with the installation of satellite Earth Station. The



Plate 1—A traffic Junction



Plate 2—A bread fruit tree—A common tree in the Island.



Plate 3—Post Office



Plate 4—Guest House



Plate 5—Amin Kutchery



Plate 6—Kutchery Jetty—Disembarkation

headquarters island Kavaratti is connected with the rest of the country through the Inter-state Police wireless and with other islands through a Micro-wave wireless net work. The ships at the anchoring point as well as around the town are contacted through the Very High Frequency set installed at Kavaratti.

Functional area

8.1. Kavaratti is a small Non-Municipal Census town. There is no industrial area in the Town. Being the seat of the Administration it has several offices and Institutions. The secretariat, the majority of Lakshadweep Government Administration Offices and other Central Government offices, High School, College, Madhya Pradesh State Armed Force Camp, Naval Base and staff quarters are lying clustered within the fifth block called as *Pandaram*. Hospital and Satellite Earth Station are on the periphery of fifth block. Amin Kutchery, Co-operative Society (Main branch), Fibre decorticating factory, Fisheries office and Boat Building yard, Power house and Electricity Office, Lakshadweep Bhavan, Bharkath Bhavan and all the residential houses of the islanders are lying scattered inside the palm groves of other part of the town. In area beyond Naval Base upto the southern tip, where helipad is located, only coconut trees are found growing. Hence, some parts of the town where most of the offices and residential houses are located can be considered as nascent functional areas of the town.

Administrative area

8.2. There are in all 62 Government Departmental Offices and institutions in the town. As stated above the Secretariat and majority of the departmental offices and institutions are functioning in the V Block (*Pandaram*). A few offices are located around Amin Kutchery. Others are scattered in other parts of the town.

Commercial area

8.3. Practically there is no commercial area in the town. However Co-operative Society (Main branch) with its retail shops, 12 numbers of private stationery shops and 3 tea shops are found adjacent to Amin Kutchery. Two branches of Society, Employees Co-operative Store, Police Store and a few private provisional as well as stationery shops are lying scattered in other parts of the town. The residential hotels, restaurants, hats, markets etc. are lacking in the town. There is a small shopping complex with single story building having 5 rooms near Kutchery.

Residential area

8.4. According to the 1981 Census, there are 1063 occupied residential houses in the town providing accommodation to 1,161 households. They are spreadout all over the town exempting an area beyond the Naval Base upto helipad. The density of residential houses in the town is 293 per sq. km. as against 272 residential houses per sq. km. in the urban area of the Union Territory. Almost all the residential houses of the local inhabitants of the town are located within the blocks I upto IV. 13 residential houses of the indigenous people of the town are found in the fifth block (*Pandaram*). Most of the residential quarters of the Government Employees are located in *Pandaram*. All these areas form the Residential area.

Coconut growing area

8.5. There is no agricultural area in the town as per the definition of Census. However, the entire area of the town is used for growing coconut. Except the functional areas mentioned above, the remaining area falls in this category. Inside the Town, the pucca roads are limited in length. Most of the roads are improvised foot paths through the coconut gardens. Owing to the recent trend of land and coconut tree consciousness among the people, fencings have come up for the boundary of holdings and thereby a few roads are found closed at some particular points. The town has developed at the expense of coconut groves which have been converted to land for residential and other purposes. The Administration acquired land for the offices and other public purposes. As far as possible the people as well as the Administration is constructing buildings without destroying coconut trees. Compensation is given to the individuals for the land and coconut trees acquired by the Government. As stated earlier population of the town had steadily increased on one side and the need for more office buildings and residential quarters had come up which paved the way for the construction of more and more buildings. The people are, therefore reluctant to part with their land as they are loosing their income.

Land use pattern

9.1. Out of the total area of 362.95 hectares which is the land use area, 14.30 hectares are the Irrigated area and 315.77 hectares are the unirrigated area. 32.88 Hectares of land are not available for coconut growing. This includes not only the area not available for cultivation reported by the holders of land, but the area held by the institutions such as wakf boards, madrassas, co-operative bodies and by the Government. There is no area under culturable waste in the town. The break-up of the land use area into different categories other than shown above are not available in respect of the town.

Important public places and monuments of historical Interest

10.1. Except one children's park situated in the front premises of the Mahilasamajam near Amin Kutchery and one botanical garden opened by the side of the Secretariat, there is no public park for spending leisure time in the town. The absence of park has not been mostly felt by the people because of the clean and smooth sand sea shore. The people used to assemble and gossip on the sea shore around kutchery jetti. The tourist huts have been constructed near this jetti. The lagoon cruise in the crystal clear water also attracts the local people as well as the

tourists. Swimming, rowing, fishing, viewing the underwater coral world in a glass bottom boat is thrilling or memorable.

10.2. Besides the High School of both English and Malayalam media, there is one Junior College for pre-degree course of Arts and Science subjects. The only other Junior College in the territory is at Andrott. The hospital in the town has been raised to the status of a Referal hospital of the territory. The Central Library at Kavaratti which is the only library of this kind in the territory has a good collection of books. One reading room-cum-library is also functioning in the town. Besides youth club and staff club, there are a number of Recreation and sports clubs in Kavaratti.

10.3. The town is not lagging behind in the field of religious activities. The indigenous people of the town are all Muslims and they are very strict in religious practices. Kavaratti town has a number of mosques and madrassas. Among these, Mohiddin mosque, Ujira mosque, Juma mosque and Marakara Palli are important mosques in the town. The mosques in the town are architecturally superior to those found in other islands. The Ujira mosque with its intricate carving in wood is a fine specimen of craftsmanship. The Tomb of Sayed Mohammed Quasim in front of Ujira mosque is a famous religious monument. For celebrations in this mosque offerings are received from all the islands and even from the mainland. The Tomb of Sayed Aboobacker Seedi Oliyulla in the Marakara Palli is famous and in the *Adiyantharam*, conducted here in the month of Rajab, is participated by the people of other islands also.

Ethnic groups

11.1. The Census data do not give the distribution of population on the basis of caste or community except the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe population. The Caste system viz. Melachery, Malmi and Koya which was prevalent during the early period, is not at all distinct at present due to structural changes in the social, political and economic fields. The people of the town are well aware of this social evil which was in existence in the past and they do not desire to revive it any more. Therefore, in the survey no attempt was made to find out the relative strength of the earlier caste system in the town as this wound has already been healed by now. The religious composition, languages spoken, and other social and economic aspects have been spelt out under the sub-heading 'important characteristics of the town'.

Slums

12.1. There is no slum area in the town. Besides the slums, no 'blighted area' or 'area with substandard living conditions' has been identified in the town at the time of survey conducted for this special town study.

CHAPTER II

HISTORY OF GROWTH OF TOWN

Myth, Legend or History of the islands

1.1. History of the Lakshadweep group of islands had not been recorded by any of the early or medieval travellers who visited Kerala. The history now narrated is based on various legends. Local traditions attribute the first settlement on these islands to the period of Cheraman Perumal, the last king of Kerala. The historians are divided on this point. It is said that the people first colonised the islands of Amini, Andrott, Kalpeni and Kavaratti which came to be known as *tarawad* islands or islands first inhabited by Principal families. The other islands were subsequently colonised by migrating from the main islands. The different islands which were under the jurisdiction of two District authorities were grouped into the Union Territory of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands in 1956 and the name of this Union Territory was changed to Lakshadweep in 1973.

Pre-Urbanisation details of the Town

2.1. Kavaratti formerly known as 'Kavarathy' is one among the early inhabited islands in the Laccadive group. It is the only Census town in this part of islands as well as one among the three towns in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep as a whole. Kavaratti Census town can claim superior to other towns in Lakshadweep due to various reasons put forward in this publication. But it is seen that during the early period no prominence was given to any particular island except perhaps for the island Amini in the Amindivi group in the later stage. This is obvious that the islands have the same geographical features, the same type of economy, the same religion and except perhaps for Minicoy, the same social customs. During the reign of Kolathiri Rajahs and to some extent during the period of the Ali Rajahs there was no much administrative control. They gave more importance on trade in the islands. "The Kolathiris probably did not get any revenue from the islands except perhaps the profits from coir trade. The inhabitants themselves, it is to be presumed, preferred to remain as their vassals only because they were their former subjects, most of them having migrated from Kolathunad. The Principal inhabitants had sufficient incentive to serve their rulers as the rights conferred on them gave them the status equivalent to the *Naduvazhis* (local chieftains) of Kerala"[1]. The *Naduvazhis* maintained a feudal set up, and had under their control a good number of sailors and agricultural labourers. Because of these peculiar set up, each island was almost a separate unit though they were under the common control.

2.2. The islands were divided in 1787. The five islands came under Tippu Sultan's regime when he accepted the allegiance of the people of Amindivi Islands and took over those islands in return for a jaghir from his territory in Chirakkal. The other islands continued to be under the Arakkal rule. This division of the islands into two groups continued till 1956. In 1799 with the fall of Tippu Sultan in Shrirangapattana, the Amindivi islands were annexed by the East India Company and they formed a part of South Kanara District. By the conquest of Cannanore, in 1791 the Southern islands had passed to the East India Company along with other possessions of the Beebi of Cannanore. The British control was nominal and Beebi retained the administration for an annual tribute. Finally, in 1875 the British took over the administration when they attached the islands for arrears of revenue from the Beebi. The sovereignity of the Beebi was fully surrendered in 1908. The northern islands continued to be a part of the South Kanara District and the Southern islands a part of the Malabar District till 1st November, 1956. It is because of the different dates and the different rulers who ruled the groups of islands and the manner in which they came into possession of the British, a distinction in the two sets of islands came to exist.

2.3. From the earlier records of Inspecting Officers it is seen that among the islands Amini was the principal island of the group from very early times. Perhaps the prominent position might be due to the fact that the nearby islands were inhabited by people from this island and they were mainly tenants of the landlords of Amini. During the period under the British, Amini Island was the seat of the Monegar as well as Deputy Tahsildar, the Officer on whom all revenue and judicial functions were vested. Amini still retains its importance as the seat of the Tahsildar for Amindivi group of islands. At the same time no mention is made in the reports regarding any prominence to any other islands in the Laccadive group of Islands till 1964 as given for the Amini Island. It can, therefore, be presumed that the Island Kavaratti was treated as one among the early *tarawad* islands and no special status or importance was attached to it.

2.4. On 1st November, 1956 the States of the Indian Union were reorganised on linguistic basis and the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi groups of the islands were separated from the erstwhile Madras State and formed a Union Territory. It is only after the centre took over the islands as Union Territory

1. Gazetteer of India, Lakshadweep, 1977, page 47.

3—16 RGI/ND/88

of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands, many came to know of the existence of these islands and the real developments in the islands started in its actual form. Till then the islands were backward when compared to other areas of India. For the revenue and for administration purpose the islands were grouped into three. Each group, thus formed was treated as a Tahsil with the headquarters in one island. Minicoy island itself formed one Tahsil. In Amindivi group of islands the island Amini became the headquarters of the Tahsil. In Laccadive group, the island Andrott was the seat of Tahsildar. Later the Laccadive group of islands was bifurcated to form two Tahsils based on the geographical conditions. The inhabited islands Andrott and Kalpeni together with the nearby uninhabited islands were grouped to form one Tahsil. The island Andrott having more area and population was placed as the headquarters of the Tahsil. The rest of the islands were treated as another Tahsil. Among the two inhabited islands viz. Agatti and Kavaratti, the latter island was given the status of headquarters of the Tahsil. Thus, the island. Kavaratti became one among the four Tahsil headquarters of the territory. This is the beginning of the first phase of development of Kavaratti.

Events connected with the growth of the Town and Correlated changes

3.1. The seat of the new Administration after the constitution of the islands into a Union Territory in 1956 was at Calicut of Kerala State. Why Calicut was preferred to Mangalore for establishing the Administration Office? Both were the District Headquarters, and their coasts were frequented by the Islanders for sale of their products and purchase of provision and other essential articles. Similarity of language and culture might have led to the preference for Calicut. Because of the scanty communication facilities the contact between the Administrative Office located at Calicut and the Officers stationed at the islands were infrequent during fair season and the islands were cut off completely during monsoon. The staff posted in the island prior to 1964 got their salary for the monsoon period in advance. They purchased bulk quantity of provisions and other items required from the mainland and stocked in the island for the monsoon season. Later, for the efficient administration and for convenience, the Union Territory Administration decided to shift the headquarters to the Islands. During that period they were on the look out of an island which was suited to be the seat of the Administration. A fairly good picture of the health condition in the territory during the past hundred years can be gathered from the various reports of the officers who visited the islands from time to time. In 1846, W. Robinson, Assistant Collector of Canara reported that "many of them are affected with blindness and the worst description of leprosy and other gangrenous diseases prevalent throughout this group and to be attributed possibly to the limited scope for seeking change of blood in their marriages, as well as to the unwholesomeness of their provisions, principally salt fish". Clevenland, writing in the Madras journal of Medical Science in 1863, mentioned that "endemic diseases like leprosy and elephantiasis were common and scrotal elephantiasis was more common, often of big size, in Calicut, North Malabar and Laccadives." Opthalmia did perhaps more mischief than anything else, in many cases destroying or permanently injuring the eye-sight[2]. Though Amini was the Tahsil headquarters and almost centrally located island, it was densely populated due to the smallness in area. It is also said that the nearby island Kadmat had also come up for consideration. Because of its inhygienic conditions it could not be raised to the position of Union Territory headquarters. The Kavaratti island due to its centrally located position and vast area of land under the possession of the Government coupled with the comparative hygienic condition of the island pushed down the other islands and was raised to the unique position of being the seat of the Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration in 1964. According to Shri S. Y. Krishnaswamy, Special Inspecting Officer, Laccadive and Amindivi Islands, "The houses and the mosques are situated in the northern portion of the island. Unlike as in the other Malabar Islands, the houses in Kavaratti are concentrated within a small area and the compounds adjoin one another. The better class of houses have an entrance porch as in Malabar, a feature not found in the other islands. The local stone is rough and of unequal sizes and the better class of people bring stone from Bitra and Agatti for house construction. Several of the houses have windows, and compound fences neatly built of Kadjan ..... There are isolated bits of Government land in the northern part of the island but the narrow southern portion starting from where the inhabited part ends is entirely Government land"[3].

3.2. It was at the period of Shri M. Ramunny, IAS, the then Administrator, Union Territory of Lakshadweep who took charge on 6th December 1961, the second as well as the most important phase of development of the Union Territory as a whole especially that of Kavaratti island was taken place. Shri R. Jagannatha Rao, Union Deputy Minister for Works, Housing and Supply laid the foundation stone of the new secretariat building at Kavaratti on 23-9-62. Dr. Zakkir Husain, Vice-President of India inaugurated the secretariat building at Kavaratti on 26th March, 1964. Thus, the island Kavaratti became the seat of the Administration.

Importance being the Headquarters of the islands

4.1. Kavaratti became the centre of the islands. Along with the secretariat a good number of other offices and residential quarters were also constructed in the island. Postal and other communication facilities were increased. All the ships sailing from mainland ports touched the island Kavaratti. In most of the voyages this island became the first and the last

2. Gazetteer of India, Lakshadweep, page 309.

3. Islands—Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivis—Special Inspection in 1951-52, page-6.

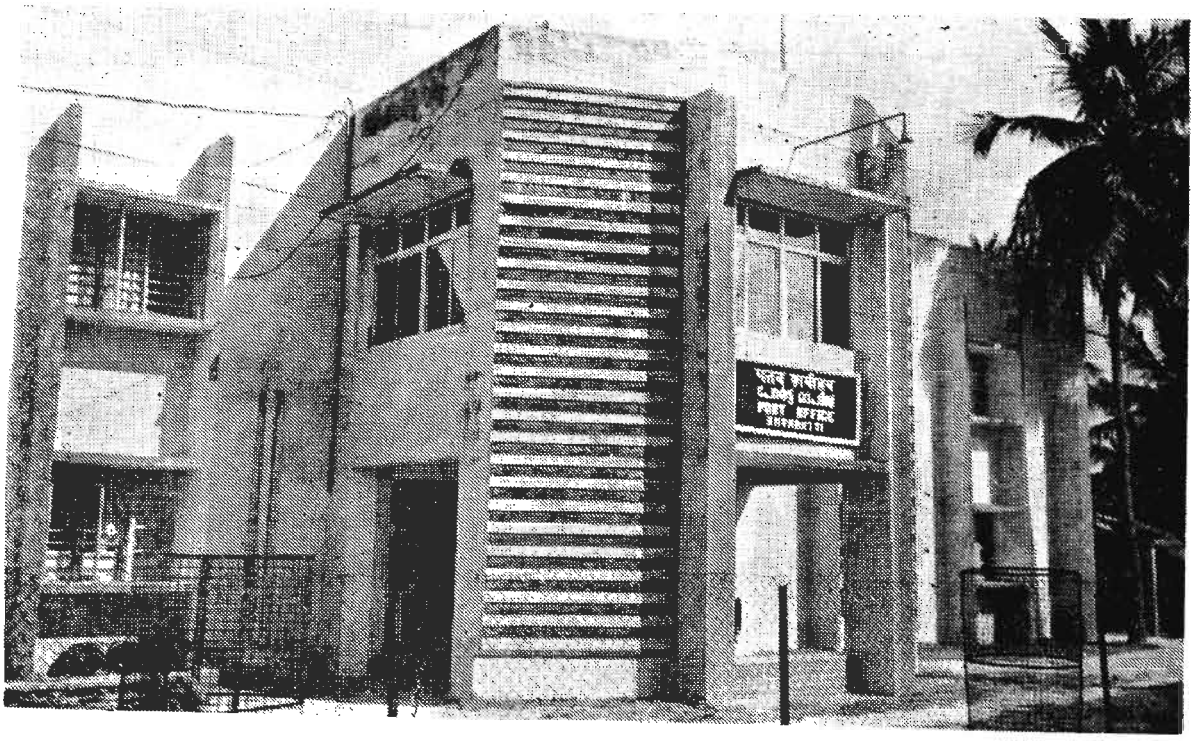


Plate 7—Port Office—on the ground floor functions the Education Office



Plate 8—Sub– Court



Plate 9—Telephone Exchange

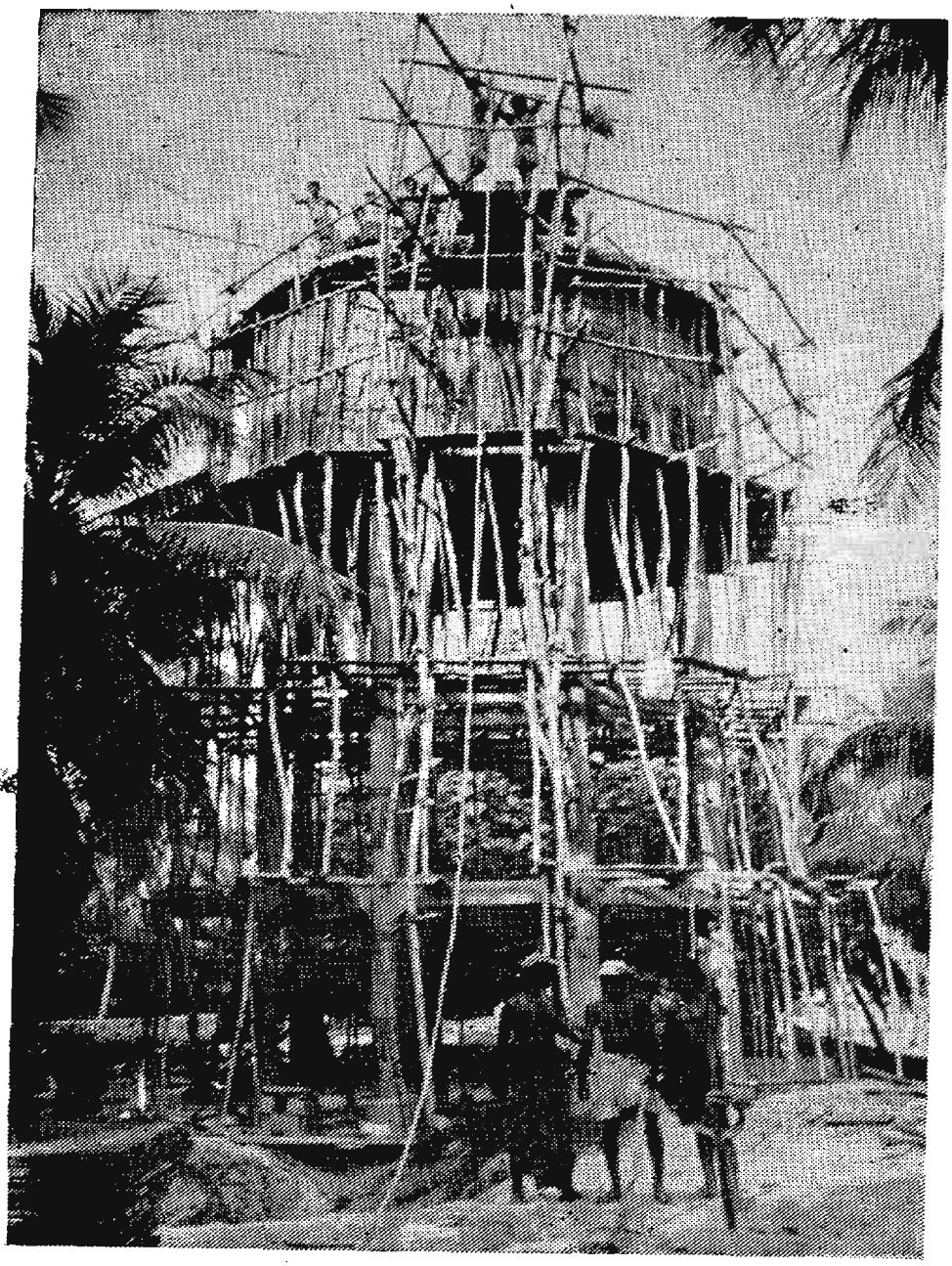


Plate 10—Overhead tank for water supply under construction



Plate 11—Youths supply potable water at the southern end of the residential area



Plate 12—Power House

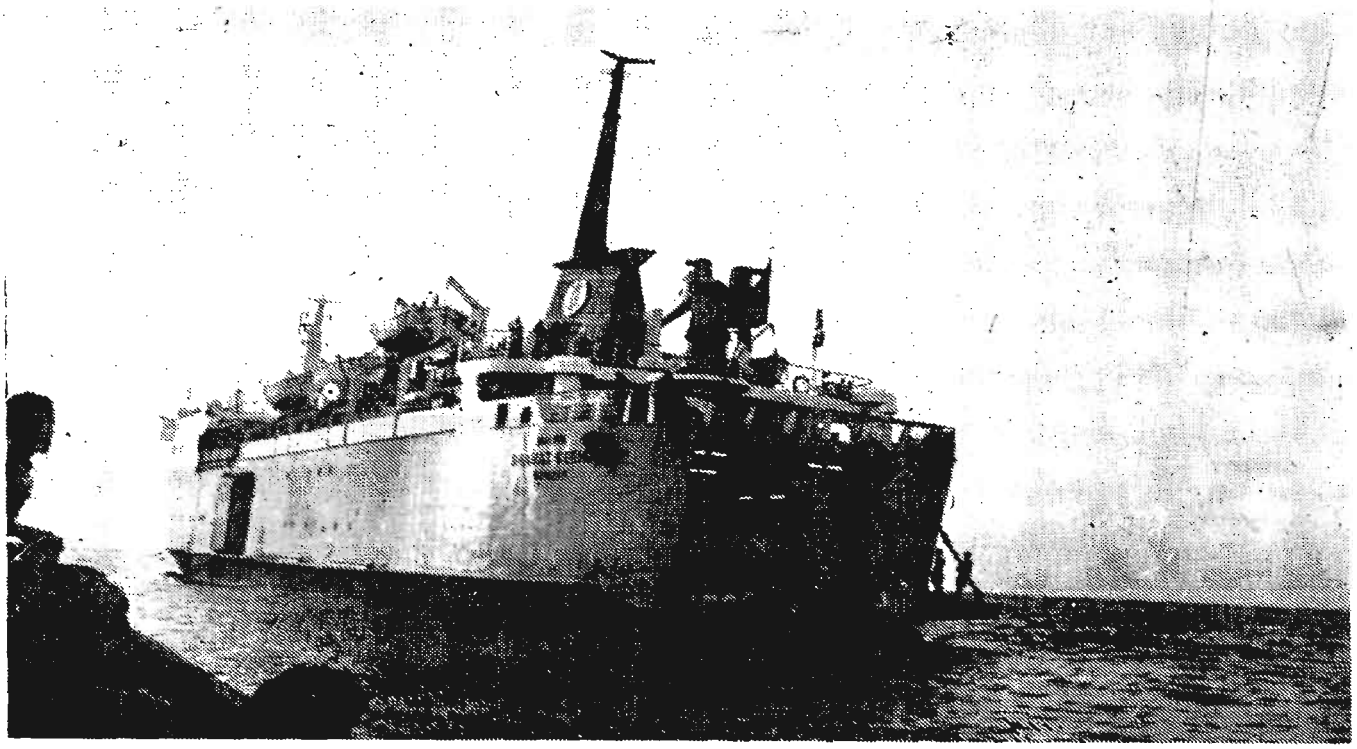


Plate 13—Bharat Seema with its hatch opened



Plate 14—Passenger Hall—in front aa Autorikshaw
engaged in passenger transport

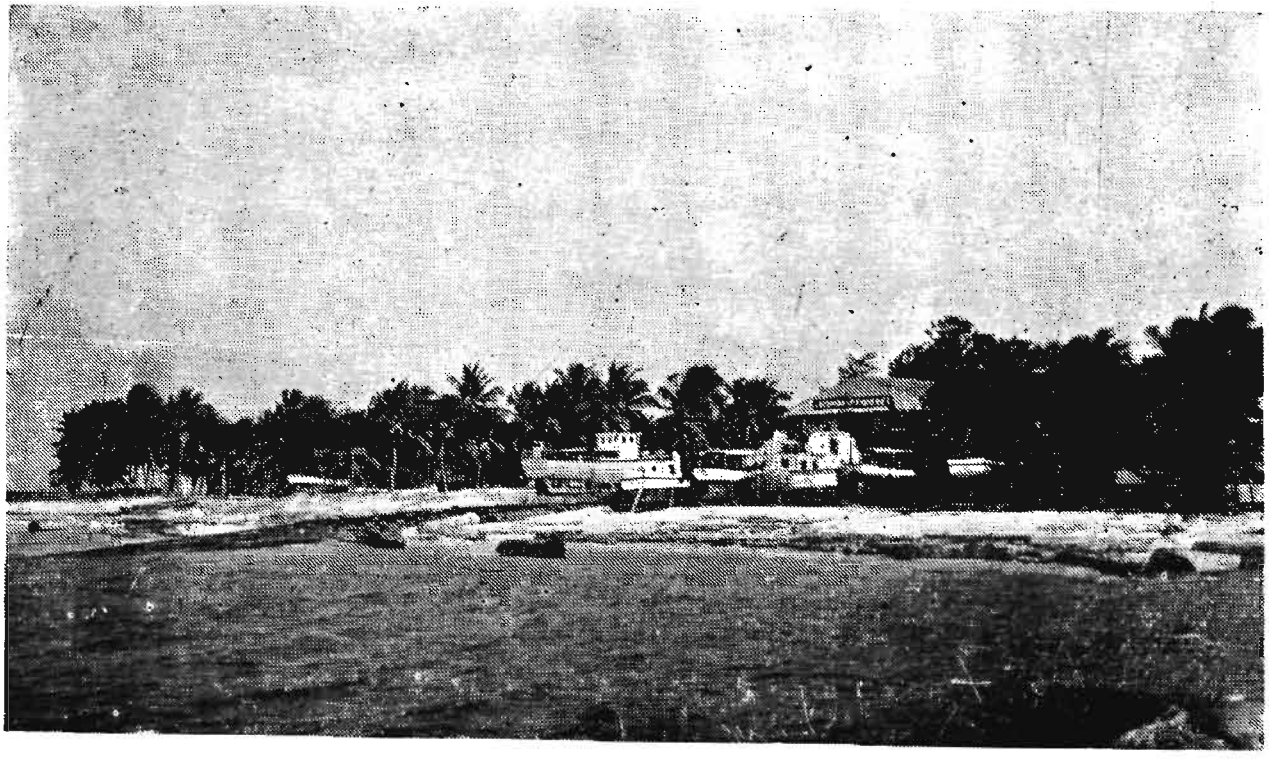


Plate 15—Boat Building Yard—A distant view



Plate 16—Tharkyathul Islam Complex (Madrassa)

port of call. The trend of the floating population was on the high side due to its importance. Besides the expansion of Government departments, people from other islands migrated to the town for seeking employment and for other purposes.

Classification of the island as Census Town

5.1. The Union Territory as a whole was treated as rural till 1980. One of the foremost and important task that requires the attention during the Census is the procedure that we follow for demarcation, as early as possible, of places as rural and urban. It has been the tradition of Indian Census to present data into rural and urban. In order to classify the areas into rural or urban in a uniform basis throughout the country a criterion was put forward by the Registrar General, India. The definition of an urban unit at the 1981 Census was as follows:—

(a) All places with a municipality, corporation, cantonment board or notified town area committee etc.

(b) All other places which satisfied the following criteria;

(i) A minimum population of 5,000.

(ii) at least 75 per cent of male working population engaged in non-agricultural pursuits, and

(iii) a density of population of at least 400 per sq. km. (1,000 per sq. mile).

With reference to the above criteria three major islands viz. Minicoy, Kavaratti and Amini were declared as Census towns during 1981 Census. They are non-municipal towns. Theoretically, these islands are census towns. But, in reality the urban characteristics are not noticed here. There are no cultivators and agricultural labourers in the Kavaratti population in 1981. But Kavaratti is not an industrial or commercial area as several other towns. Therefore, these islands appear to be lacking many of the important characteristics which a town should have.

The size and the boundary

6.1. The Kavaratti Census town is having an area of 3.63 sq. kms. and a population of 6,604 persons. In the Kavaratti Tahsil, the island Kavaratti alone constitutes the Census town. The inhabited island Agatti and uninhabited islands in the group are treated as rural part of the tahsil. Kavaratti is the largest island in area and population in the tahsil. There is no change in the boundary of the Census town. The peculiarity is that the islands are distinct units and therefore the entire island of Kavaratti is treated as Urban without any area adjustment i.e. the total shift from rural to urban population. Kavaratti Census town is considered as single ward town.

Land utilization pattern

7.1. The General Administration of the islands was carried out under the customary laws prevailing in the islands till 1965. The criminal and civil justice in this Union Territory was carried out till then under the Laccadive islands and Minicoy Regulation 1912. In the Amindivi islands these criminal judicial powers were delegated to the Monegars (Tahsildars) by the Inspecting Officer. The right of ownership was reckoned with the number of coconut trees only. They were ignorant of the extent of land etc. until 1959, when a survey was carried out under the Lakshadweep Survey and Boundaries Regulation 1959 and the Rules thereunder. The ignorance and innocence of the poor islanders were exploited by a handful of wealthy families during the period. The landlord-tenant relationship which was very feudal in character was abolished with the enforcement of Lakshadweep Land Revenue and Tenancy Regulation 1965. On abolition, three-fourths of the land held by the Nadappu tenant with trees vests on him and the remaining one fourth of the land with trees thereon reverts to the Jenmi or Cowledar. The settlement effected by mutual agreements between Nadappu tenants and the Jenmis or Cowledars is given a statutory recognition. The tenants other than Nadappu tenants are also given fixity of tenure.

7.2. 'Vyazhazhcha' property is equally shared among the members of the family. Usually, the transaction of the property is very much limited in the island. As per the existing laws the 'Velliyazhcha' property or the 'tarawad' property is shared among the members with one restriction that the male members of the family can possess the land and enjoy the usufructs till their death. Thereafter, it again goes to the 'tarawad' property. This indicates that the 'Velliyazhcha' property descends through the female members of the family and also no transaction is allowed for this property. Always the ownership rests with the tarawad.

7.3. During the year 1984 the Government have notified for an area of 3.38 Hactares in Kavaratti for the public purpose such as construction of office buildings, staff quarters etc. The land notified is the agricultural land. The following table gives the land utilisation data in respect of Kavaratti Census Town.

Table II-1

Land Utilisation data Kavaratti Census Town

Land use (i.e. area under different types of land use in hectares)					
Total area (Hectare)	Forest	Irrigated by source (Tank and well)	Unirrigated	Culturable waste including gaucher and groves	Area not available for cultivation*
1	2	3	4	5	6
362.95	..	14.30	315.77	..	32.88

*Includes not only the area not available for cultivation reported by the holders of land, but the area held by the institutions such as Wakf Boards, Madras as, Co-operative bodies and by the Government.

Population Characteristics of the Town

8.1. According to the 1981 Census out of the total population of 6,604 persons in Kavaratti 84.57 per cent are Scheduled Tribe population. There is no Scheduled Caste Population. The indigenous people are all Muslims and majority of them belong to the Shafi School of the Sunni Sect. Malayalam is spoken in the island. The women enjoy a unique position. The 'marumakkathayam' system of inheritance, under which the property descends through the female line saves the women from proverbial economic dependence. Ancestral or 'tarawad' property is equally shared among the members of the joint family. The husband is obliged to make an annual payment towards the maintenance of the wife, which forms part of the marriage contract. The wife has full freedom to demand a divorce, on grounds of non-payment of these customary dues. Divorce is not a disqualification for a woman to seek a fresh alliance. There is also no ban on the remarriage of a widow.

Growth of population and related change in the town

9.1. Births and deaths are the two biological processes by which the population change takes place. Another factor of increase in population is migration. As far as Lakshadweep is concerned the biological reasons were more powerful during the early period up to the constitution of the islands into a Union Territory. Thereafter, migrational aspects also started to affect the growth pattern of population of this Union Territory. This became more prominent when the headquarters of the Administration shifted to Kavaratti island. The table II-2 given below shows the percentage growth of population in respect of Kavaratti and Union Territory. The population of Lakshadweep was increasing right from 1880 except during 1891-1902 and 1911-1921. During 1921 to 1931 the increase was 17.62 per cent. Thereafter the growth rate of this Union Territory was uniform upto 1961. But the population of Kavaratti was decreasing from 1880 upto 1921 except in 1891. The decrease was more predominent during 1902-1911 (—18.19 per cent).

9.2. The decade 1921-31 marked a growth rate of 18.28 per cent against 17.62 at Union Territory level. The population then started to increase in Kavaratti at a high rate during the later decades. The growth rate of population was maximum in Kavaratti during 1961-71 (56.29 per cent), whereas the growth rate of the territory as a whole was more or less constant from 1931 to 1961. Thereafter, the growth rate of the territory was high as 31.95 during 1961-71 and came down to 26.53 in 1971-81. It can be seen that the population of Kavaratti was decreasing upto the decade 1921 and started increasing rapidly upto 1981.

Table II-2

Population and Growth rate of Population 1876-1981

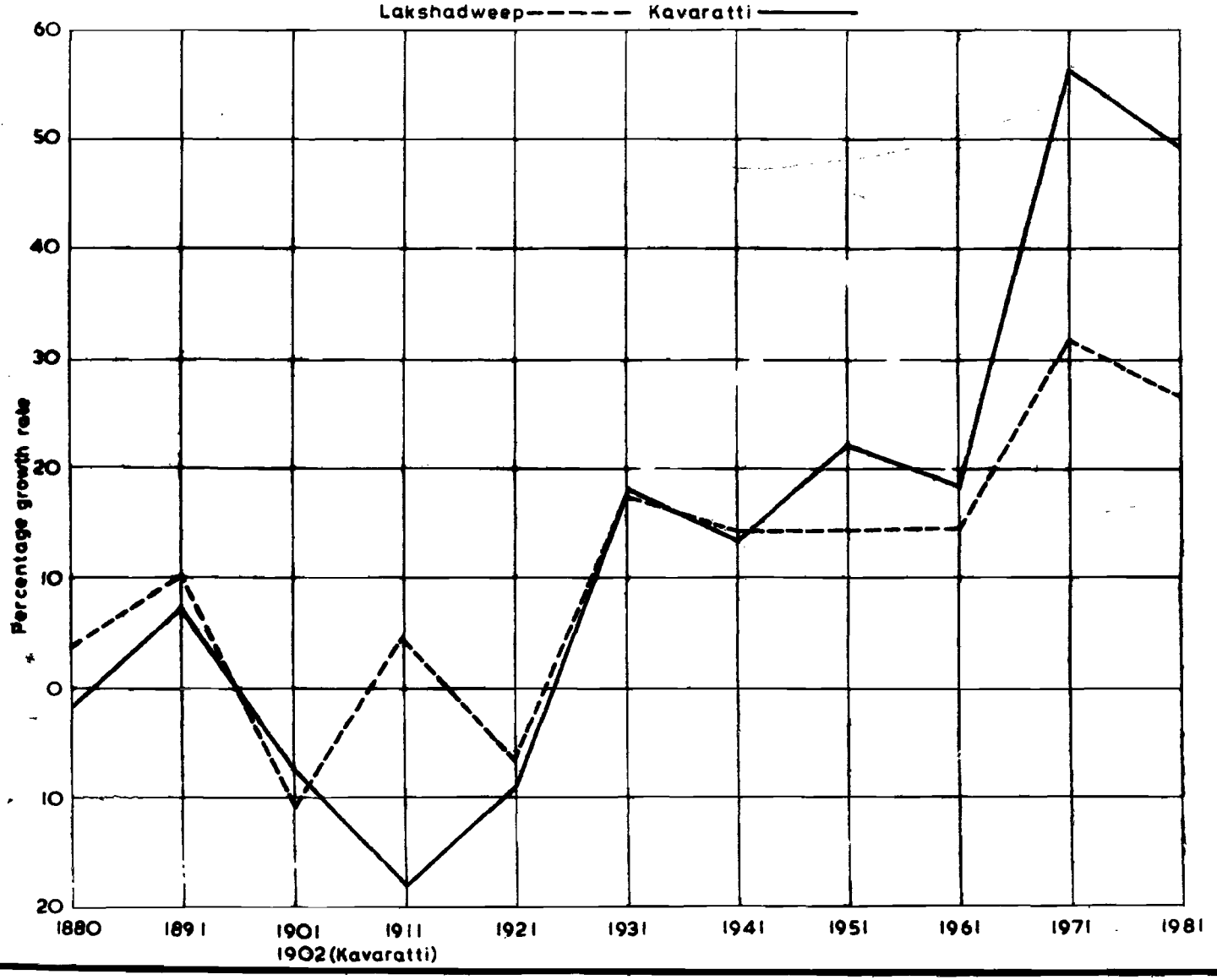
(Census data)

Year	Kavaratti		Union Territory of Lakshadweep	
	Population	Percentage variation	Population	Percentage variation
1	2	3	4	5
1876 . .	2,016	..	13,593	..
1880 . .	1,979	(—)1.84	14,129	3.94
1891 . .	2,126	7.43	15,570	10.20
1902 . .	1,963	(—)7.67	13,882*	(—)10.84
1911 . .	1,606	(—)18.19	14,555	4.85
1921 . .	1,461	(—)9.03	13,637	(—)6.31
1931 . .	1,728	18.28	16,040	17.62
1941 . .	1,959**	13.37	18,355	14.43
1951 . .	2,390	22.00	21,035	14.60
1961 . .	2,828	18.33	24,108	14.61
1971 . .	4,420	56.29	31,810	31.95
1981 . .	6,604	49.41	40,249	26.53

*Relates to 1901

**Estimated figures

GROWTH RATE OF POPULATION
1880-1981



Migration and Growth of Population in Kavaratti Island

10.1. The abnormal growth of population of Kavaratti island cannot be explained as purely of biological reasons. As already explained earlier consequent on the shifting of the Headquarters of the Union Territory from Calicut to Kavaratti island, a number of offices have sprung up in the islands resulting an increase in population. The reduction in mortality rate has also contributed to the population increase. As far as this Union Territory is concerned, internal migration among the islands does not take place much. The floating population although in the high side in Kavaratti than the earlier period, is negligible compared to the towns in other states. Settlement or concentration of population due to the individual undertaking, business, trade or commerce or the like cannot be observed in the town. The Kavaratti island is surrounded by deep Arabian Sea on all sides and as such, there are no extraordinary resources in the Island to attract large scale migration. Mobility due to both occupational and terrestrial, which is an integral part of urbanisation is almost absent in the territory. The table II-3 shows the migrants classified by place of birth as well as last residence with their percentages in the island Kavaratti and Union Territory as a whole during 1961, 1971 and 1981.

10.2. From the table II-3 it can be seen that 5 per cent of the population are migrants according to birth place for the Union Territory as a whole during 1961. Of this, 3 per cent of the migrants are from other islands and 2 per cent from outside the Union Territory. At the same time, this ratio is 1.98 in Kavaratti. Out of this 0.21 per cent constitutes migrants from other islands and 1.77 per cent from outside the territory i.e. other states.

Table II-3

Migration to the Kavaratti Town and Union Territory during 1961, 1971 *and* 1981 *with percentage to total population*

(Census data)

Year	Migrants classified by							
	Place of birth				Place of last residence			
	Kavaratti		Union Territory		Kavaratti		Union Territory	
	Within the Union Territory	Outside the Union Territory	Within the Union Territory	Outside the Union Territory	Within the Union Territory	Outside the Union Territory	Within the Union Territory	Outside the Union Territory
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1961	6 (0.21)	50 (1.77)	722 (3.00)	479 (2.00)	..	..	..	..
1971	222 (5.02)	731 (16.54)	1,315 (4.13)	1,858 (5.84)	381 (8.62)	400 (9.05)	2,032 (6.39)	1,881 (5.91)
1981	NA	NA	5,734 (14.25)	4,362 (10.84)	NA	NA	5,134 (12.76)	2,137 (5.31)

NA—Not available.

Based on the concept of place of birth in 1971, 5.02 per cent of the population of the town are migrants from other islands and 16.54 per cent from outside the Union Territory as against 4.13 per cent and 5.84 per cent respectively in the case of Union Territory as a whole. According to the concept of last residence, among the population of Kavaratti in 1971, 8.62 per cent hailed from other islands and 9.05 per cent from outside the Union Territory as against 6.39 per cent and 5.91 per cent respectively for the Union Territory as a whole. The proportion of migrants is very high during 1971 compared to 1961 period. The percentage of migrants have doubled during 1981 based on both the concepts in the Union Territory as a whole, except from outside the territory based on the definition of place of last residence. This has retained almost the same as in 1971. Hence, it is genuine to think that the migrants are on the increase in the Kavaratti town as in the case of Union Territory of Lakshadweep as a whole.

CHAPTER III

AMENITIES AND SERVICES—HISTORY OF GROWTH AND THE PRESENT POSITION

1.1. Kavaratti Census Town took its present form and shape only within a span of 25 years. With the development of the Island, the different amenities and services also were extended to the people. Kavaratti being the seat of the Lakshadweep Administration, besides secretariat all other important offices connected with the Administration as well as other Government departments and institutions are located in this island.

1.2. As mentioned earlier, prior to the formation of this Union Territory on 1st November, 1956, these islands formed part of the erstwhile Madras State. It was divided into two groups, viz. (i) The Laccadive and Minicoy groups and (ii) the Amindivi group. Later on, consequent to the constitution of the islands into a single Union Territory, the Administrator became the head of the territory and he is responsible to the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs. The headquarters of the Administration were at Calicut. The entire group of islands were divided into Tahsils and put in charge of four Tahsildars. In Minicoy, the Tahsildar was replaced by a Deputy Collector in August, 1978. The lowest revenue official in each island was known as 'Amin' in Laccadive and Minicoy groups and 'Karani' in Amindivi group. Now they are designated as 'Amin' in all islands.

1.3. The headquarters of the Administration were shifted from Calicut to Kavaratti island in March, 1964. The decentralisation of the departments was taken place in 1972 and accordingly new offices were established. All the offices of various departments under the Lakshadweep Administration are situated at Kavaratti island itself. The department offices, Administrator's Secretariat and District Administration under the Collector-cum-Development Commissioner are functioning as compact units under the single file system. The Collector-cum-Development Commissioner who is also the District Magistrate is functioning under the administrative control of the Administrator. Under the District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate and Executive Magistrate are functioning.

1.4 The departmental offices of Lakshadweep Administration in Kavaratti are functioning separately under the heads of Superintending Engineer (Public Works Department), Superintendent of Police, Director of Fisheries, Port Officer, Sub-Judge, Director of Medical and Health Services, Director of Education, Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Director of Animal Husbandry, Director of Industries, Information Officer, District Employment Officer, District Inspector of Weights and Measures, Chief Electoral Officer, Director of Science and Technology, Block Development Officer (Headquarters), Settlement Officer, Vigilance Officer, Research Officer (Planning), Research Officer (Agricultural Census), Secretary (Administration), Assistant Executive Engineer (Electrical), Assistant Engineer (Civil), Assistant Engineer (Housing), Assistant Engineer (Electrical), Tahsildar, Sub-Treasury Officer, Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Agriculture Demonstrator, Circle Inspector of Police, Sub-Inspector of Police, Junior Engineer, Electrical, Assistant Public Prosecutor, Port Assistant and Amin. There is a small printing press of the Administration in Kavaratti. The immediate requirement of printing of the Administration is met by this press. In addition to these departmental Offices, District Rural Development Agency under the Project Officer, Lakshadweep State Social Welfare Advisory Board under the Chairman, Nehru Yuvak Kendra under the Youth Coordinator and Lakshadweep Harbour Works under the Executive Engineer are functioning in the island Kavaratti. The Assistant Engineer (Satellite), Assistant Engineer (Wireless), Assistant Engineer (Telephones), Sub-Post Master, Comandant, Madhya Pradesh State Armed Force, Officer In-charge, Naval Base and Deputy Central Intelligence Officer have their offices in Kavaratti Island. As seen above besides the local Police, Madhya Pradesh State Armed Force and Navy are also stationed here.

1.5. Special type of Community Development block consisting of the islands Kavaratti and Agatti with the headquarter at the former island was started in January 1971. There are no local bodies of any sort in the Union Territory. The territory is represented in the Parliament by a member elected to the Lok Sabha. For closer association of the local people with the Administration an 'Advisory Committee' consisting of eight nominated non-official members associated with Union Home Minister and an 'Advisory Council' consisting of 11 non-official members associated with the Administrator are functioning. They meet twice in a year and are consulted on matters of policies relating to development and legislation. 'Citizen Council' has also been constituted in the town and this body is consulted on all matters of administrative importance.

Water Supply

2.1. Draw wells are the main source of drinking water. Small tanks having resemblance with wells and hand-pumps are also used for drinking water. Tap water is provided in a few quarters, dak bungalows, guest house, etc. Tap has also been fitted in some private houses. The following table gives the distribution of households by source of drinking water in Kavaratti island and Union Territory as revealed by the 1981 Census.

Table III-1

Distribution of households by source of drinking water 1981*

Town/Union Territory	Total house-holds	Well	Tap	Hand Pump/ Tube well	Tank	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Kavaratti	1,128	1,044 (92.55)	29 (2.57)	53 (4.70)	1 (0.09)	1 (0.09)
Lakshadweep (Urban)	2,985	2,765 (92.63)	51 (1.71)	58 (1.94)	73 (2.45)	38 (1.27)

*Excludes institutional and houseless households.

The above table reveals that about 93 per cent of the households use 'well' as their source of drinking water in Kavaratti as well as in the urban part of Lakshadweep. Hand pump/tube well is the source of drinking for about 5 per cent of population in Kavaratti as against 2 per cent among the three Census towns combined.

2.2. All the inhabited islands have problem as far as drinking water supply is concerned. The rain water collected under ground as surface water is to be tapped. But when water is pumped by motor continuously, after a regular flow of potable water, saline water starts flowing through the pipes. This is because just below the surface water is the layer of saltish sea water. Hence, careful planning is required for exploiting water in the islands. As a part of investigation, for proper utilisation of ground water, piped water supply is being provided in some islands. In the case of Kavaratti a scheme for the water supply at a cost of Rs. 40.82 lakhs has already been cleared by the Government.

Conservancy

3.1. There is no planned sewerage system in the islands. The rain water flows over the open surface. There are 326 water borne latrines in Kavaratti. The water borne latrines are connected to the septic tanks for the disposal of night soil. Out of the total water borne latrines in the three towns about 52 per cent are in Kavaratti. No service latrines can be seen in the island. There are 23 pit latrines in Kavaratti. When the pits are full with human excreta they are closed and new pits are constructed for use. According to the 1981 Census 470 households (41.67 per cent to the total households) or 1996 population (31.75 per cent to the total population) avail the toilet facility in Kavaratti island.

Power (Electricity)

4.1. The Power-supply in the islands is made available by means of small alternate current diesel generating sets. Diesel oil has to be brought in barrels or tanks from the mainland. Round O' clock power-supply is provided at Kavaratti. The island was electrified on the 26th January, 1964. In the case of electrification Kavaratti was the second Island in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. In order to solve the low voltage problems and better distribution of energy, High Tension lines were drawn during 1980 at Kavaratti and augmented the power supply. 3 × 125 Kilo Watt Disel Generator sets were commissioned at Kavaratti in 1980-81. The installed capacity of power house at Kavaratti in 1986 is 535 Kilo Watt. The rate charged per unit of power is 60 paise for domestic consumption and 40 paise for industrial use. Electricity is costly in the islands as the expenditure for generation of power per unit is very high. Thus electric energy is sold to the people at subsidized rates. There are 7 substations at Kavaratti. 1.34 Mega Watt Hour electricity is generated in Kavaratti as against 5.09 Mega Watt Hour for the entire Union Territory. The Lakshadweep Electricity department maintains the electric supply in the island. The following table gives the number of power connections by types of use in Kavaratti Census Town during 1985-86.

Table III-2

Number of power connections by type of use 1985-86

Electrification (No. of connections)		
Domestic & Commercial	Industrial	Street Light
1	2	3
1,719	20	664

97.95 per cent of the total number of households or 98.19 per cent of the total population avail electricity in Kavaratti island. This is really an achievement worth praise.

Transport and Communications

5.1. The traditional means of transport, *Odams* and *manjoos* are also used for transporting of Coir, Copra

and *mas*[1] from island to mainland and in return other cargoes from mainland to island during the months of September to May.

5.2. Kavaratti town is connected with other towns as well as villages in the Union Territory and mainland ports (Cochin, Calicut and Mangalore) by ship. Helicopter service is also available from the island to Cochin twice a week. Helicopter with its headquarters at Kavaratti connects other islands by limited trips. During fair season, motor boats/launches ply between the islands. A Ferry vessel with a capacity of 150 passengers and 40 tonnes of cargo has also started its inter-island trips from October 1987 onwards connecting the mainland port Beypore (of Kerala State). The passengers are crowded during the months of March to June i.e. the vacation period for the educational institutions. Two all weather ships (i) M. V. Amindivi, which was launched in 1970, with a capacity of 242 passengers and 800 tonnes of cargo and (ii) M. V. Bharathseema, which was put in operation in 1982, carrying 380 passengers and 160 tonnes of cargo ply in the islands and mainland ports (Cochin, Calicut and Mangalore). During the year 1984-85, there were 13,683 outgoing passengers from Kavaratti and 14,095 in coming passengers.

5.3. Usually, one ship M. V. Bharatseema makes trips at regular intervals during the monsoon as well as non-monsoon seasons and the other ship M. V. Amindivi carries cargo chalking out programmes on reaching mainland. Passengers can depend only on the former vessel as the other has no pre-fixed programme and it may take considerable time to reach the destination. Generally, for the purpose of ship voyages the islands are considered as two groups and the ship connects one group with the mainland once in a trip. Standard voyage Schedules are prepared for M. V. Bharatseema and published in advance. The table III-3 gives the schedules of Voyage in october 1987.

Table III—3

Standard Voyage Schedules of M.V. Bharatseema

Arrival		Port	Departure	
Date	Time		Date	Time
		Voyage No. 273		
		Cochin	6.10.87	1500 hrs.
7.10.87	0800 hrs	Kavaratti	7.10.87	1200 hrs.
7.10.87	1700 hrs.	Andrott	8.10.87	0000 hrs.
8.10.87	0630 hrs	Agatti	8.10.87	0830 hrs.
8.10.87	1130 hrs	Kadmat/ Amini	9.10.87	0400 hrs
9.10.87	0615 hrs	Chetlat	9.10.87	0800 hrs.
9.10.87	0930 hrs	Kiltan	9.10.87	1100 hrs.
9.10.87	1530 hrs	Kavaratti	9.10.87	1730 hrs
10.10.87	0930 hrs	Cochin		
		Voyage No. 274		
		Cochin	12.10.87	1500 hrs
13.10.87	0800 hrs	Minicoy	13.10.87	1800 hrs
14.10.87	0600 hrs	Kavaratti	14.10.87	0830 hrs
14.10.87	1120 hrs	Amini/Kadmat	14.10.87	1400 hrs
14.10.87	1700 hrs	Kavaratti	15.10.87	0130 hrs
15.10.87	0630 hrs	Kalpeni	15.10.87	0800 hrs
15.10.87	1200 hrs	Andrott	15.10.87	1400 hrs
15.10.87	1800 hrs	Kalpeni	15.10.87	2000 hrs
16.10.87	0800 hrs	Cochin		
		Voyage No. 275		
		Cochin	17.10.87	1500 hrs
18.10.87	0600 hrs	Andrott	18.10.87	0900 hrs
18.10.87	1430 hrs	Kavaratti	19.10.87	0300 hrs
19.10.87	0630 hrs	Agatti	19.10.87	0900 hrs
19.10.87	1215 hrs	Bitra	19.10.87	1315 hrs
19.10.87	1600 hrs	Chetlat	20.10.87	0400 hrs
20.10.87	0630 hrs	Kadmat/Amini	20.10.87	1300 hrs
20.10.87	1600 hrs	Kavaratti	20.10.87	1700 hrs
21.10.87	0900 hrs	Cochin		
		Voyage No. 276		
		Cochin	23.10.87	1700 hrs
24.10.87	0600 hrs	Kalpeni	24.10.87	0800 hrs
24.10.87	1200 hrs	Andrott	24.10.87	1400 hrs
24.10.87	1800 hrs	Kalpeni	25.10.87	0200 hrs
25.10.87	0600 hrs	Kavaratti	25.10.87	0800 hrs
25.10.87	1030 hrs	Amini/Kadmat	25.10.87	1330 hrs
25.10.87	1630 hrs	Kavaratti	25.10.87	2000 hrs
26.10.87	0800 hrs	Minicoy	26.10.87	1700 hrs
27.10.87	0900 hrs	Cochin		

(Maintenance from 28.10.87 to 31.10.87)

Kavaratti is, usually, the first as well as the last port of call during one voyage of the ship. Ship, generally touches Kavaratti 5 or 6 times in a month. The ship fare for natives and Government Officials and their families is at a concessional rate than visitors as given below.

1 Boiled, smoked and dried tuna fish

Table III—4

Passenger fare from Mainland Ports to Kavaratti, 1987

Station	Distance in km.	Cochin			Bunk	Deck
		Deluxe	Double Berth	4-6 Berth		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cochin—Kavaratti . @	404	103.75	82.50	62.50	41.25	31.25
visitors		445.00	380.00	315.00	200.00	155.00
Calicut—Kavaratti . @	346	89.10	71.25	53.45	35.65	27.30
Mangalore—Kavaratti—visitors	352	385.00	330.00	270.00	175.00	140.00

@Islanders, Government Officials and their families

5.4. The Vayudoot takes only about 14 passengers twice a week from Cochin to Agatti as per the following schedule.

Table III-- 5

Vayudoot Service, 1988

Departure	Arrival	Fare
1	2	3
Cochin 1040	Agatti 1215	Rs. 360/-
Agatti 1240	Cochin 1415	Rs. 360/-

The Helicopter makes shuttle services to take the passengers bound for Kavaratti from Agatti which takes about 15 minutes and Rs. 50 is charged towards fare. The helicopter can carry 8 to 11 passengers. In addition to this the Helicopter has Chalked out schedule keeping Kavaratti as Base-Station and then visiting other Islands. The flight schedules of Helicopter is given in Table III-6.

Table III—6

Programme of Helicopter with effect from 24-4-88

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Kavaratti 0900	Kavaratti 0900	Cochin 0900	Kavaratti 0900	Kavaratti 0900	Kavaratti 0900	Kavaratti 0900
Andrott 0930/0935	Kalpeni 0930/0935	Minicoy 1040/1110	Andrott 0930/0935	Andrott 0930/0935	Amini 0915/0920	Kalpeni 0930/0935
Kavaratti 1005/1030	Andrott 0955/1000	Kalpeni 1200/1205	Kavaratti 1005/1035	Kalpeni 0955/1000	Kiltan 0935/0940	Kavaratti 1005/1035
Amini 1045/1050	Kavaratti 1030	Kavaratti 1235/ 1430	Amini 1050/ 1055	Kavaratti 1030	Chetlat 0950/ 0955	Amini 1050/1055
Kadmat 1055/1100	(Flight to Agatti at 11.00 A.M. if required)	Amini 1445/1450	Kavaratti 1110/1140	(Flight to Agatti if required)	Bitra 1005/1010	Kadmat 1100/1105
Kavaratti 1115/1140		Bitra 1510/1515	Agatti 1155		Amini 1030/1035	Kiltan 1120/1125
Agatti 1155	Minicoy 1400/1430	Chetlat 1525/1530	(Repeat flight from Kavaratti if required and stay at Agatti)		Kavaratti 1050	Kadmat 1140/1145 Amini 1150/1155
(Repeat flight from Kavaratti if required and stay at Agatti)	Cochin 1610	Kiltan 1540/1545				
		Kadmat 1600/1605 Kavaratti 1620	Agatti 1310			Kavaratti 1210/1240 Agatti 1255/1300
Agatti 1310 Kavaratti 1325			Kavaratti 1325			Kavaratti 1315

5.5 The common native and Employees cannot avail of the air service because of prohibitive fare fixed for the journey. Generally Government employees below the basic pay of Rs. 2800/- are not entitled for air journey. Thus, the Vayudoot and Helicopter Services help only those who can afford and again the very limited seating capacity restricts even those willing passengers from taking a flight.

5.6. It being a small town one does not have to travel long distance inside the town. Bicycle is the common means of transport. Besides the departmental vehicles, number of two wheelers like motor cycles and scooters, power tillers and tractors owned privately are increasing day by day in the town. Usually, the roads are sandy bicycle tracks. Main roads leading from embarkation Jetty connecting the important offices, institutions and helipad have been concreted Thus, there is only 10.5 kms. of concrete surfaced road in the Kavaratti Headquarters town. The Lakshadweep Public Works department is responsible for construction and maintenance of roads in the islands. Granite chips, coarse river sand and cement are the materials used for the construction of roads in the island. Public Transport System is absent in the Town. Unlike in the mainland there are no Bus service, Tram or Train service here. Of late, few autorikshaws are available for hire in the islands, and they are busy on days of arrival and departure of ships to the island.

5.7. Satellite Earth Station was commissioned in Kavaratti on 15th November, 1980. Thereby this island was connected to all parts of India through the satellite. A teleprinter was also established for quick service of messages. Besides wireless station and post offices, Inter-State Police Wireless connecting the island Kavaratti with the rest of the world and Microwave wireless Net-work improving the inter-island contacts are functioning in the head quarter island.

5.8. The Administration started a daily news paper, "Lakshadweep Times" in October 1982 and Kavaratti functioned as a base-station for supplying news to other islands.

Fishries

6.1. Lakshadweep Administration organised Fishries department in 1959 to give guidance to the local inhabitants for the development of fisheries in the island. This department is now headed by the Director of Fisheries. The Fisheries department constructed mechanised boats and supplied to the public on subsidised cost to improve the mechanised fishing. Subsidy is also given on the cost of diesel oil and other fishing requisites. One boat building yard was started at Kavaratti in 1964. 111 boats were constructed in this yard upto *31st March 1986*. Workshop facilities for the repair, maintenance and over hawling of marine diesel engines are available in Kavartti as well as in other islands. The pole and line tuna fishing was also introduced in the island. The following table gives the fish landing during April 1985 to March 1986.

Table III—7

Fish landing in kavaratti during 1985-86 (*in Kilo grams*)

Cornex	Purchese	Sail	Rainbow Runner	Seer	Shark	Tuna	Others	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1,891	12,769	5,539	9,623	8,194	3,322	434,676	24,557	500,571

Thus, the total fish catch in Kavaratti during 1985-86 was 500 Tonnes. The percapita fish landing is calculated as 76 kilo grams.

Co-operative Society

7.1. The Co-operative movement was officially introduced in Lakshadweep during 1962. The Registrar of Co-operatives looks after the office as well as the different types of societies functioning in the islands. Public distribution of every article is solely being maintained through the co-operative Societies. The Lakshadweep Co-operative Marketing Federation is the approved wholesaler and the Primary Co-operative Supply and Marketing Societies are the approved retailers for the distribution of all essential commodities under the Public Distribution system in the territory. The Supply and Marketing Society at Kavaratti has 2,965 members with share contribution of Rs. 39,500 from Government and share capital of Rs. 26,855 from members during the year 1st July, 85 to 30th June 1986. The Society sold consumer goods of value of Rs. 49.51 lakhs during 1985-86. It also procured 197.5776 Tonnes of Copra from the island and sold on the mainland for a value of Rs. 23.74 lakhs during that years. One each of the Credit Co-operative Society, Labour Contract Society and furniture Co-operative Society are rendering service in the Island Kavaratti.

Education

8.1. Education in the islands during earlier periods was confined to the teaching of *Quaran* in religious schools. These schools were called *Madrassas* where the Malayalam Language was also taught in Arabic Scripts. The people were considered to be too backward to realise the value of modern education. All children irrespective of sex had to get instructions from the mosque schools and there was more or less a social compulsion in this regard. Generally, the *Mulla* or *Mukri* of the nearby mosque would be the teacher. His only remuneration was the coconuts contributed by the students on every Thursdays and also special

contributions on the completion of every chapter of the *Mushaf*. The completion of 30 chapters of the *Quaran* marked the end of the education at the *Madrassas*. On passing from there they joined the *Pallidars* (Mosque schools) for higher education, where classes were conducted by the *Mudaris* who were well versed in Islamic theology. Thus, there are 8 private schools in Kavaratti where traditional religious education is imparted. These schools viz. *Madrassas* impart education through Arabic medium also deserves special mention in the case of island. These schools can not be equated on par with the modern educational institutions. However, its importance is visible from such a large number.

8.2. In 1878, Mr. Winterbotham, the Inspecting Officer took three teachers from mainland and left them at Kavaratti and other two islands. 36 students joined the school at Kavaratti. In 1880 the Kavaratti School was closed. By 1889 the schools were revived and at Kavaratti the Gumasthan attended to the duties of school master. But it was a failure due to poor attendance of children. In order to attract students the scheme of scholarships was instituted in 1933. At the time of independence there was one primary school at Kavaratti as in other islands. Classes from I to V were taught in Kavaratti. High school was started in the island in 1963.

8.3. At present there are 5 schools, including one institution each for High School, Senior Basic School, Junior Basic School and two Nursery schools (including Balwadi) in Kavaratti. One Junior College is also functioning here. They are all under public sector. The number of students has gone upto 168 in Nursery schools and 1.769 in other schools. There are 221 students in the college. There are 99 teachers and 17 lecturers. The teacher pupil ratio is calculated as 1 : 20. The Jawaharlal Nehru College, the first institution for University Education was inaugurated on 15th July, 1972. The College is affiliated to the Calicut University for Pre-degree course in three groups.

8.4. Education is provided free at all levels. Free midday meals are provided in Nursery and Primary classes. Free boarding and lodging facilities are provided to island students residing in hostels. In the case of students studying in mainland the hostel expenses are met by the Government. Once in a year students studying in places outside their native islands are given free conveyance facilities to go to their native islands. Students desirous of going for higher studies are sent to mainland for professional, technical and academic courses. The entire educational expenses are met by the Administration. All the educational institutions have good buildings, furniture and adequate number of qualified teachers. In the final year of High school and Pre-Degree course in the island the students are taken on educational tour to various places generally in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh on the mainland. The students have formed associations of their own for the benefits of students in general.

Medical Facilities

9.1. Modern medical treatment was absent in Kavaratti island till the first quarter of 20th century. The people were naturally left at the mercy of local quacks to cure their ailments. Apart from practising the magic cult, these quacks administered medicines. The natural disinclination of uneducated and bigoted people to new methods of treatment and also the opposition of the quacks were the main reasons for not spreading the modern treatment in the island. The absence of willing Doctors to serve in the islands and difficulty to procure medicines were also the stumbling block to the allopathic treatment. In 1920, the inspecting Officer, R.H. Ellis recommended that the old antipathies were greatly broken down and proper medical aid would be welcomed in the islands. He also recommended for separate Sub-Assistant Surgeon to Kavaratti as in other islands. The Sub-Assistant Surgeon appointed for Andrott towards the end of 1925 had jurisdiction over Kavaratti island also.

9.2. In 1936 a dispensary was opened at Kavaratti. The dispensary at Kavaratti was upgraded to a 30 bed hospital in 1964. An X-Ray plant was installed in early 1972. A laboratory was functioning since May, 1973. The Hospital Kavaratti was then elevated to a Referral Hospital with specialists services. This is now a 50 bedded referral Hospital including 20 beds of newly opened maternity and paediatric ward. There is one Ayurvedic dispensary in Kavaratti. In addition to the facilities in the Hospital two subcentres are now functioing at this island. The average number of bed occupied in the Hospital is worked out at 349 Nos. per month. The medical and health facilities are presently in a better position.

Incidence of disease

10.1. The number of average new inpatients and outpatients per month are 735 and 1.920 respectively. Leprosy and Filariasis were the common diseases found in some islands of the territory. The island Kavaratti was comparatively free from these diseases. However, one lepromatous patient and 13 non-lapromatous patients were under treatment in Kavaratti Hospital during 1985-86. In order to protect the people against Tuberculosis, B.C.G. vaccination was carried out in the island Kavaratti during 1950. It is reported that 120 tuberculosis patients were under treatment here during 1985-86. Small pox was very common disease in the islands during the early period. The National Small-pox Eradication Programme is being implemented since 1962. No indigenous case of small-pox has been reported during the last 20 years.

Family Planning Programme

11.1. The Family Planning Programme was introduced in the island in 1966 as an integrated programme with the other medical and health services. It was indeed a hazardous task initially to implement the Family Planning methods among the orthodox Muslim population of Kavaratti. Now there is not only awareness but also acceptance and adoption of various

Family. Planning methods especially among the local people. The Family Planning Bureau constituted in the island consists of local Advisory Council members and other prominent leaders including religious heads. During the year 1985-86, 11 vasectomy and 3 tubectomy operations were conducted in Kavaratti Hospital. 11 IUD insertions were also performed. 6,345 numbers of contraceptives were distributed from April 1985 to March 1986 from Kavaratti Hospital.

Animal Husbandry

12.1. The dairy unit was established in Kavaratti during 1964. One veterinary clinic is also functioning in the island Kavaratti. A Regional Poultry farm was established in the Sixth Five Year Plan. After 1975 with the improved strains, fodder cultivation was done extensively and the number of cows was also increased simultaneously to raise the milk production to the maximum. Of late, the production has come down considerably due to the reduction in number of cows as well as the area of fodder cultivation. Consequent on this the department resorted to the production of toned milk to meet the requirement of the people in Kavaratti. They have also made arrangement to bring polythene packed milma milk from the mainland and to supply in the town.

Social Welfare Development Programme

13.1. The Social Welfare development programme began with effect from 1977. This programme aimed at bringing the people to the level of neighbouring state with the implementation of various Social Welfare Programmes. Balwadies are run with the financial assistance of State Social Welfare Advisory Board. In the Integrated Child Development Scheme, Anganwadies are functioning in the island. One Central Library and one Reading Room-cum-Library are serving in the island Kavaratti. Under the special nutrition programme children and mothers are getting benefits. The National Adult Education Programme implemented in this island opened centres for men and women separately.

Integrated Rural Development Programme

14.1 Integrated Rural Development Programmes were started in the island during 1983. Under this scheme poor familes identified are given assistance. Under the various programmes employment is generated through the construction of various community assets, roads etc. and financial aid is given to voluntary institutions and for the electrification and construction of houses.

Others

15.1. The Syndicate Bank has its branch at Kavaratti. Except one temple there are no churches or Gurdwaras in the islands. There are a large number of mosques or prayer halls meant for Muslim ladies in the islands. According to 1981 Census there are 49 places of worship in Kavaratti island alone. There are 36 mosques, one Arabic College, 8 *madrassas* and one Islamic Nursery School in Kavaratti Island at present.

Planned Development

16.1. The islands started deriving the benefits of Five Year Plans when these islands were declared as a Union Territory in 1956. Allotment of Funds are made by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India under the various heads of Administration depending on the recommendation of the Planning Commission of India for the implementation of the developmental schemes. The Administrator is solely responsible for implementing the schemes as well as making expenditure according to the outlay earmarked for various schemes. Data for the budget of the town separately are not available. The developmental schemes. are implemented throughout the territory uniformly with variations in expenditure according to the volume of the scheme. During the third plan an outlay of Rs. 98.38 lakhs was approved for accelerated development of various important sectors like transport and commuication, education and health. The actual expenditure was Rs. 108.51 lakhs. The major portion of the approved outlay of Rs. 200 lakhs for the Fourth Plan was spent on Fisheries and Education besides improving the transport and communication. During the Fifth Plan improvement of transport and communication and spread of education received much attention. The approved outlay during 1978-80 was Rs. 543.64 lakhs. Corresponding expenditure was Rs. 307.50 lakhs. The outlay for the Sixth Five Year Plan was Rs 20.35 crores. Expenditure was about Rs. 28.14 crores. The outlay for 1985-86 was Rs. 7.65 crores and for the Seventh Five Year Plan Rs. 43.90 crores. During 1985-86, Rs. 80 lakhs were on centrally sponsored schemes such as Integrated Rural Development Project, National Rural Employment Programme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme.

CHAPTER IV

ECONOMIC LIFE OF THE TOWN

Introduction

1.1. The economic set up of the islands envisages that the coconut is the staple product in the island and the mainstay of the economy as well. Majority of the people are directly or indirectly involved in the growing of coconut and making copra. Next to this is fishing and making *mas* and dried fish. These occupations were in existence during the early period. Even after marked developments in the field of education, employment etc. these occupations still continue unchanged. The main reason attributed to this is the limited scope for the industrialisation of the islands. Even in the existing industries there are only limited employment opportunities to the island inhabitants. A few are engaged in petty trade. Of late, although the people are keen in getting into Government service on one side, on the other side they are becoming more and more land conscious and planting more coconut trees with improved varieties of coconut seedlings and applying manures to increase the production of copra. But, most of the people do not engaged in this work on full time basis. However, major portion of the income is derived from the above activities.

1.2. With the fast implementation of various schemes in the islands the economic condition of the indigenous people of the island has improved considerably. Even then, the self employment in coconut plantation, copra making, fishing and *mas* making still continues. On the contrary, occupation in the traditional industries such as coir twisting, jaggery and vinegar making out of sweet toddy have declined considerably and they are now almost absent in Kavaratti island. These industries were once the main source of livelihood for a large section of the poor people, especially women. The only raw-material required for the coir industry is the coconut husk. The source of income subsequently substituted in the economy was the employment in Harbour Department, Public Works Department, National Rural Employment Programme, Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme, etc. as labourers as well as on regular basis.

Classification of population into workers and non-workers

2.1 The population can be classified into two broad categories, viz. workers and non-workers based on the activity of each individual. According to the 1981 Census, out of the total population of 6,604 persons in Kavaratti, 1,912 (28.95 percent) are workers including 1,829 (27.69 per cent to the total population) main workers and 83 (1.26 per cent to the total population) marginal workers. The remaining persons (i.e. 71.05 per cent) are non-workers. In 1981 Census for classifying a person as a main worker the time criterion of engagement in work for the major part of the year i.e. at least 183 days was adopted, while those who worked for sometime during the last year but not for the major part were treated as marginal workers. The following table shows the percentage distribution of population of each sex into workers and non-workers for the Union Territory and Kavaratti Census Town.

Table IV—1

Percentage distribution of workers and non-workers of 1981 *Census and Survey*

1981 Census—Survey	Total population			Workers (including Marginal workers)			Marginal workers		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1. Lakshadweep									
Total .	40,249	20,377	19,872	9,816	7,996	1,820	1,869	1,157	712
Percentage				(24.39)	(39.24)	(9.16)	(4.64)	(5.68)	(3.58)
2 Lakshadweep—Urban . .	18,629	9,490	9,139	4,357	3,749	608	493	310	183
Percentage				(23.39)	(39.50)	(6.65)	(2.65)	(3.27)	(2.00)
3 Kavaratti—1981 Census .	6,604	3,623	2,981	1,912	1,764	148	83	71	12
Percentage				(28.95)	(48.69)	(4.96)	(1.26)	(1.96)	(0.40)
4 Kavaratti—Survey data .	1,475	770	705	376	350	26	Not separately collected		
Percentage				(25.49)	(45.45)	(3.69)			

WORKERS CLASSIFIED BY AGE AND SEX

(Survey data) (In per cent)

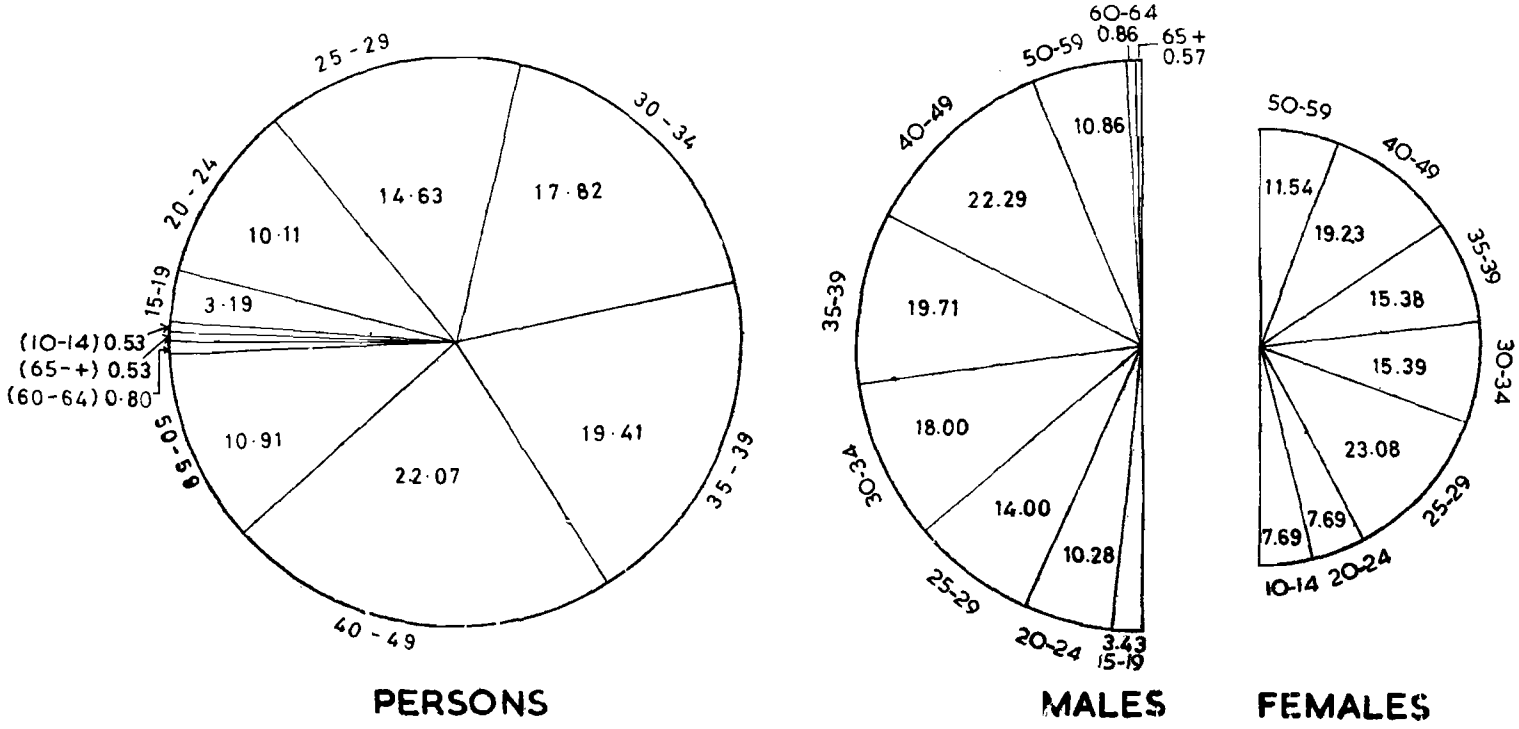


Table IV-1—*Contd.*

Percentage distribution of workers and non-workers of 198 Census and Survey

1981 Census—Survey	Non-workers		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	11	12	13
1. Lakshadweep—Total	30,433	12,381	18.052
Percentage	(75.61)	(60.76)	(90.84)
2. Lakshadweep—Urban	14,272	5,741	8,531
Percentage	(76.61)	(60.50)	(93.35)
3. Kavaratti—1981 Census	4,692	1,859	2,833
Percentage	(71.05)	(51.31)	(95.04)
4. Kavaratti—Survey data	1.099	420	679
Percentage	(74.51)	(54.55)	(96.31)

Thus, the work participation rate i.e. the percentage of main workers to total population in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep is 19.75 as against 26.15 in 1971. The percentage of male workers is 33.56 and that of female 5.58 as against 38.43 and 13.60 in 1971 respectively. There is a sizeable fall in the work participation rate of main workers compared to 1971. According to the 1971 Census the reference period was one week prior to the date of enumeration in case of regular work. But for seasonal work one year reference period was also given. Therefore, grouping the main workers and marginal workers of 1981 Census together the percentage of total workers to total population of the Union Territory is worked out as 24.39 for persons, 39.24 for males and 9.16 for females. Therefore, a fall in the female participation of work has considerably affected the participation of work in the territory.

2.2. While we consider only the case of Union Territory, the percentage of male workers of urban population is almost same as that of the territory as a whole. In the case of female workers it has come down to 6.65 per cent from 9.16 per cent. If we again consider the case of Kavaratti Census town alone, the Census data indicate that 28.95 per cent are workers including marginal workers. This is 5 points more than the Union Territory Urban figure and 4 points more than the territory figure as a whole. The percentage of main workers excluding the marginal workers to the population of Kavaratti is 27.70 which is only one point less than the percentage of total workers including marginal workers. This difference is two points for male workers and there is no much variation for female workers. Hence, the work participation rate of Kavaratti island as a whole is very high compared to the Union Territory level. It can also be seen that the work participation rate of females for Kavaratti is almost the same as that of Union Territory Urban figure and one point less than the Territory as a whole. The proportion of workers based on the sample survey data also indicates the same trend of Kavaratti census data, but slightly lower in percentages in all categories. These variation might be due to the sampling fluctuations.

Workers by locality

3.1. For the purpose of household survey, Kavaratti Census town was divided into four localities based on the socio-economic conditions. The following table gives the distribution of population, workers and non-workers in each locality and percentage of workers and non-workers to the total population.

Table IV—2

Distribution of Population, Workers and Non-Workers by locality

(Survey data)

Locality	Total Population			Workers			Non-workers		
	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total	1475	770	705	376	350	26	1099	420	679
	(100.00)	(100.00)	(100.00)	(25.49)	(45.45)	(3.69)	(74.51)	(54.55)	(96.31)
I	520	261	259	108	103	5	412	158	254
	(100.00)	(100.00)	(100.00)	(20.77)	(39.46)	(1.93)	(79.23)	(60.54)	(98.07)
II	380	190	190	84	81	3	296	109	187
	(100.00)	(100.00)	(100.00)	(22.11)	(42.63)	(1.58)	(77.89)	(57.37)	(98.42)
III	332	191	141	97	97	..	235	94	141
	(100.00)	(100.00)	(100.00)	(29.22)	(50.79)		(70.78)	(49.21)	(100.00)
IV	243	128	115	87	69	18	156	59	97
	(100.00)	(100.00)	(100.00)	(35.80)	(53.91)	(15.65)	(64.20)	(46.09)	(84.35)



Plate 17 –Directorate of Medical and Health Services



Plate 18—Syndicate Bank



Plate 19—Lagoon fishing using Tharappam



Plate 20—Fish caught by spikes



Plate 21 Breaking coconut for making copra—Behind is a pile of coconut husk

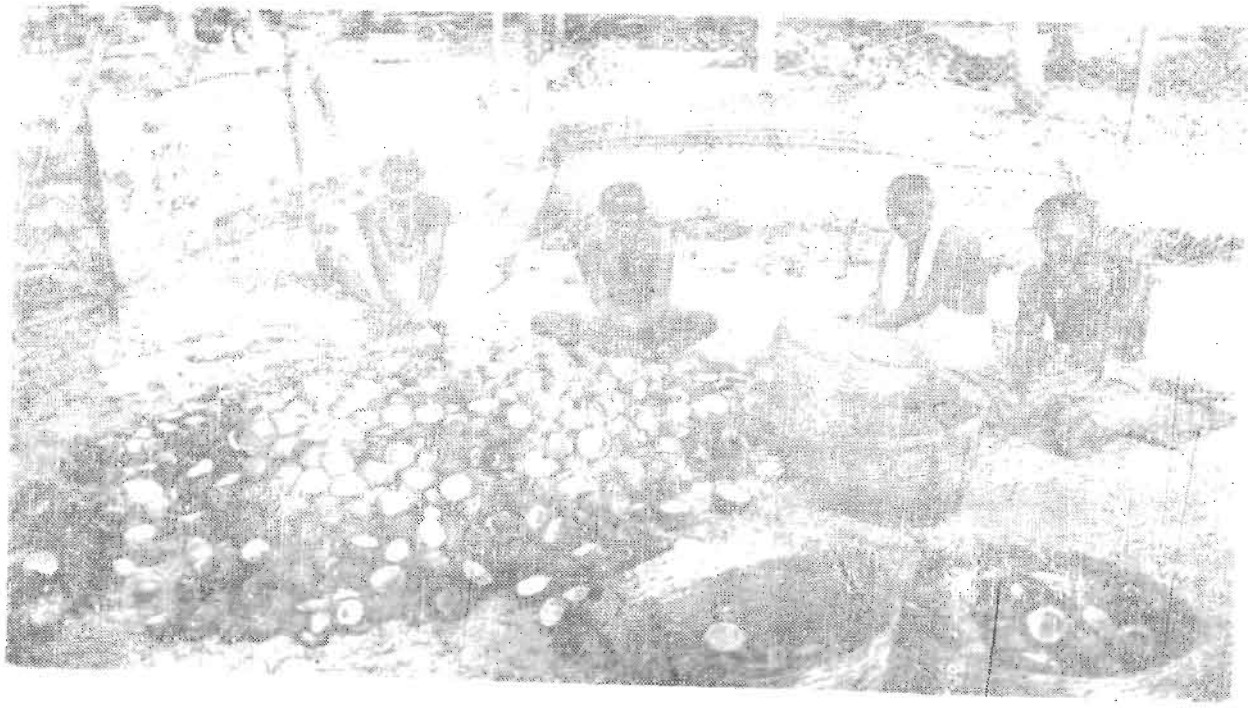


Plate 22 Kernel being separated from shells

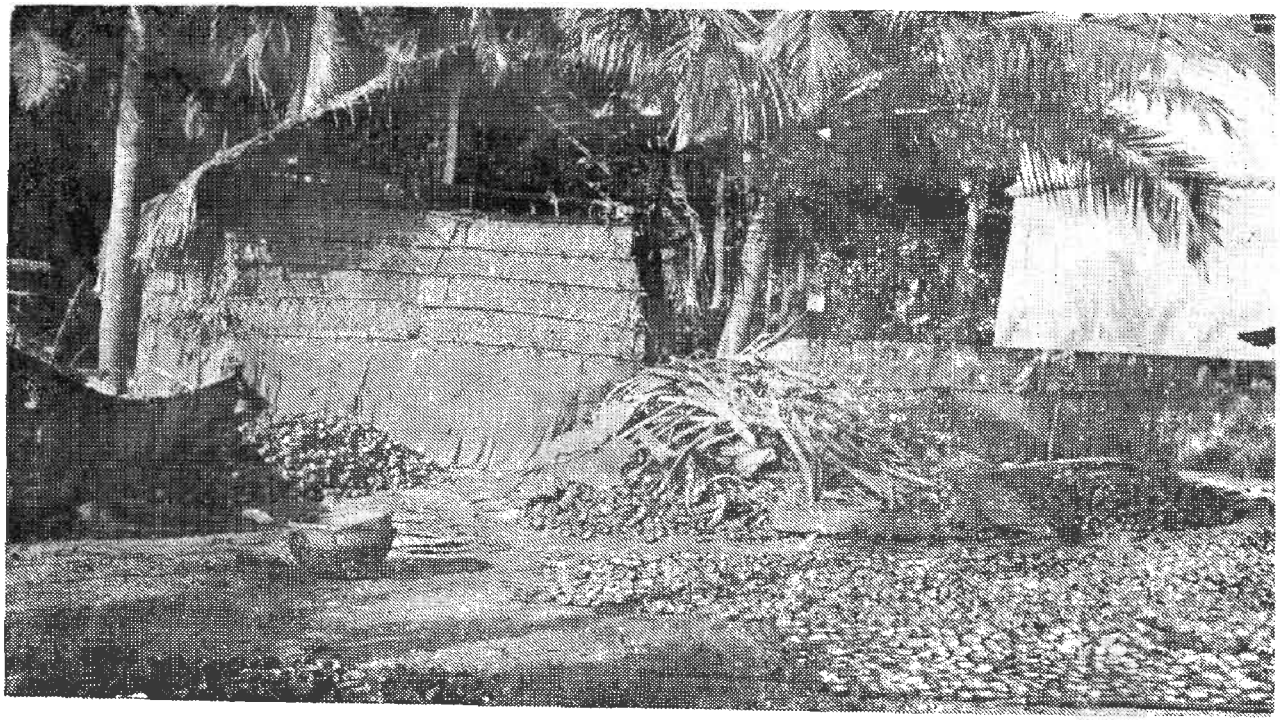


Plate 23—Kernel being Sun-dried

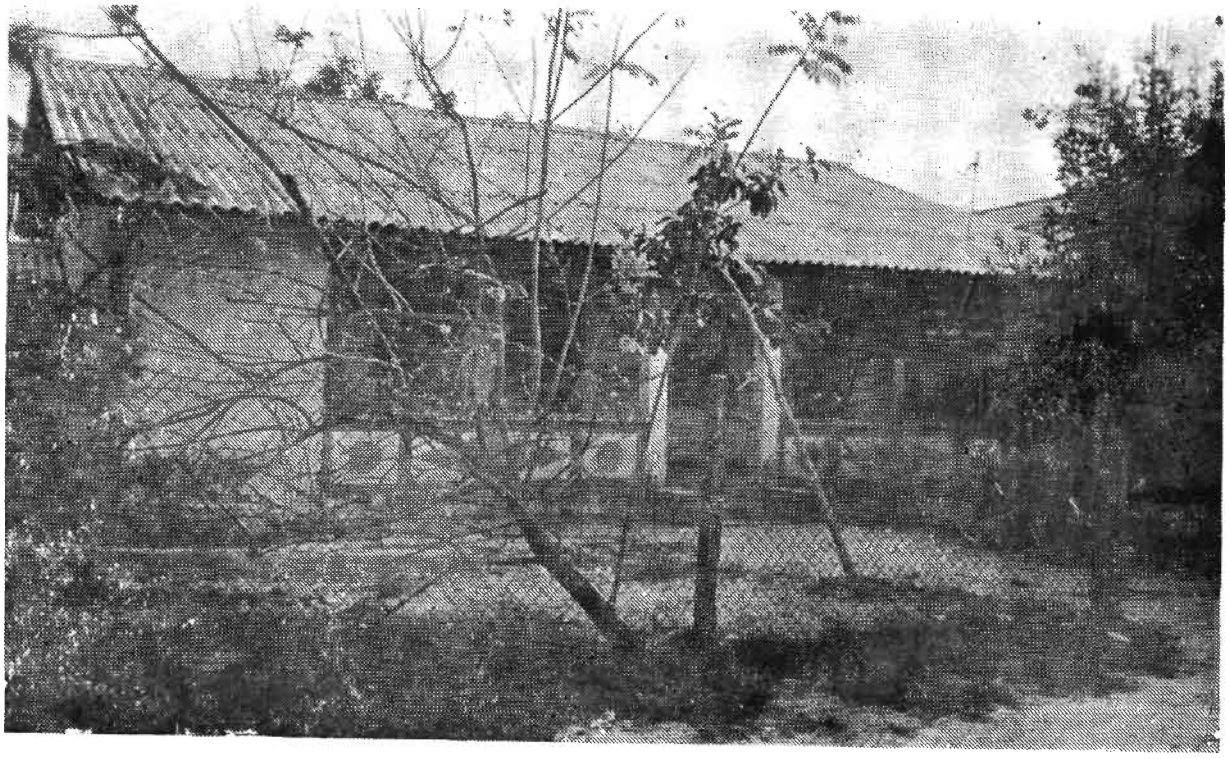


Plate 24--Employment Exchange

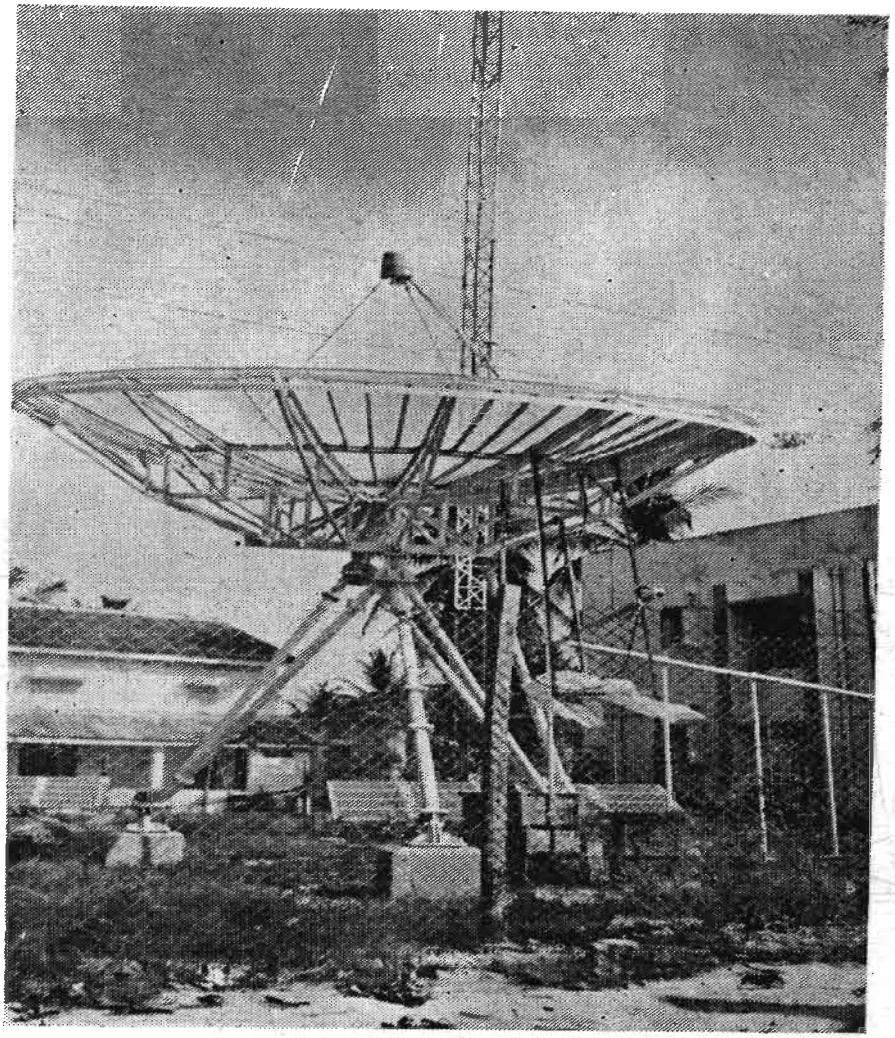


Plate 25—T. V. Station with Solar battery



Plate 26—Indira Nagar—Mini Railway Station for the entertainment of children.



Plate 27—Botanical garden



Plate 28—Lakshadweep Bhavan

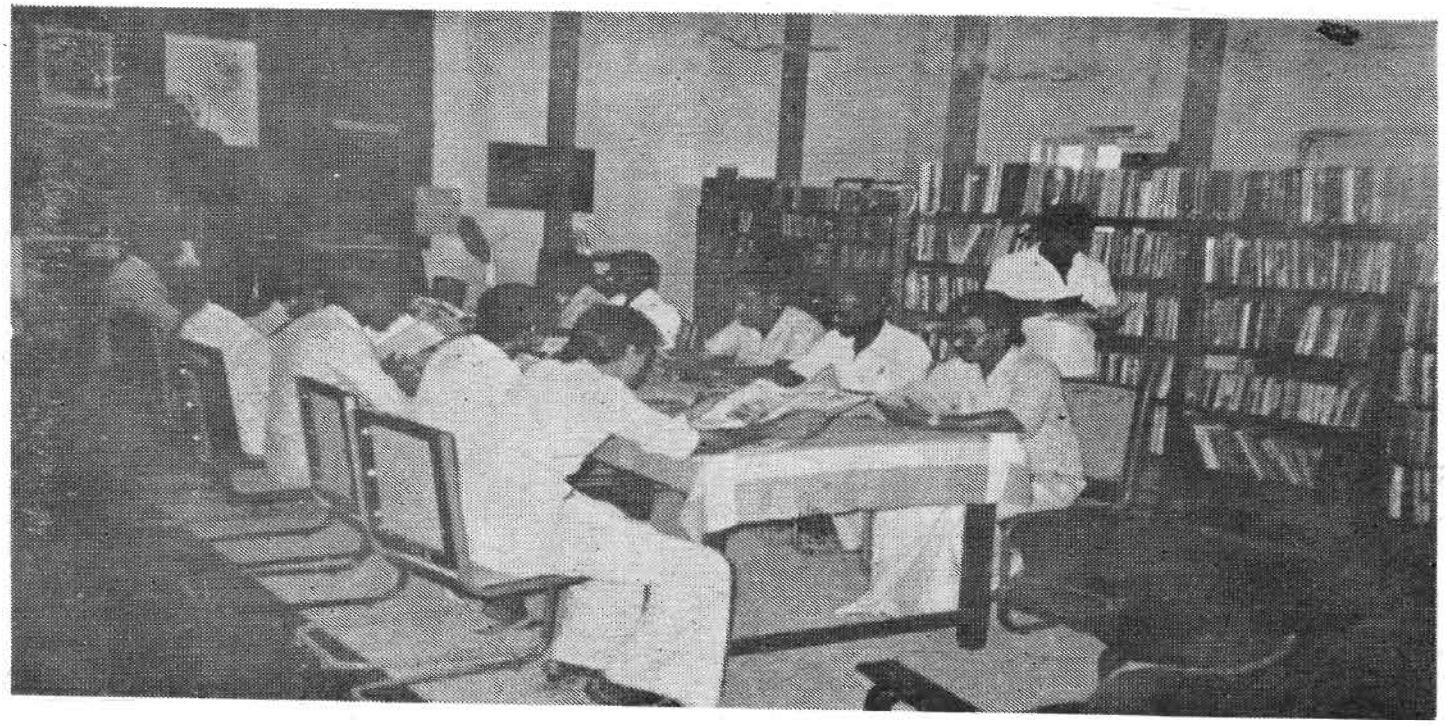


Plate 29—Inside view of Central Library

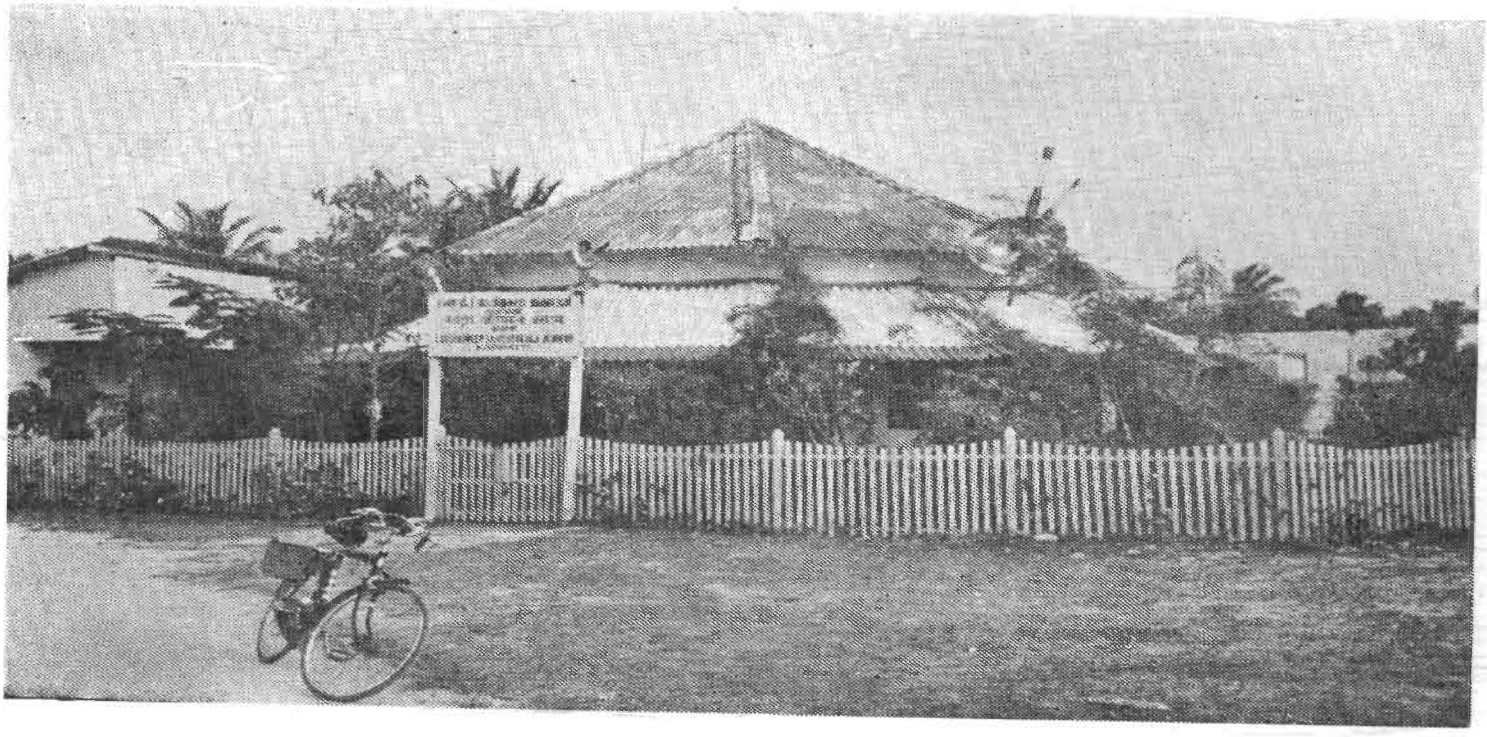


Plate 30—Lakshadweep Sahithya Kala Academy

From the above table it is seen that among the localities the proportion of workers to total population is more in the locality IV (35.80 per cent) followed by the locality III (29.22 per cent) and the least in locality I (20.77 per cent). Similarly the proportion of non-workers to total population is high in locality I (79.23 per cent) followed by the locality II (77.89 per cent). Again, the distribution of workers in each locality is given in the table below:—

Table IV—3

Percentage distribution of workers and Non-workers among the locality

(Survey data)

Locality	Workers			Non-workers		
	T	M	F	T	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
All Localities	100.00	93.09	6.91	100.00	38.22	61.78
I	28.72	27.40	1.32	37.49	14.38	23.11
II	22.34	21.54	0.80	26.93	9.92	17.01
III	25.80	25.80	..	21.38	8.55	12.83
IV	23.14	18.35	4.79	14.20	5.37	8.83

Among the total workers the locality I is having more workers (28.72 per cent) as well as non-workers (37.49 per cent). The next in the case of workers is the locality III (25.80 per cent) and relating to non-workers locality II (26.93 per cent). The locality II has the least number of workers (22.34 per cent) and locality IV the least number of non-workers.

Age-group of workers

4.1. The population of the town can be broadly divided into three age-groups, viz. those upto the age 14, within the age group 15-59 and above 60. The first group is made up of infants and school-going children, the second group is the workforce and the third group is of old persons. The age-group data of workers in Kavaratti Census town relating to the 1981 Census are not available. The following table gives the distribution of population and workers in the age-group below 14, between 15-59 and above 60 based on the survey data.

Table IV—4

Distribution of population as well as workers among the three age-groups

(Survey data)

Age-group	Population			Workers		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total	1,475	770	705	376	350	26
%				(25.49)	(45.45)	(3.69)
<14	538	267	271	2	..	2
%				(0.37)		(0.74)
15—59	889	481	408	369	345	24
%				(41.51)	(71.73)	(5.88)
60+	48	22	26	5	5	..
%				(10.42)	(22.73)	

Among the total population in Kavaratti 538 persons (36.47 per cent to total population) are below 14 years and 48 (3.25 per cent) are old persons of above 60 years of age. Both these groups are generally considered as non-workers. In Kavaratti, only 2 persons at the age of 14 years are found as workers. Both of these workers are young girls who have been brought from the mainland as domestic servants to help the housewives in their household duties as well as to look after the children in their absence. Only 5 persons, all being males above the age 60 are found to be workers. Among the persons belonging to the age group 15-59, 41.51 per cent are workers and 58.49 per cent are non-workers. The sex-wise distribution of workers in each age group is given in the table below:—

Table IV—5

Distribution of workers in different age-groups

(Survey data)

Age-group	Total population			Total workers		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total	1,475	770	705	376 (100.00)	350 (100.00)	26 (100.00)
Below 10	351	172	179	..	..	..
10—14	187	95	92	2 (0.53)	..	2 (7.69)
15—19	156	75	81	12 (3.19)	12 (3.43)	..
20—29	256	126	130	93 (24.73)	85 (24.29)	8 (30.77)
30—39	220	137	83	140 (37.23)	132 (37.71)	8 (30.77)
40—49	163	89	74	83 (22.08)	78 (22.28)	5 (19.23)
50—59	94	54	40	41 (10.91)	38 (10.86)	3 (11.54)
60—64	23	15	8	3 (0.80)	3 (0.86)	..
65+	25	7	18	2 (0.53)	2 (0.57)	..

4.2. From the above table the highest number of workers are seen in the age group 30-39 followed by those in the age-group 20-29. The trend of male workers is the same as that of total population. But in the case of females the number of workers in all the age-groups excluding 60+ years is much less than the males in the corresponding age groups. The age-groups 20-29 and 30-39 have the same number of female workers. However it can be inferred that the unemployment problem is creeping into the town.

Educational status of workers

5.1 According to the census figures, there are 60.22 per cent of literates to the total population in the town. 70.74 per cent of the total male population and 47.43 per cent of females are literates. The survey data show an over all increase in literacy rate in Kavaratti town, the percentage of literates to total population being 63.46 per cent. The male literates constitute 73.90 per cent of the population and the female literates 52.06 per cent. The percentage distribution of workers and non-workers by sex and educational level of the town based on the survey data is shown below:—

Table IV—6

Percentage of Workers and Non-workers by Sex and Educational level

(Survey data)

Educational level	Workers			Non-workers		
	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total	376 (100.00)	350 (93.09)	26 (6.91)	1099 (100.00)	420 (38.22)	679 (61.78)
Illiterate	46 (12.23)	46 (13.14)	..	493 (44.86)	155 (36.90)	338 (49.78)
Primary or Junior Basic	131 (34.84)	129 (36.86)	2 (7.69)	370 (33.67)	169 (40.24)	201 (29.60)

Table IV-6—*Contd.*

Percentage of Workers and Non-workers by Sex and Educational level

(Survey data)

Educational level	Workers			Non-workers		
	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Middle	88 (23.41)	85 (24.28)	3 (11.54)	162 (14.74)	64 (15.24)	98 (14.43)
Matriculation, Higher Secondary, Pre-University etc.	84 (22.34)	66 (18.86)	18 (69.23)	71 (6.46)	31 (7.38)	40 (5.89)
Others	27 (7.18)	24 (6.86)	3 (11.54)	3 (0.27)	1 (0.24)	2 (0.30)

Work Force by Religion

6.1. The entire population other than Muslims and a negligible number of muslim people who do not belong to this Union Territory are the migrants from the neighbouring states and they constitute only a minority of the population. The inhabitants of Lakshadweep who and both of whose parents were born in those islands are treated as Scheduled Tribe in the Union Territory. Scheduled Tribe Muslims constitute 87.46 per cent to the population of this territory. The distribution of workers by community is given below:—

Table IV—7

Workers by Community in the Town

(Survey data)

Caste/Tribe/ Community	Total population	Workers	Percentage for workers to total population
1	2	3	4
Total	1,475	376	25.49
1. Musilms	1,306	315	24.12
(i) Scheduled Tribe	1.290	311	24.11
(ii) Non-Scheduled Tribe	16	4	25.00
2. Hindus	154	55	35.71
3. Christians	15	6	40.00

6.2. Out of the total Muslim population of 1,306 persons 24.12 per cent are workers, of which only a small percentage i.e. 1.27 per cent represents non-scheduled tribe workers. 24.11 per cent of the Scheduled Tribe population are workers. Among Hindus and Christians 35.71 per cent and 40.00 per cent of their respective total population constitute work force in the territory. Their proportion of workers is slightly higher than the Muslims. The reason is obvious. In their case only the households having workers have migrated from outside the Union Territory, as all the indigenous population of other islands are also Muslims.

Households by Employment Depth

7.1. The household Schedules canvassed in the town give an idea of the strength of workers in each of the households. The concept of employment depth is based on the number of workers in the household. If there are more workers in the household the employment depth is more. Out of the total 250 households in the town, workers are absent in 30 households. This constitute 12 per cent of the total households studied. This category of households wherein no person is economically active include mainly dependants. In all these cases the earning members are stated to have been residing outside the town. The persons of independent income will also come under this group. The distribution of households with reference to employment depth is as follows:—

Table IV—8

Distribution of Households by Employment Depth (i.e. number of workers in the households)

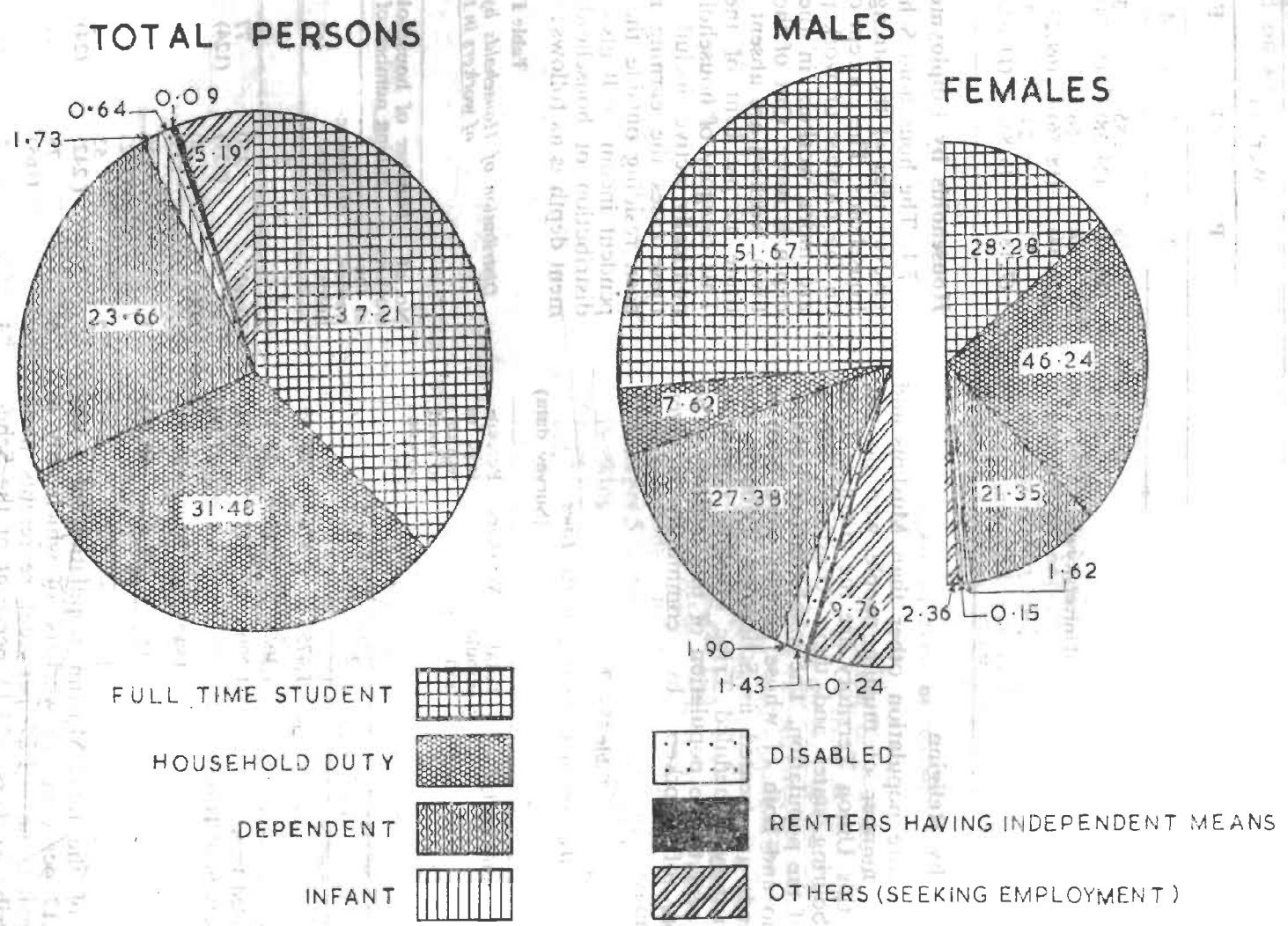
(Survey data)

No. of workers in the households	Number of households by size and adult members having number of workers noted in Col. 1.				
	All households	1-3	4-6	7-10	11 & above
1	2	3	4	5	6
Total	250 (937)	77 (124)	89 (288)	52 (260)	32 (265)
Nil	30 (75)	12 (16)	12 (33)	4 (12)	2 (14)
1	128 (332)	57 (84)	45 (133)	20 (76)	6 (39)
2	53 (242)	8 (24)	22 (78)	17 (95)	6 (45)
3	26 (165)	..	8 (32)	7 (45)	11 (88)
4	5 (45)	..	1 (6)	1 (7)	3 (32)
5	5 (44)	..	1 (6)	2 (17)	2 (21)
6	2 (19)	..	..	1 (8)	1 (11)
7	1 (15)	..	..	..	1 (15)

Note:—There are two minor workers (both females) in the age-group 10-14.

CATEGORY OF NON-WORKERS

•(SURVEY DATA)



7.2. More than half of the households (i.e. 51.20 per cent) in the town are supported by single workers. But 12 per cent of the households have no workers at all. Only 36.80 per cent of the households have two or more workers. 21.20 per cent have two workers each. 10.40 per cent of the households have 3 workers each. The households having 4 or more workers form only 5.20 per cent.

Employment Status of Workers

8.1. According to the survey data out of the total 376 workers 285 (260 males and 25 females) are employed in Government sector. 9 (8 males and 1 female) are in co-operative Sector and 82 (all being males) in private sector. The distribution of these workers by their occupation status is as follows:—

Table IV- 9

Employment Status of workers by sex

(Survey data)

Employment Status	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Total	376	350	26
Employer	4	4	..
	(1.06)	(1.14)	..
Employee	305	279	26
	(81.12)	(79.72)	(100.00)
Single worker	60	60	..
	(15.96)	(17.14)	..
Family worker	7	7	..
	(1.86)	(2.00)	..

8.2 Out of 376 workers, majority (81.12 per cent) are employees followed by (15.96 per cent) single workers. Family workers and employers are negligible. Among females there are only employees in the town. Among males 79.72 per cent are employees and 17.14 per cent single workers. Out of the 4 employers among males two each are land lords and *manjoo*[2] owners.

Occupational Divisions of Household

9.1. Out of 250 households, the heads of 192 households are having occupation. These households comprise a population of 944 persons with 506 males and 438 females. The distribution of households and persons by sex and occupation of head of household is shown below:—

[2]Big sailing vessel, engine fitted, built out of timber on the mainland and brought to the island for carrying cargo from mainland and vise versa.

Table IV—10

Distribution of households and Persons by Sex and Occupation of Head of household

(Survey data)

Division	House-holds	Per-sons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
Total	192	944	506	438
0-1 Professional, technical and related workers	38	151	74	77
2 Administrative, executive and managerial workers	1	5	3	2
3 Clerical and related workers	51	222	124	98
4 Sales workers	4	29	18	11
5 Service workers	23	79	44	35
6 Farmers, fishermen, hunters, loggers and related workers	36	242	126	116
7-8-9 Production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers	38	214	116	98
Workers not classified by occupations	1	2	1	1

9.2. According to the occupation of the head of household the maximum number of households (26.56 per cent) are found in occupational division 3—clerical and related workers. These households have a population of 222 persons. 38 households each come under the category of Division 0-1 Professional, technical and related workers, and Division 7-8-9 Production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers with a population of 151 and 214 respectively. 36 households are related to farmers, fishermen, hunters, loggers and related workers with a population of 242 persons. 4 households are coming under the category sales workers and one household under Administrative, executive and managerial workers.

Occupational diversity

10.1. If different members of a household follow different occupations, it is termed as occupational diversity. According to the survey it is seen that in 63 households occupational diversity is observed. The maximum number of households of this category is found in locality I and III (20 households each). In locality IV there are 12 households and in locality II, 11 households of this kind. The occupational diversity is more prevalent among Government employees, coconut growing and related workers, fishing, salesmen and labourers in different rural development schemes.

Non-Workers

11.1. According to 1981 Census 71.05 per cent of the total population are non-workers in Kavaratti as against 75.61 per cent in the Union Territory as a whole. Non-workers are more among females. As much as 95.04 per cent of the female population was returned as non-workers. But among the males it is only 51.31 per cent. Based on the survey data 74.51

per cent of the total population are non-workers. The corresponding figures of males and females are 54.55 and 96.31 respectively. The distribution of non-workers in different age-groups and their percentage to total non-workers based on survey data are given in the table below:—

Table IV—11

Non-workers by age-group

(Survey data)

Age-group	Non-Workers					
	Number of Non-workers			Percentage of non-workers in each age-group to total non-workers		
	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total .	1,099	420	679	100.00	100.00	100.00
Below 10	351	172	179	31.94	40.95	26.36
10-14 .	185	95	90	16.83	22.62	13.25
15-19 .	144	63	81	13.10	15.00	11.93
20-24 .	99	29	70	9.01	6.90	10.31
25-29 .	64	12	52	5.83	2.86	7.66
30-34 .	42	4	38	3.82	0.95	5.60
35-39 .	38	1	37	3.46	0.24	5.45
40-49 .	80	11	69	7.28	2.62	10.16
50-59 .	53	16	37	4.82	3.81	5.45
60-64 .	20	12	8	1.82	2.86	1.18
65+ .	23	5	18	2.09	1.19	2.65

11.2. From the table it is seen that the maximum number of non-workers above the age 20 are seen in the age-group 20-24 (9.01 per cent). Further, 7.28 per cent and 5.83 per cent of non-workers are found in the age-groups 40-49 and 25-29 respectively.

Non-workers by type of activity

12.1. The distribution of non-workers in the town by sex and type of activity is given in table IV-12. This table shows that the bulk of the non-workers come under the categories of students, household duties and dependents. Among the non-workers 37.21 per cent are students, 31.48 per cent are engaged in household duties and 23.66 per cent are dependants. 2.46 per cent of the non-workers include infants, disabled and rentiers having independent means. Among the non-workers 5.19 per cent fall under the category of 'Others' (seeking employment). In Lakshadweep there are no beggars vagrants/inmates of penal, mental and charitable institutions.

Table IV—12

Non-workers by Sex and type of activity

(Survey data)

Category of Non-workers	Persons	Percentage	Males	Percentage	Females	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total	1,099	100.00	420	100.00	679	100.00
Full time student	409	37.21	217	51.67	192	28.28
Household duty	346	31.48	32	7.62	314	46.24
Dependant	260	23.66	115	27.38	145	21.35
Infant	19	1.73	8	1.90	11	1.62
Disabled	7	0.64	6	1.43	1	0.15
Rentiers having independent means	1	0.09	1	0.24	..	..
Others (Seeking employment)	57	5.19	41	9.76	16	2.36

Unemployment Depth

13.1. Out of the total non-working population 57 persons (i.e. 5.19 per cent) are seeking employment. In terms of percentage majority of these persons i.e. 73.68 per cent are from the age-group 15-24, 22.81 per cent in the age-group 25-34 and 3.51 per cent in the age group 35-49. Of these persons seeking employment 51 are Muslims, 4 Hindus and 2 Christians. As such as 53 persons are seeking employment for the

first time. Of these 26 persons have passed matric. 2 persons are degree holders. 20 persons have been studied upto primary, 4 below primary and one is illiterate. Households by size with number of unemployed in each household is given below: --

Table IV--13

Distribution of Households by Unemployment Depth (Number of Unemployed in the Household)

(Survey data)

No. of unemployed including who are seeking work	Number of households by size and adult members having number of non-workers noted in Col. 1				
	All House-holds	1-3	4-6	7-10	11 and above
1	2	3	4	5	6
Total . . .	250 (937)	77 (126)	89 (283)	52 (276)	32 (252)
Nil . . .	40 (52)	35 (38)	5 (14)	..	..
1 . . .	81 (178)	37 (73)	42 (100)	2 (5)	.. ..
2 . . .	29 (97)	4 (12)	13 (41)	10 (36)	2 (8)
3 . . .	45 (210)	1 (3)	19 (77)	22 (111)	3 (19)
4 . . .	18 (134)	.. ..	8 (40)	7 (62)	3 (32)
5 . . .	20 (108)	.. ..	2 (11)	8 (40)	10 (57)
6 . . .	8 (60)	.. ..	.. ..	3 (22)	5 (38)
7 . . .	3 (32)	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	3 (32)
8 . . .	6 (66)	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	6 (66)

13.2. *There are 40 households (16 per cent to total households)* in which unemployed persons are not available. Of these, 31 are single member households having only male members. The maximum number of households (18 per cent) are seen with 3 unemployed persons. As per the survey, the unemployment depth in the town is calculated as 60.09 per cent with the highest (69.05 per cent) in the household size 11+ members and the lowest (38.10 per cent) in the household size 1-3 members. The depth of the unemployment commensurate with the increase in the size of the households.

Type of Occupation

14.1. Among the total workers, the maximum number of 104 workers (27.67 per cent) come under the category unskilled manual followed by workers (21.81 per cent) under the lowest professional and administration. 21.01 per cent of workers are coming under the category skilled manual. 11.17 per cent of the workers are clerks and shop assistants and 9.31 per cent work in the category of intermediate professional and related posts and secondary teachers. There are 3.45 per cent higher professional and salaried workers and 2.39 highly skilled and supervisory manual workers. Owners of land, Odam, majoo and large shop consist of only 2.13 per cent of the total workers. Workers engaged in medium business and small business are 0.26 per cent and 0.80 per cent respectively.

14.2. At the time of Survey undertaken for this special study, the earning members were asked to state the means of transport used by them to reach to the place of work from their residences. The main aim of this enquiry is to ascertain whether the residential areas are located away from where the earners work. The answer to this question is given in the table IV—16-distribution of workers in surveyed households by sex and type of occupation and mode of transport to place of work.

Table IV—14

Distribution of Workers in Surveyed Households by Sex and Type of Occupation & mode of transport to place of work

(Survey data)

Type of Occupation	Persons	Transport to place of work			
		Foot	Bicycle	Scooter, Motor Bike, Moped	Jeep
1	2	3	4	5	6
Total	376 (100.00)	162 (43.08)	194 (51.60)	19 (5.05)	1 (0.027)
Unskilled manual Skilled manual	104 (27.66)	68 (65.39)	35 (33.65)	1 (0.96)	..

Table IV- 14 --*Contd.*

Distribution of Workers in Surveyed Households by Sex and Type of Occupation and mode of transport to place of work

(Survey data)

Type of Occupation	Persons	Transport to place of work			
		Foot	Bicycle	Scooter, Motor Bike, Moped	Jeep
1	2	3	4	5	6
Skilled manual	79 (21.01)	21 (26.58)	54 (68.36)	4 (5.06)	..
Lowest professional and administrative (e.g. Primary teachers)	82 (21.81)	28 (34.15)	49 (59.75)	5 (6.10)	..
Small business	3 (0.80)	3 (100.00)	..	..	..
Highly skilled and supervisory manual	9 (2.39)	6 (66.67)	2 (22.22)	1 (11.11)	..
Clerks and shop assistants	42 (11.17)	12 (28.57)	24 (57.14)	6 (14.29)	..
Intermediate professional and related posts, Secondary teachers etc.	35 (9.31)	10 (28.57)	25 (71.43)	..	..
Medium business	1 (0.26)	..	1 (100.00)	..	..
Higher professional and salaried posts	13 (3.46)	6 (46.15)	4 (30.77)	2 (15.39)	1 (7.69)
Owners of land, *Odams*, *Manjoos*, factories, large shops, etc.	8 (2.13)	8 (100.00)	..	..	..

14.3. The table reveals that as much as 51.60 per cent of the workers use bicycle as means of transport to the place of their work, 43.08 per cent by walk and 5.05 per cent by Scooter/motor bike/moped. Only one person uses jeep to reach in the place of work. As far as the Union Territory of Lakshadweep is concerned, the area is compact. The serviceable roads in the town are limited. The number of vehicles are limited. The people do not feel much the necessity of transport within the town other than two wheelers. There is no bus service or train service in the town. The common means of transport is bicycle. The number of Scooter/motor bike/moped is also limited and their number is slowly increasing now. There are a few departmental vehicles including Jeep in Kavaratti.

Workers by Industrial Category of Occupation

15.1. According to the Primary Census Abstract of 1981 Census, among the main workers there is no cultivator or agricultural labourer in Kavaratti town as well as in the territory as a whole. Of the total main workers 44 persons (42 males and 2 females) work in household industry. In terms of percentage to the total main workers they are 2.41. This ratio is 2.98 points less than the 1971 Census figure. At the same time there is an increase in the category of 'Other workers' including mining and quarrying, manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs (other than household industry); constructions, trade and commerce, transport, storage and communication and other services. It can also be observed that there is a fall in the category of female household industry workers. With the overall developments in the territory and spread of education in the Islands especially among the females, it appears that the traditional household industry is loosing its importance.

15.2. The 1981 Census data reveal that 1,785 workers (97.59 per cent) are under the category 'other workers' [industrial category III, IV, V(b) and VI to IX]. The classification of other workers is not available for the Kavaratti town. However, from the district urban figures it can be inferred that about 50 per cent of the workers under the category 'other workers' belong to the category of 'other services' comprising employees in the Government departments including teachers, Co-operative sectors and religious, community and personal services. Of the remaining workers in this category nearly thirty per cent of the workers might be employed in the industrial category of livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantations, orchards and allied activities and the remaining workers under category VIII transport, storage and communication, category VI construction, category VII trade and commerce and category V(b) manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs (other than household industry).

Industrial Establishments

16.1. Large Scale industrial establishments are lacking not only in the town, but in the Union Territory

as a whole. There are a few households and small scale industries in the town. The number of industrial establishments available in Kavaratti are listed below:—

Table IV-15

Number of Industrial Establishments

(*As on March* 1986)

Items	No. of units in the town	No. of labourers/ trainees
1	2	3
Fibre Factory	1	15
Handicraft		
Handicraft training centre . . .	1	3
Small Scale Industries		
Bakery	2	3
Saw mill	3	3
Flour mill	2	2
Oil mill	1	1
Press	2	N.A.
Soda Factory	2	4
Work shop	1	N.A.
Welding Centre	1	N.A.

N.A.—Not available.

Mas Production Centres

16.2. In addition to the industrial units, a few *mas* production centres are also available in the town. *Mas* is formed on boiling tuna fish in sea water. The cleaned tuna is cut into pieces and washed in sea water. The pieces are then boiled in tinned copper vessels containing equal quantities of fresh and sea water. The meat is then placed on an iron grill and smoked till the pieces get the colour of smoke. The pieces are then sun-dried. This dry fish is known as *mas*. These are small units of household industry. It is seen that the process of making *mas* is either done by the women folk or they are the active participants in the centres.

Decorticating Fibre Plant

16.3. There is a small mechanical decorticating unit established to utilise the dry coconut husks which are available in plenty. This is a thriving industry producing mattress fibre and bristle fibre. These products have very good market on the mainland. The quality of these products is comparatively good. 18 persons are employed in this factory. Of these, 3 persons are administrative and supervisory personnel, 3 skilled labourers and 12 unskilled labourers. Electricity is used for the fuel. The capital investment is made by the Union Territory Administration. There is no other share holders. The fixed cost of the factory is two lakhs and variable cost Rs. 50,000.

The approximate quantity of fibre produced is calculated as 50 tonnes costing an amount of Rs. 1,50,000. It is reported that the factory is running on profit. The employees are paid bonus as per the central Government rules. There is no problem regarding industrial relationship. As far as this unit is concerned disposal of waste etc. is not at all a problem in the island. But, the actual problem occurs at the time of marketing. The transporting of the fibre from the island to mainland really causes difficulty because of the inherent drawbacks in the surface communication system in the territory.

Handicraft

16.4. There is one handicraft training centre in the town which was established during 1973. This centre is imparting training to local candidates in making coral flowers, seashell-toys, coconut shell-craft, wood carving, etc. There are at present 3 trainees/labourers. The value of handicraft articles produced is Rs. 0.06 lakhs during 1985-86.

16.5. Majority of the small scale industries are under the private sector. Most of these units are financed under the District Rural Development Agency scheme. These are of recent origin. The local inhabitants of the town were reluctant to invest money and to start industrial units earlier. But, the position has now changed a lot. The people are coming forward to begin with small scale industrial units under the self employment scheme as well as receiving financial aid from the District Rural Development Agency. The Lakshadweep Administration through the Industries department and District Rural Development Agency as well is making the best efforts to encourage the people and to create a new thrust of industrialisation in the island.

Trade and Commerce

17.1. There is no ready market for the island products in the town. Not only that, the islanders have to depend outside supply i.e. supply from mainland for all their common needs. Therefore, trade is an imperative need for the islanders. It is not an organised sector. The major items of exports are copra, mas, dried fish, coir and fibre. The items of imports are rice, sugar salt, pulses, tobacco, clothes, condiments, tiles, timber etc. i.e. all the necessities of life. At present, there is no trade between the ports of this territory and foreign countries.

Wholesale and retail trade in the town

17.2. Wholesale market is not available in the town. There was no retailshops early. The land owners who had *odams* brought consumer items from mainland and sold for a high profit to the islanders. Of late, retail provision as well as stationery stores has come up in the town. According to the 1981 Census there are 9 shops attached to the house of the shop keepers, 29 shops excluding eating houses and 12 restaurants, sweet meat shops and eating places. The volume of trade in these retail shops is limited.

Co-operative Societies

17.3. The supply and marketing co-operative society was started in the town in 1960. This society took up two basically important functions both in the distribution of consumer goods and the marketing of copra eliminating the middle man. Consumer goods were brought from the wholesale markets of the mainland. The Society was also entrusted with the distribution of rice, sugar and other controlled commodities. Consequent on the sudden expansion of the activities of the societies and increased turn over, an Apex institution called the Laccadive Co-operative Marketing Federation was organised from Ist July, 1966. This Apex organisation which has forwarding centres at Cochin, Calicut and Mangalore, Co-ordinates and promotes the activities of societies. The Supply and Marketing society has three retail outlets (fair price shops) in Kavaratti. Major requirements of the islanders for the consumer items are met by these shops. The Society sold consumer goods of value Rs. 49.51 lakhs during the year 1985-86. The quantity of copra sold through the society during 1985-86 is 197.5776 tons receiving a value of Rs. 23.74 lakhs.

Other resources

18.1. The land reform and socio-economic developments in the islands have enabled the people to realise the importance of their rights over land. No land tax is levied in the island. But Government land (*pandarm*) is leased out to individuals where tree tax is levied on yielding coconut trees. However, there is no tree tax on private property. The income from coconut trees from the lands directly managed by Government, income from the sale of court fees, etc. are also added to the revenue in the town. The private cattle rearing is not profitable in the islands due to the lack of fodder cultivation in the island. The departmental dairy unit and poultry farm maintain the supply of milk and eggs in the town. However, now the milk is scarce in the town.

CHAPTER V

ETHNIC AND SELECTED SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION

Ethnic Composition of the Population

Religious Composition.

1.1. The Union Territory of Lakshadweep is predominently inhabited by the Muslims. This is also true in the case of Kavaratti Census town. According to the 1981 Census 85.61 per cent of the population of Kavaratti town are the followers of Muslim religion as against 94.84 per cent for the Union Territory as a whole[1]. Other religions found in the town are Hindus (12.36 per cent) and Christians (1.94 per cent). 0.09 per cent of the population constitute 'religion not stated'. Hindus and Christians staying in the town are of temporary migrants from other States/Union Territories in India.

1.2. The household survey data of the town reveals that 88.54 per cent of the population surveyed profess Islam, 10.44 per cent Hinduism and 1.02 per cent Christianity. The distribution of population by religion based on the 1981 Census as well as household survey of the special study are shown below:

Table V—1

Distribution of Population by Religion

Religious Communities	Population (1981 Census)			Percentage to total population
	Persons	Males	Females	
1	2	3	4	5
Total . .	6,604	3,623	2,981	100.00
Muslims . .	5,654	3,067	2,587	85.61
Hindus . .	816	482	334	12.36
Chrisitians . .	128	70	58	1.94
Religion not stated	6	4	2	0.09

Religious Communities	Population (Survey 1986)			Percentage to total population
	Persons	Males	Females	
1	6	7	8	9
Total	1,475	770	705	100.00
Muslims . . .	1,306	684	622	88.54
Hindus . . .	154	77	77	10.44
Christians . . .	15	9	6	1.02
Religion not stated .	..	..	..	..

1.3. The Muslims of the island are very strict in all their religious observances. The daily prayers are said at day break (*Subahi*), soon after mid-day (*Luhar*), before sunset (*Asar*), after sunset (*Magrib*) and early in the night (*Isha*). In the town there are three main mosques, viz. Juma, Mohiddin and Ujira. Besides these, there are 33 mosques, big and small in size.

Mother-tongue

2.1. Malayalam is the mother-tongue of majority of the population in the town. According to the 1981 Census[2] as much as 6,200 persons or 98.60 per cent of the total population of the town speak malayalam. Of the remaining population of the town, 20 persons speak Tamil, 18 persons Hindi, 9 persons Punjabi, 6 persons Telugu, 5 persons Oriya, 3 persons each Bengali and English, 2 persons Konkani and one person Urdu. Also 21 persons speak other languages. The following table gives the household population by language mainly spoken in the households of the town.

Table V—2

Distribution of Household Population by language mainly spoken in the household of the town (excluding institutional population), 1981 Census

Language mainly spoken in the household	Total Population			Percentage to total Population
	Persons	Males	Females	
1	2	3	4	5
Total . .	6,288	3,345	2,943	100.00
Malayalam . .	6,200	3,297	2,903	98.60
Tamil . .	20	10	10	0.32
Hindi . .	18	10	8	0.29
Punjabi . .	9	5	4	0.14
Telugu . .	6	3	3	0.09
Oriya . . .	5	2	3	0.08
Bengali . .	3	1	2	0.05
English . .	3	1	2	0.05
Konkani . .	2	1	1	0.03
Urdu . .	1	1	..	0.02
Other Languages .	21	14	7	0.33

1 Based on Paper 1 of 1985-Household population by religion of head of household (upto island level), Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

2 Based on Paper 1 of 1987 Household and Household population by language mainly spoken in the household (excluding institutional population), Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

2.2. The modern Malayalam script is vogue in the town. This script has developed out of *Grandha* or Arya Ezhuthu. The oldest script that was current in the island was *Vattezhuthu*. With the advent of Islam, the Arabic script which was later known as Arabic Malayalam also became popular among the people. This script replaced *Vattezhuthu*. Writing of Malayalam in Arabic script is also prevalent in the island. At the time of British rule the modern Malayalam script came into use.

Castes and Tribes

3.1. According to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes list (Modification order 1956) the inhabitants of the Union Territory of Lakshadweep who and both of whose parents were born in those islands are treated as Scheduled Tribes. No caste has been Scheduled in relation to this Union Territory and therefore, there is no Scheduled Caste population. There is only one Tribe in the whole of this Union Territory and which has no specific name.

3.2. The indigenous population of the islands are Muslims. But, all of them are not Scheduled Tribes. Only those who satisfy the above definition will come under the purview of Tribes in the islands. According to the 1981 Census the Muslim households and population of Kavaratti are 867 and 5,654 (i.e. 74.68 per cent to total households and 85.61 per cent to total population) respectively. The Scheduled Tribe households[3] and population reckoned are 857 and 5,585 (73.82 per cent and 84.57 per cent) respectively. This indicates only a difference of 10 households and 69 persons. Their differences in terms of percentages are 0.86 and 1.04 respectively. Similarly, among the total population of 1475 as per survey there are 16 non-Scheduled Tribe Muslims. This accounts for only 1.08 per cent of the total population and 1.23 per cent of the Muslim population. Further Scheduled Tribe population is 87.46 per cent to the total general population in the town. It can, therefore, be construed that the characteristics of general population in the town largely resemble with those of Scheduled Tribe population.

Houseless and Institutional Population

4.1. The 1981 Census data reveals that there is one houseless household in the town with one male member as against 3 households (with one male member each) in the Union Territory as a whole. The houseless population is comprised of all those who have no house to live in and also all persons who having a residence have been enumerated while in transit. As far as Kavaratti town is concerned the houseless population returned during Census relates to the person who has no house to live in. This person has now expired and no such population is available at present in the town.

4.2. There are 32 institutional households in the town with a population of 316 persons with a sex break up of 278 males and 38 females. A 'household' is a group of persons who commonly live together and would take their meals from a common kitchen unless the exigencies of work prevented any of them from doing so. There may be a household of persons related by blood or a household of unrelated persons or having a mix of both. An 'institutional household' is a household where unrelated persons stay together such as boarding houses, hostels, residential hotels, etc. In Kavaratti the institutional households consist of student hostels, Madhya Pradesh State Armed Force camp, quarters with unrelated employees and private rented houses with labourers staying together. Among the islands in the Union Territory, Kavaratti has the maximum number of institutional households as well as population.

Disabled population by type of disability

5.1. Three categories of physically handicapped persons on whom data have been collected during 1981 Census are:—

(i) Totally blind

(ii) Totally crippled and

(iii) Totally dumb

The term 'totally blind' refers to blindness in both the eyes and the individual is unable to see at all. The term 'totally dumb' is the inability to speak. The term 'totally crippled' refers to such persons who have lost their arms or limbs. The loss here refers to the inability to use and not necessarily physical absence.

5.2. In Kavaratti, there are two totally blind and 9 totally dumb persons. Fortunately, totally crippled persons are not available in Kavaratti. Among the islands in the Union Territory, the proportion of physically handicapped persons of Kavaratti is 7.10 per cent. For totally blind persons the ratio is 2.67 per cent and for totally dumb 20.00 per cent. The proportion of the physically handicapped persons to the total population is negligible in Kavaratti.

Distribution of population by Age, Sex and Marital Status

6.1. The population of Kavaratti Census town as revealed by the 1981 Census is 6,604 persons with a sex break up of 3,623 males and 2,981 females. The age-wise as well as marital status data of 1981 Census are not available for Kavaratti town. The distribution of population of Kavaratti by sex, age and marital status based on survey is given below:—

3 Households having one Scheduled Tribe member or more were taken for computing Scheduled Tribe households.

AGE, SEX AND MARITAL STATUS

[SURVEY DATA]

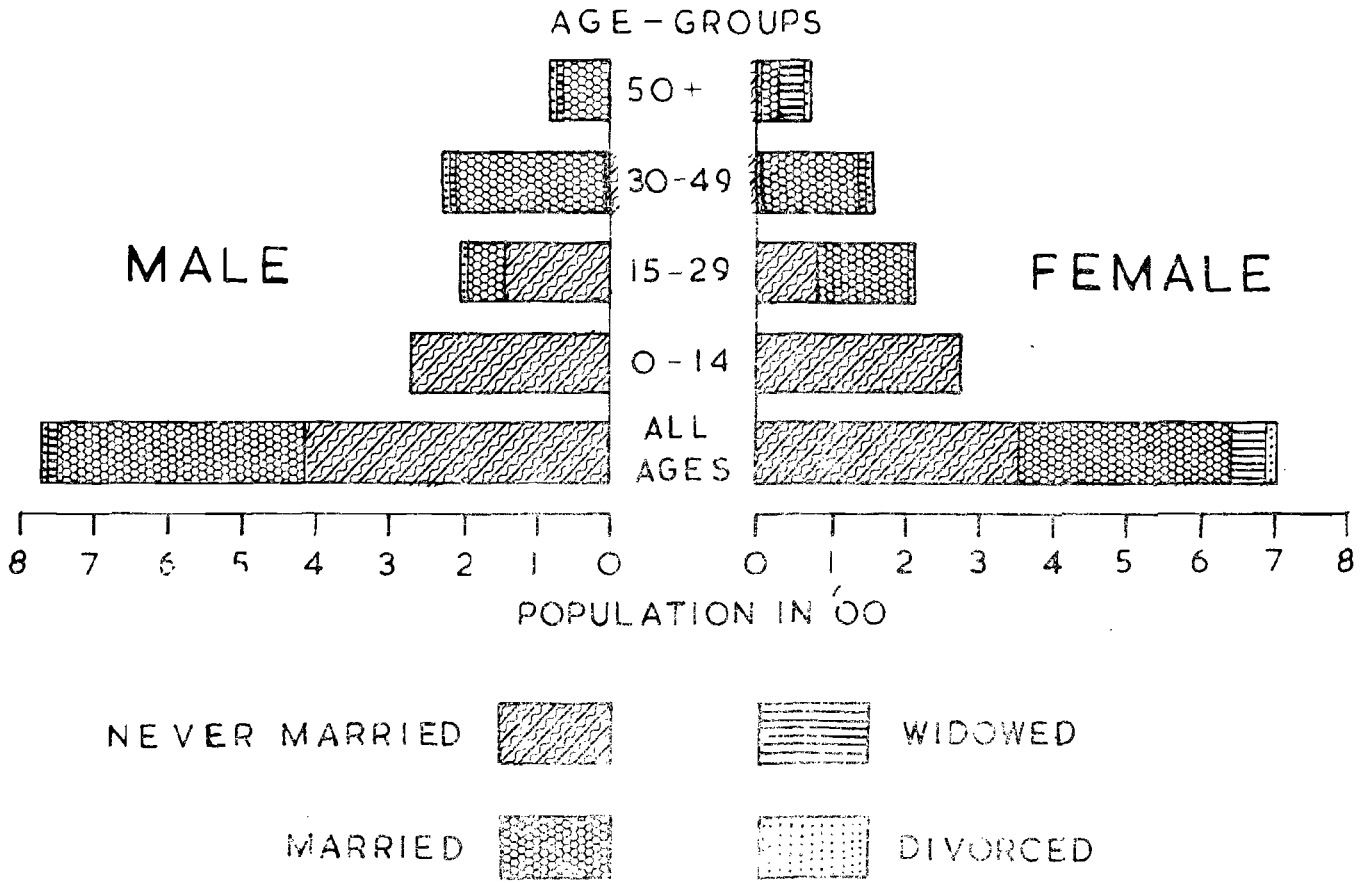


Table V—3

Distribution of Population by Age, Sex and Marital Status

(Survey data)

Marital status		Age-group							
		All ages	0-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35 and above
1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Total	P	1,475 (100.00)	351 (23.80)	187 (12.68)	156 (10.57)	137 (9.29)	119 (8.07)	109 (7.39)	416 (28.20)
	M	770 (100.00)	172 (22.34)	95 (12.34)	75 (9.74)	65 (8.44)	61 (7.92)	67 (8.70)	235 (30.52)
	F	705 (100.00)	179 (25.39)	92 (13.05)	81 (11.49)	72 (10.21)	58 (8.23)	42 (5.96)	181 (25.67)
Never married	P	768 (100.00)	351 (45.70)	187 (24.35)	135 (17.58)	69 (8.99)	20 (2.60)	2 (0.26)	4 (0.52)
	M	414 (100.00)	172 (41.55)	95 (22.95)	73 (17.63)	53 (12.80)	17 (4.11)	2 (0.48)	2 (0.48)
	F	354 (100.00)	179 (50.57)	92 (25.99)	62 (17.51)	16 (4.52)	3 (0.85)	..	2 (0.56)
Married	P	628 (100.00)	..	..	21 (3.34)	66 (10.51)	95 (15.13)	102 (16.24)	344 (54.78)
	M	338 (100.00)	..	..	2 (0.59)	12 (3.55)	43 (12.72)	63 (18.64)	218 (64.50)
	F	290 (100.00)	..	..	19 (6.55)	54 (18.62)	52 (17.93)	39 (13.45)	126 (43.45)
Widowed	P	59 (100.00)	..	..	..	..	..	1 (1.69)	58 (98.31)
	M	12 (100.00)	..	..	..	..	..	1 (8.33)	11 (91.67)
	F	47 (100.00)	..	..	..	..	..	..	47 (100.00)
Divorced	P	20 (100.00)	..	..	..	2 (10.00)	4 (20.00)	4 (20.00)	10 (50.00)
	M	6 (100.00)	..	..	..	..	1 (16.67)	1 (16.67)	4 (66.66)
	F	14 (100.00)	..	..	..	2 (14.28)	3 (21.43)	3 (21.43)	6 (42.86)

6.2. The distribution of sample population by marital status shows that 53.77 per cent of the total males are never married and 43.89 per cent are married. 1.56 per cent are widowed and 0.78 per cent are divorced. The corresponding figures in respect of the female population are 50.21 per cent, 41.13 per cent, 6.67 per cent and 1.99 per cent respectively. Separated males or females are not available as per the sample data of the town. It can also be seen from the above table that unmarried males and females are found in all age-groups except females in the age-group 30-34. No marriage has been reported below age of 15. 2 males and 19 females are married between the ages 15 to 19. But marriage of males below 19 years of age is almost uncommon. Among the married men 64.50 per cent are above the age 35, 18.64 per cent in the age-group 30-34. 12.72 per cent in the age-group 25—29 and 3.55 per cent in the age-group 20-24. Only 0.59 per cent of married men are in the age-group 15-19. Of the total married women 43.45 per cent are above the age 35, 18.62 per cent in the age-group 20-24, 17.93 per cent in the age-group 25-29 and 13.45 per cent in the age-group 30-34. Only 6.55 per cent of married women are seen in the age-group 15-19. Among the quinquennial age-groups below 35 years the largest percentage of married men are in the age-group 30-34 whereas for married women it is in the age-group 20-24.

6.3. The proportion of widowed or divorced is more in the case of females than males. Out of the total population there are 47 widows (6.67 per cent) as against 12 widowers (1.56 per cent) in the sample data. Similarly six males (0.78 per cent) and 14 females (1.99 per cent) are divorced. Further, in the islands there is no social stigma for widow remarriage or divorcee remarriage. Usually, it is seen

that the widowed or divorced are got remarried soon. Because of this peculiarity, only comparatively smaller number of divorced persons is seen in the town at a given time. The above table does not give any separated persons. The Union Territory level data of 1981 Census (data not available for Kavaratti) indicates a good number of separated persons (0.90 per cent males and 2.80 per cent females) in the territory. Data on marital status of table V-3 reflects the actual marital status at a particular point of time and it should not be taken as an indication of the attitude of the society towards divorce or separation.

6.4. Social evils like prostitution is absent in the town. It is reported that polygamy is practised in the town. Divorce is granted without much difficulty in the event of an unhappy alliance. It is also told that cases of adultery are found not infrequently and provide a common ground for divorce.

Age, Sex and Education

7.1. The Union Territory of Lakshadweep is on the seventh rank in the case of literacy among the States/Union Territories in India. The position of Lakshadweep was 16th in 1961, but in 1971 it came to 6th rank and 7th in 1981. There has been enormous expansion in the field of education after the constitution of the islands into a Union Territory in 1956. The number of institutions increased, the parents were encouraged to send their children to school and the children were given various facilities such as free mid-day meals for elementary school children, free supply of text books and writing materials, free uniforms for girl students etc. The students were given scholarships from standards VIII onwards. The steady progress of the education of the territory is reflected in broad terms of the percentage of literacy. Literacy rate increased from 23.27 per cent in 1961 to 43.66 per cent in 1971 and 55.07 per cent in 1981. The 1961-71 period marked a growth of 87.62 per cent over the 1961 rate which was the maximum in India.

7.2. Within the Union Territory the literacy rate varies from island to island. The literacy rate of Kavaratti was 15.95 per cent in 1961. This shows that the island was in the last position excluding Bitra, in the case of literacy among the islands. But in 1971 Kavaratti improved the position and came to the rank of 4th, the literacy rate being 44.37 as against 43.66 for the Union Territory as a whole. In 1981 Kavaratti town again improved its position in literacy and became in the second rank among the islands, the rate being 60.22 per cent.

Table V—4

Literacy rate of the Islands, 1981

Union Territory/ Island	Literacy		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Lakshadweep . . .	55.07	65.24	44.65
Minicoy	65.29	71.40	59.99
Kalpeni . . .	55.88	67.19	43.70
Andrott	48.78	61.58	36.68
Agatti	54.76	64.19	44.56
Kavaratti	60.22	70.74	47.43
Amini	48.48	62.90	33.04
Kadmat	56.07	64.01	47.92
Kiltan	46.86	56.01	37.69
Chetlat	49.93	54.90	45.07
Bitra	46.96	52.48	40.00

7.3. In the case of male literacy, Kavaratti became the first (60.40 per cent) among the islands in 1971. During 1981 Kavaratti is the second in male literacy. In the case of women literacy also Kavaratti improved its rate from 3.26 per cent in 1961 to 24.57 per cent in 1971. Although the highest percentage of literate females is found in the island Mincoy the improvement is maximum in Kavaratti in this respect. The rate at 1981 is 47.43 per cent with a gain of 22.86 percentage points over 1971, the rate of growth of literacy rate over 1971 being +101.28. The table given below shows the total number of illiterate and literate persons and their percentages to total population of the town by age-group based on the survey data.

Table V—5

Distribution of Population by Age, Sex and Education

(Survey data)

Age-group	Total population			Illiterate			Literate		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All ages	1,475 (100.00)	770 (100.00)	705 (100.00)	539 (36.54)	201 (26.10)	338 (47.94)	936 (63.46)	569 (73.90)	367 (52.06)
0—4	175 (100.00)	83 (100.00)	92 (100.00)	175 (100.00)	83 (100.00)	92 (100.00)	..	..	..
5—9	176 (100.00)	89 (100.00)	87 (100.00)	89 (50.57)	41 (46.07)	48 (55.17)	87 (49.43)	48 (53.93)	39 (44.83)

AGE, LITERACY AND EDUCATIONAL LEVEL

(Survey data)

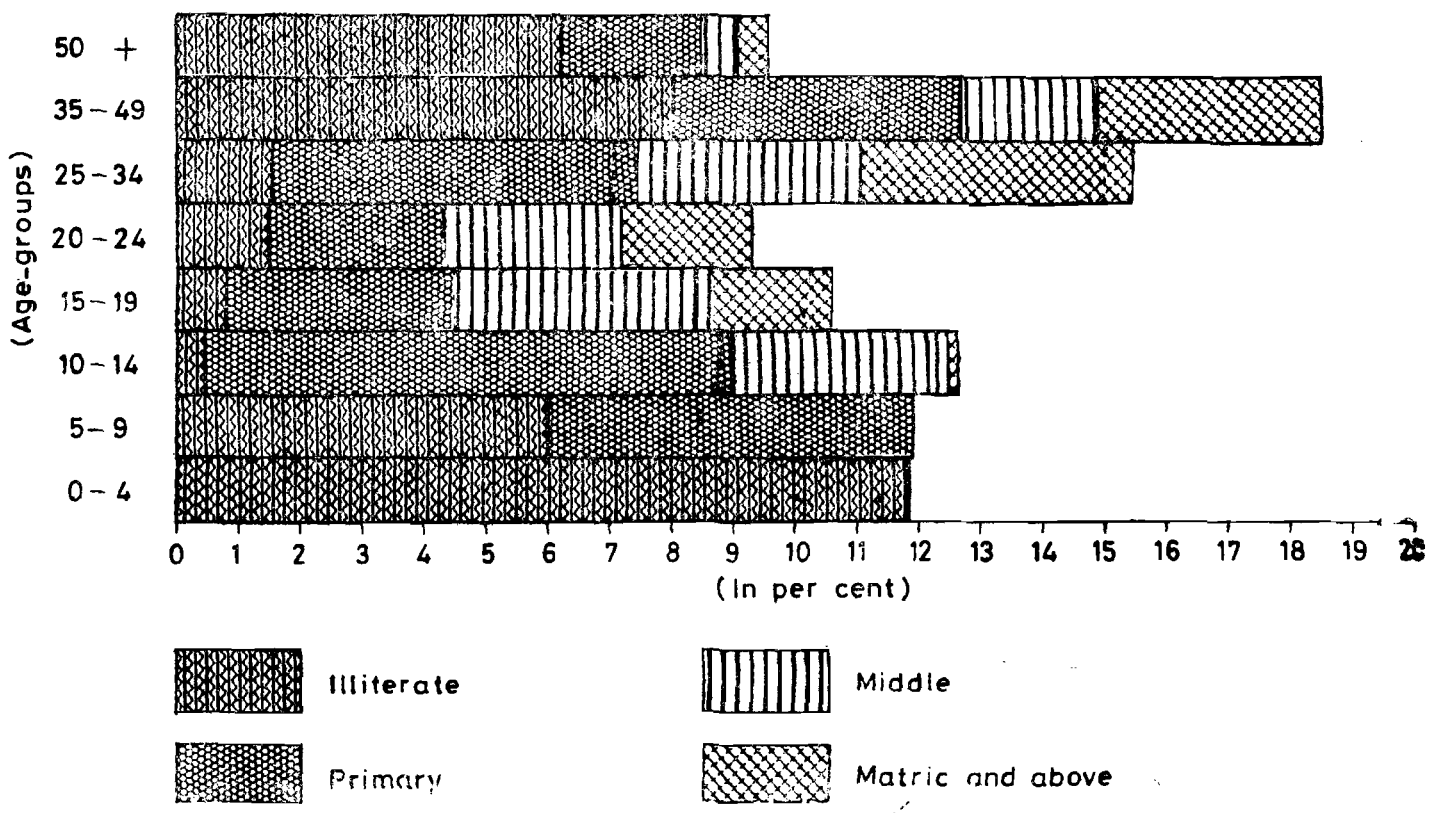


Table V—5—*Contd.*

Distribution of Population by Age, Sex and Education

(Survey data)

Age-group	Total population			Illiterate			Literate		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10—14	187 (100.00)	95 (100.00)	92 (100.00)	7 (3.74)	1 (1.05)	6 (6.52)	180 (96.26)	94 (98.95)	86 (93.48)
15—19	156 (100.00)	75 (100.00)	81 (100.00)	12 7.69)	2 (2.67)	10 (12.35)	144 (92.31)	73 (97.33)	71 (87.65)
20—24	137 (100.00)	65 (100.00)	72 (100.00)	22 (16.06)	3 (4.62)	19 (26.39)	115 (83.94)	62 (95.38)	53 (73.61)
25—34	228 (100.00)	128 (100.00)	100 (100.00)	23 (10.09)	3 (2.34)	20 (20.00)	205 (89.91)	125 (97.66)	80 (80.00)
35+	416 (100.00)	235 (100.00)	181 (100.00)	211 (50.72)	68 (28.94)	143 (79.01)	205 (49.28)	167 (71.06)	38 (20.99)

7.4. The children in the age group 0-4 are treated as illiterate. Among the children of school going age-group 5-14, 49.43 per cent of the age-group 5-9 and 96.26 per cent of the age-group 10-14 are found literate. In the age-group 5-9 the literacy is lower than that of the age-group 10-14. The proportion of literates among adults over 35 years of age is low. The reason is obvious. Educational facilities as well as the attitude of the people for getting educated were lacking at that time. The highest literacy rate in the town is in the age-group 10-14 (96.26 per cent) and literacy rate decreases as the age-group proceeds upwards except the age-group 25-34 where the rate is higher than the age-group 20-24.

7.5. The literacy rate of females is less than that of males in all the age-groups. The disparity is more among the adults and it is very high in the age-group above 35 years of age. (i.e. 20.99 per cent of females corresponding to 71.06 per cent of males). This indicates how the female education was neglected in the town during the past. Before 1960, most of the indigenous people were of the opinion that education is not required for girls. This attitude of majority of the people were since changed by wide publicity from the Government as well as by the experience gained by mingling with the mainland people having education and social status. Even during the present household survey a few families are reported to maintain the same attitude. The table also gives light on the enormous improvement in the field of female education step by step. There has been consistent efforts from the Lakshadweep Administration for the spread of education by increasing the facilities for primary schooling and opening new adult centres and also giving more stress to the improvement of women folk. The distribution of population by level of higher education in the town with their percentage is shown below :—

Table V—6

Distribution of Population by Educational Level

(Survey data)

Educational level	Persons*	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Total	1,300 (100.00)	687 (100.00)	613 (100.00)
Illiterate	364 (28.00)	118 (17.18)	246 (40.13)
Primary	501 (38.54)	298 (43.38)	203 (33.12)
Middle	250 (19.23)	149 (21.69)	101 (16.48)
Matriculation or secondary	136 (10.46)	88 (12.81)	48 (7.83)
Higher secondary/Intermediate/Pre-University	19 (1.46)	9 (1.31)	10 (1.63)
Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	3 (0.23)	2 (0.29)	1 (0.16)
Graduate degree other than technical degree	18 (1.38)	16 (2.33)	2 (0.33)

Table V-6—*Contd.*

Distribution of Population by Educational Level

(Survey data)

Educational level		Persons*	Males	Females
1		2	3	4
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post graduate degree	Post graduate degree other than technical degree	4 (0.31)	3 (0.44)	1 (0.16)
	Engineering and technology	1 (0.08)	1 (0.15)	..
	Medicine	2 (0.15)	1 (0.14)	1 (0.16)
	Agriculture and Dairying	1 (0.08)	1 (0.14)	..
	Veterinary	1 (0.08)	1 (0.14)	..

*Excludes Age group 0-4

Educational levels by age-group

8.1. Among the literates 53.53 per cent have studied upto primary, 26.71 per cent upto middle and 19.76 per cent matriculate and above. According to the survey there is no literate without educational level above the age 5 in the town. The educational levels in different age-groups by sex are given below:—

Table V-7

Educational Levels by Age and Sex

(Survey data)

Age-group	Total literate		Primary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
All ages	569 (100.00)	367 (100.00)	298 (52.37)	203 (55.31)
5—9	48 (100.00)	39 (100.00)	48 (100.00)	39 (100.00)
10—14	94 (100.00)	86 (100.00)	68 (72.34)	57 (66.28)
15—19	73 (100.00)	71 (100.00)	29 (39.73)	26 (36.62)
20—24	62 (100.00)	53 (100.00)	20 (32.26)	24 (45.28)
25—34	125 (100.00)	80 (100.00)	48 (38.40)	39 (48.75)
35+	167 (100.00)	38 (100.00)	85 (50.90)	18 (47.37)

Age-group	Middle		Matriculation & above	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1	6	7	8	9
All ages	149 (26.19)	101 (27.52)	122 (21.44)	63 (17.17)
5—9	..	..	..	..
10—14	26 (27.66)	27 (31.39)	..	2 (2.33)
15—19	29 (39.72)	31 (43.66)	15 (20.55)	14 (19.72)
20—24	29 (46.77)	13 (24.53)	13 (20.97)	16 (30.19)
25—34	29 (23.20)	24 (30.00)	48 (38.40)	17 (21.25)
35+	36 (21.56)	6 (15.79)	46 (27.54)	14 (36.84

8.2. From the table it is seen that the percentage of males who have their schooling upto primary levels is more in the age group 10-14, 15-19 and 35+ than the females but it is low in the remaining age-groups. Similarly, the percentage of females who have studied upto middle school is more than the males in all the age-groups except in 20-24 and 35+. In the category of education matriculation and above, females outweigh males in percentage of the age-group 10-14, 20-24 and 35+.

Religion, age at marriage and trend

9.1. Because of the peculiar composition of population of the town comparison of survey data on 'age at marriage' among the religions will not give the desired effect. However, the trend of marriages in the town can be seen from the table V-8—Married persons by religion and age at marriage.

Table V-8

Married Persons by Religion and Age at Marriage of ever married persons

(Survey data)

Age at marriage		All religions	Hindu	Muslim	Christian
1		2	3	4	5
All ages	M	356	38	315	3
	F	351	36	312	3
Below 14	M	..	..	..	..
	F	3	..	3	..
14—19	M	37	..	37	..
	F	294	17	276	1
20—24	M	238	6	231	1
	F	48	14	33	1
25—29	M	66	21	43	2
	F	4	3	..	1
30—34	M	11	7	4	..
	F	1	1	..	..
35—39	M	4	4	..	..
	F	1	1	..	..

Age at marriage		All religions	Percentage		
			Hindu	Muslim	Christian
1		6	7	8	9
All ages	M	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	F	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Below 14	M	..	..	..	..
	F	0.86	..	0.96	..
14—19	M	10.39	..	11.75	..
	F	83.76	47.22	88.46	33.34
20—24	M	66.86	15.79	73.33	33.33
	F	13.68	38.89	10.58	33.33
25—29	M	18.54	55.26	13.65	66.67
	F	1.14	8.33	..	33.33
30—34	M	3.09	18.42	1.27	..
	F	0.28	2.78	..	..
35—39	M	1.12	10.53	..	..
	F	0.28	2.78	..	..

9.2. Taking the total population, more than 85 per cent of the male marriages and 97 per cent of the female marriages have taken place between the ages of 20-29 and 14-24 respectively. But the proportion of age at marriages under each age-group varies with the religion of the people. In the case of males, only among Muslims the men get married below the age of 19. In this religion 73.33 per cent are married between the age of 20—24 as against 15.79 per cent among Hindus and 33.33 per cent among Christians. There are 13.65 per cent of marriages of Muslims, 55.26 per cent of Hindus and 66.67 per cent of Christians in the age-group 25-29. This indicates that marriages of Muslim males take place earlier to Hindus and Christians.

9.3. In the case of Muslim females 99 per cent of marriages have taken place in the age-group 14-24. Of these 88 per cent of marriages are in the age-group 14.19 and 11 per cent in age-group 20-24. No marriages can be seen above the age of 24 years. Among the Muslims only 3 marriages are found below the age of 14. This indicates that the child marriage, which was common a few decades ago, is very rare at present and there is some improvement in the age at marriage also. However, 89 per cent of marriages are found below the age of 19.

Education, Age at marriage and trend

9.4. The married persons by education and age at marriage are shown below:—

Table V-9

Married Persons by Education and age at marriage

(Survey data)

Age at marriage	Total married males	Males				
		Illiterate	Primary	Matric	Diploma and certi-cate	Degree and above
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
All ages	356 (100.00)	69 (100.00)	202 (100.00)	65 (100.00)	2 (100.00)	18 (100.00)
Below 14	..	..	..	..	..	..
14—19	37 (10.39)	12 (17.39)	23 (11.39)	1 (1.54)	..	1 (5.56)
20—24	238 (66.86)	55 (79.71)	149 (73.76)	29 (44.61)	1 (50.00)	4 (22.22)
25—29	66 (18.54)	2 (2.90)	27 (13.37)	25 (38.46)	1 (50.00)	11 (61.11)
30—34	11 (3.09)	..	1 (0.49)	9 (13.85)	..	1 (5.56)
35—39	4 (1.12)	..	2 (0.99)	1 (1.54)	..	1 (5.55)

Age at marriage	Total married females	Females				
		Illiterate	Primary	Matric	Diploma and certi-ficate	Degree and above
1	8	9	10	11	12	13
All ages	351 (100.00)	183 (100.00)	125 (100.00)	38 (100.00)	1 (100.00)	4 (100.00)
Below 14	3 (0.86)	2 (1.09)	1 (0.80)	..	..	..
14—19	294 (83.76)	168 (91.80)	107 (85.60)	19 (50.00)	..	..
20—24	48 (13.68)	13 (7.11)	17 (13.60)	16 (42.11)	..	2 (50.00)
25—29	4 (1.14)	..	..	1 (2.63)	1 (100.00)	2 (50.00)
30—34	1 (0.28)	..	..	1 (2.63)	..	..
35—39	1 (0.28)	..	..	1 (2.63)	..	..

The above table reveals that out of the total male literates 17.39 per cent are married at the age between 14-19 years, 79.71 per cent between 20-24 and 2.90 per cent between 25-29. In the case of persons studied upto primary an upward trend of age at marriage is seen in the table. This trend is more vigorous in the case of males having matric or higher education. We can therefore conclude that education has, therefore, some impact on the age at marriage in the town.

9.5. While we consider the case of females the table reveals that the proportion of females in the various groups of age at marriage to the total educated persons at different levels shows an upward trend in the age at marriage as the educational standard increases. This may tell that the education has impact on the age at marriage. Actually, it is not directly due to the impact of education which has olny limited effect, but it is partly because of the delay due to the time spend on these studies on account of the incentives offered by the Lakshadweep Administration.

9.6. The family planning programmes and motivation received by the mingling with the people on the mainland have also some effect on the upward trend in the age at marriage in the town.

Inter-religious or Inter-Caste marriage

10.1 During the household survey one case of inter-religious marriage was reported. This is the case of a marriage between persons belonging to Muslim and Christian religions. The bridegroom belongs to the island Minicoy within the Union Territory and the bride belongs to Kerala State. Both are employed in Government service. No inter-caste marriage was reported at the time of Survey.

Widow and Divorce Remarriage

11.1. The Survey reveals 5 cases of remarriage of widows and 9 cases of widower out of 52 and 21 respectively. Out of the total female remarriages, 2 are below 25 and 3 between the ages 25-34. 7 males got remarried at the age of 25-34 and 2 above 35 years of age. Except one remarriage of widower at the age of 25-34 all other marriages reported are relating to the Muslim Scheduled Tribes. Among the Muslims remarriage is not prohibited by law or custom. The proposal for a fresh alliance of widows is considered only after a period of mourning extending to 130 days. Remarriage is also allowed among Christians and Hindus except Brahmin widows.

11.2. Out of 38 divorced or separated males 32 are remarried. 11 remarriages are at the age below 25, 16 between the ages 25-34 and 5 are above 35 years of age. Among the remarried, all the persons belong to Muslim Scheduled Tribes except one who remarried at the age between 25-34 belongs to Hindu. In the case of females, out of 37 divorced/separated cases, all being Muslim Scheduled Tribes, 23 women were got remarried. 16 women got remarried at the age below 25, 5 between 25-34 and 2 above 35.

11.3. It is reported that there is no social stigma attached to the remarriage. It is common in the town. Usually, it is seen that those divorced or separated are remarried soon. Though Islam does not permit, a person to remarry a woman once divorced by him, this practice is not unusual in the island. The only condition stipulated in such cases is that the woman should have had matrimonial alliance with another man after his divorce. A divorced woman can seek a fresh alliance only after a period of three months after the divorce.

Correlates of age at marriage

Age at marriage of males

12.1. According to the table V-3 there are 628 married persons (338 males and 290 females). But there are 707 incidence of marriages altogether in the town (356 males and 351 females). Among various age-groups of currently married males, the age-group 20-24 claims the highest incidence of marriage. While considering persons of the present age of 25 and above 9.65 per cent out of the total currently married males report their age at marriage as 14-19, 66.67 per cent as 20-24, 19.30 per cent as 25-29 and 4.38 per cent above 29. The average age of marriage of ever-married males who married earlier than 30 years is calculated as 22 years. The age at marriage and present age of the married male are given below:—

Table V-10

Age at marriage of males as related to present age

(Survey data)

Present age	Total	14-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total	356	37	238	66	11	4
14—24	14	4	10	..	..	..
25—34	109	5	72	30	2	..
35—44	116	6	82	25	2	1
45—54	76	12	45	9	7	3
55+	41	10	29	2	..	..

Age at marriage of females

12.2. Among the various age-groups of currently married females, the 14-19 age-group claims the higher incidence of marriage. 0.85 per cent of the total currently married females report their age at marriage as below 14, 83.76 per cent as 14-19, 13.68 as 20-24, 1.14 per cent as 25-29 and 0.57 per cent above the age 30. The average age at marriage of ever married females who married earlier than 30 years is worked out as 17 years. The age at marriage and the present age of the married females are given below:—

Table V—11

Age at marriage of females as related to present age

(Survey data)

Present age	Total	Below 14	14-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total	351	3	294	48	4	1	1
14—24	75	..	61	14	..	..	..
25—34	97	1	77	18	1	..	..
35—44	80	..	68	10	2	..	..
45—54	56	1	50	2	1	1	1
55+	43	1	38	4	..	..	..

12.3. As far as Lakshadweep is concerned the general trend is that the age at marriage mostly does not depend on economic or social status of the household. Almost all the marriages are arranged by the parents in the town and their daughters have no identity of their own and most of the females have no freedom to select their husbands. Usually the parents fix the marriage of their children when they are very young. Mother's Brother's Daughter and Father's Sister's daughter are preferred. There are cases of mutual marriages in which one's sister is married to his wife's brother and vice versa.

Education by Religion and Caste/Tribe

13.1. According to the household survey of the study, out of 1,300 persons above the age of five 1,145 persons belong to Muslims, 140 are Hindus and 15 Christians. The table given below shows the educational level by religion and tribe.

Table V—12

Education by Religion and Tribe

(Survey data)

Religion/Caste/Tribe	Population (Excluding age- Group 0-4)	Literate	Primary	Middle	Matriculation and above
1	2	3	4	5	6
All Communities	1,300	936 (72.00)	501 (38.54)	250 (19.23)	185 (14.23)
1. Muslim	1,145	788 (68.82)	475 (41.49)	194 (16.94)	119 (10.39)
(i) Scheduled Tribe	1,131	775 (68.52)	472 (41.73)	188 (16.62)	115 (10.17)
(ii) Non-Scheduled Tribe	14	13 (92.86)	3 (21.43)	6 (42.86)	4 (28.57)
2. Hindus	140	133 (95.00)	22 (15.71)	49 (35.00)	62 (44.29)
3. Christians	15	15 (100.00)	4 (26.67)	7 (46.66)	4 (26.67)

13.2. Above table shows that there are 15 Christians in the town and all of them are literates. Out of 140 Hindus 133 persons (95.00 per cent) are literates. 68.82 per cent of Muslims are literates. Among the non-Scheduled Tribe Muslim Population 92.86 per cent are literates. The lowest percentage of literates (68.52 per cent) is seen among the Scheduled Tribe Muslim population. The reason is obvious. The Hindus and Christians are the Government Employees, their families and labourers migrated from the mainland.

Table V-13

Educational level above Matriculation

Religion/Caste/Tribe	Matriculation/ secondary	Higher secondary/ Intermediate/ Pre-university	Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	Graduate degree other than technical degree	Post graduate degree other than technical degree	Engineering and technology	Medicine	Agricultural and dairying	Veterinary
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All Communities . . .	136	19	3	18	4	1	2	1	1
Muslim	91	9	3	12	2	1	..	1	..
(i) Scheduled Tribe . .	88	9	3	11	2	1	..	1	..
(ii) Non-Scheduled Tribe .	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Hindus	42	10	..	5	2	..	2	..	1
Christians	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..

Note.—Data on Teaching and Non-Technical Diploma or certificate not equal to degree are 'Nil'.

13.3. The classification of persons Matriculation and above in table V-13 shows that 49 persons have studied more than Matriculation/Secondary. They all are in the age-group 15-59. Of these, 19 persons have passed Higher secondary/Interemdiate/Pre-university. 9 of them are Muslim Scheduled Tribes. They include two females also. The remaining 10 persons are Hindus, 8 being females. 3 persons (2 males and 1 female, all Mislim Scheduled Tribes) are the holders of 'Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree'. 18 persons are Graduates and 4 persons are post graduates other than technical degree. Among graduates, 12 prsons are Muslims (11 Scheduled Tribe), 5 Hindus and one Christian. In regard to post graduates, 2 persons each are Muslims (Males, Scheduled Tribe) and Hindus (one each in either sex). Again, there is one Engineer (Scheduled Tribe) with Bachelor of Engineering degree and 2 Doctors (one in either sex), all being Hindus, possessing M.B.B.S. degree. Further, there is one person each possessing Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) and Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree.

13.4. The cumulative score of all individuals, males and females is divided by total number of individuals, males and females respectively to obtain the average per head score. Population aged 5+ years is considered for calculating educational score. The educational score for illiterate is zero, literate without level is one, Primary or Junior Basic is 2, Middle is 2, and so on. The educational score per head shows that the maximum average educational score is 3 (matriculation) in the town. The persons who have an average educational score of 3 (matriculation) per head are from Hindus and Christians. The Average educational score of Muslims is 2. The score for males is 2 for Muslims, 3 for Hindus and 2 for Christians. Similarly, the score of female is 1 for Muslims, 2 for Hindus and 3 for Christians. The average educational score per household is 9 for Muslims and Christians and 8 for Hindus. The average educational score per household is very low in case of females. For Muslim, it is only 3 and for Hindus and Christians 4.

Mother tongne, subsidiary language and Educational Score

14.1. According to the household survey out of 1,300 of population excluding the age-group 0-4, 1,264 persons are having Malayalam as their mother tongue, 29 persons Mahl, one person each Oriya and Hindi, 3 persons Kannada and 2 persons Gujarathi. As many as 191 persons with sex break up of 134 males and 57 feamles speak subsidiary languages. 158 persons consisting of 115 males and 43 females having Malayalam as mother-tongue speak subsidiary languages also.

14.2. The average educational score per head of the town is 2 for persons as well as males and 1 for females. The average educational score of the persons, excluding 0-4 population, who speak subsidiary language is calculated as 3. Either sexes of this category also have the same educational score. This is also the same for the persons, males and females whose mother tongue is Malayalam and speak subsidiary languages. The educa-

educational score for persons having Mahl as mother tongue and speaking subsidiary language is 2. This is the same for either sexes also.

Education among younger age-groups

15.1. According to the sample survey out of 656 persons between the ages 5 to 24, 407 persons consisting of 216 males and 191 females are undergoing various courses of studies. In the age-group 5-9, 84.66 per cent are studying in the town, 87.64 per cent among males and 81.61 per cent among females of this age-group are attending school. 89.30 per cent of the total persons in the age-group 10-14 are studying, the percentage of males and females being 91.58 and 86.96 respectively. In the age-group 15-19, 53.21 per cent of persons are undergoing various courses of studies. The sex-wise distribution gives 60.00 per cent for males and 46.91 per cent for females. Only 8 persons out of 137 persons in the age group 20-24 have gone for higher studies. In terms of percentage it is 5.84, the per centage of males being 9.23 and females 2.78.

Non-enrolment in school

16.1. Out of 250 households canvassed for the study 153 households have children of school going age of 5 to 14. Among them 60 households or 39.22 per cent of the total households do not send their children to school. 34 households or 22.22 per cent of the households send some of their children (either male or female) to school. Of these 40 households, 15 households failed to send male children, 21 households failed to send female children wholly or partly and 4 households failed to send both male and female children to school. In terms of percentage to total of 153 households they are 9.80, 13.73 and 2.61 respectively.

16.2. Among 153 households with children of school going age, 42 have only boys, 36 have only girls and 75 have both boys and girls. Out of 42 households having male children only 5 households do not send all their children and 3 households do not send some of their children to school. Similarly out of 36 households who have only female children one household fails to send all their children and 5 households do not send some of their children to school. Out of the 75 households having both male and female children of school going age 4 households fail to send any of their male children, 8 households fail to send female children only, 3 households fail to send some of their male children, 7 households some of their female children and 4 households fail to send some of both male and female children to school.

16.3. The reasons reported for not sending the children to school and the number of households failing to send their children either wholly or partly against them are shown in the table below:—

Table V—14

Reasons for non-enrolment and the number of households not sending their children to school

(Survey data)

Sl. No.	Reasons for non-enrolment	No. of Households not enrolled their children in school
1	2	3
1.	Not attained the age of 5½ years for admission in school	13
2.	Household do not encourage female education	3
3.	To look after younger children	1
4.	To go for religious study	1
5.	Due to employment (working as Household servant)	2
6.	Migration (after shifting residence of the household the child has not been enrolled in school)	2
7.	Handicapped	2
8.	Unspecified	16

Out of the total of 40 households, 37 households belong to Muslims (Scheduled Tribe) and 3 are Hindu Households. Two girl servants brought from mainland at the age of 14 years are included separately in two households belonging to Hindus and come under the reason—employment.

16.4. According to the households canvassed for special study, altogether 36 persons comprising of 14 males and 22 females have never attended school and 14 consisting of 5 boys and 9 girls discontinued their studies. Of the discontinued persons, one person left the school after 1st Standard, 4 persons each after II standard and standard III-IV, 2 persons each after the standard V-VI and VII-VIII and one after X standard of Higher Secondary School.

CHAPTER VI

MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT OF FAMILIES

History of Migration

1.1. The exact period of colonisation of the islands cannot be determined with any degree of accuracy. The popular tradition is that the earlier settlers were the ship-wrecked members of an expedition that set out from Malabar in quest of Cheraman Perumal who was believed to have gone to Mecca after embracing Islam and that the people were subsequently converted by an Arab Saint named Ubaidulla. It is said that the people first settled in the islands of Amini, Androth, Kalpeni and Kavaratti which come to be known as *Tarawad* islands or islands first inhabited by principal families. Like any other islands in Lakshadweep, the indigenous population of Kavaratti town are all Muslims and they have been the residents of the town from the original settlement. It is told that the first settlers of the town were all Hindus and they were converted to Islam which dates back to the 7th century around the year 41 Hijra. Today 85.61 per cent of the total population in Kavaratti constitute Muslims as against 94.84 per cent for the Union Territory as a whole. All the other communities of the town viz. Hindus (12.36 per cent) and Christians (1.94 per cent) are temporary settlers migrated from the neighbouring states. They comprise Government employees, their families and imported labourers.

Extend of Migration

2.1. Though the town is not an industrial-cum-trading centre, the quantum of migration in the town as compared to the other islands of the territory is very high. This is mainly because the town is the seat of the Lakshadweep Administration. Besides the migrants from the neighbouring states, the indigenous people of the other islands have also migrated to the town on account of employment. Further, since there is one Junior College where Pre-Degree course of both Arts and Science subjects are taught, migration for educational purpose is also found in the town. In addition to these migrants, floating population of purely temporary nature can also be seen in the islands which is lacking in other islands. The people from other islands move to Kavaratti town in order to meet their relatives who have migrated from their native island on account of employment and education, to register their names in the employment exchange which is available only in Kavaratti, to attend to interview etc. It is seen that more the facilities in surface communication more the movement of population to the town. Usually, the people get down at Kavaratti where there It is seen that more the facilities in surface communidestination. Taking the conveyance to other islands after sailing to Kavaratti is also not uncommon in the islands. Some people avail the Helicopter service to proceed from other Islands to Kavaratti, or even to catch the ship to the mainland, because after the retouch the ships proceed straight to the Mainland ports. This indicates that Kavaratti Census town acts as a medium of migration.

Migrants according to Place of Birth

3.1. The persons who were born outside the town but were living in the town at the time of enumeration and who came to the town on account of occupation, education, marriage etc. are considered as migrants. According to the sample survey out of the total population of 1,475 persons, 1,124 persons of whom 580 are males and 544 are females were born in the town. 171 persons with 97 males and 74 females were born in other islands of the territory. 180 persons with sex break up of 93 males and 87 females were born in other states of India. The following table gives the percentage distribution of persons born within the town and outside the town.

Table VI—1

Number of Persons Born within and Outside the Town

(Survey data)

Birth Place	Total Population			Percentage to total		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total	1,475	770	705	100.00	100.00	100.00
Born in the town	1,124	580	544	76.21	75.32	77.16
Born in other islands of the Union Territory*	171	97	74	11.59	12.60	10.50
Born in other states of India	180	93	87	12.20	12.08	12.34

*Lakshadweep is uni-district Union Territory.

8—16 RGI/ND/88

3.2. From the above table it is seen that 76.21 per cent of the total population were born within the town. 23.79 per cent of the population are from outside the town. Of these 11.59 per cent are from other islands and 12.20 per cent from other states. According to the birth place 238 persons out of every thousand population of the town are migrants. This appears to be slightly high compared to Union Territory figure. 126 persons out of 1,000 population of the territory are migrants according to their birth place based on Census. As far as Kavaratti Census town is concerned this figure cannot be so small. Majority of migrants are from other states. As many as 122 persons among 1,000 population are migrants from other states and 116 persons per 1,000 population from other islands. No person born in foreign country is found to have migrated to the town during the survey. Out of 180 persons from outside the territory 167 persons are from Kerala State, 6 from Uttar Pradesh, 3 each from Karnataka and Maharashtra and one from Orissa.

3.3. Among the total migrants of the town 190 are males and 161 are females. In the case of persons born in the town 580 are males and 544 are females. The low sex ratio among the migrants is stated to have been mainly due to the fact that a number of male migrants employed in the Government departments are living alone, leaving their faimilies at places of their origin for many reasons. The table given below shows the break up of persons born within and outside the town and their percentage by rural and urban area.

Table VI-2

Number of persons born within and outside the town and their percentage by rural and urban

(Survey data)

Birth Place	Persons		Males		Females	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total population	1475		770		705	
A. Born in India	178 (12.07)	1,297 (87.93)	91 (11.82)	679 (88.18)	87 (12.34)	618 (87.66)
1. Within the Union Territory	121 (8.20)	1,174 (79.59)	65 (8.44)	612 (79.48)	56 (7.94)	562 (79.72)
(a) Born in the town of study	..	1,124 (76.20)	..	580 (75.32)	..	544 (77.16)
(b) Born elsewhere in other islands of the Union Territoy	121 (8.20)	50 (3.39)	65 (8.44)	32 (4.16)	56 (7.94)	18 (2.56)
Other State/Union Terrtiory in India	57 (3.87)	123 (8.34)	26 (3.38)	67 (8.70)	31 (4.40)	56 (7.94)

3.4. The birth place of majority of the migrants from the islands is found to be rural areas. But, in the case of migrants from outside the territory the birth place of more than half of them is in urban area.

Migrants classified by place of last residence and duration of residence in the town.

4.1. Classification of migrants based on last residence includes persons born outside the town and also those born in the town but stayed at other places permanently or temporarily but are present at Kavaratti at the time of enumeration. The number of migrants according to place of birth as well as based on place of last residence is the same as 351 persons. This does not mean that only the persons born outside Kavaratti have been enumerated as migrants to the last residence. But, a few persons born at Kavaratti resided elsewhere and came back at the time of enumeration. This accounts for 4.27 per cent of the total population. The indigenous people of the town are reluctant for going and staying outside Kavaratti except purely on temporary visit for treatment, tour, purchase of provisions, stationery, other articles etc. Of late, a slight change in this trend among the younger generation of the town is observed. They go for higher education but rarely accept employment on the mainland. The following table gives the distribution of migrants classified by place of last residence and duration of stay in the town.

Table VI-3

Migrants classified by place of last residence and duration of residence in the town

(Survey data)

Duration of residence in the town		Total migrants			Last residence					
					Outside the town but in the district			In other states		
		Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All durations . . .	P	351	182	169	224	142	82	127	40	87
	M	190	95	95	125	80	45	65	15	50
	F	161	87	74	99	62	37	62	25	37
<1 Year	P	50	30	20	28	23	5	22	7	15
	M	26	14	12	15	11	4	11	3	8
	F	24	16	8	13	12	1	11	4	7
1—4 year	P	163	83	80	115	70	45	48	13	35
	M	85	42	43	61	39	22	24	3	21
	F	78	41	37	54	31	23	24	10	14
5—9 years . . .	P	71	36	35	38	26	12	33	10	23
	M	38	18	20	21	13	8	17	5	12
	F	33	18	15	17	13	4	16	5	11
10—19 years . . .	P	62	28	34	38	18	20	24	10	14
	M	37	17	20	24	13	11	13	4	9
	F	25	11	14	14	5	9	11	6	5
20+ years . . .	P	5	5	..	5	5	..	..	..	..
	M	4	4	..	4	4	..	..	..	..
	F	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..

4.2. Out of the 351 persons returned as having their last residence outside the town 1.42 per cent have resided in the town for more than 20 years, 17.66 per cent in between 10 to 19 years and 20.23 per cent, between 5 to 9 years, 46.44 per cent between 1 to 4 years and 14.25 per cent only recently. The migrants from outside the territory are temporary settlers and have no intention of permanently settling down in the town. There is possibility of settling only a limited number of migrants from other islands permanently in the town. The places from where these persons have migrated to the town and percentage of migrants according to duration of stay in the town are given in the table below:—

Table VI-4

Percentage of migrants according to the duration of stay in the town by last residence

Last Residence		Duration of residence in the Kavaratti town					
		All durations	Less than 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20-- years
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
Total migrants	T	100.00	14.25	46.44	20.23	17.66	1.42
	R	100.00	16.48	45.60	19.78	15.39	2.75
	U	100.00	11.83	47.34	20.71	20.12	..
Outside the town but in the district	T	100.00	12.50	51.34	16.96	16.97	2.23
	R	100.00	16.20	49.29	18.31	12.68	3.52
	U	100.00	6.10	54.88	14.63	24.39	..
n other states	T	100.00	17.32	37.80	25.98	18.90	..
	R	100.00	17.50	32.50	25.00	25.00	..
	U	100.00	17.24	40.23	26.44	16.09	..

Migrants classified by Age, Sex and Study in Educational Institutions.

5.1. Out of 351 migrants 43 persons are in the age group 0-4. Of them 21 are boys and 22 are girls. The following table gives the distribution of migrants by age, sex and study in educational institutions.

Table VI-5

Migrants classified by age, sex and study in educational institutions, excluding the population 0—4

(Survey data)

Migration status and place from where migrated	Age-group	Total			Number studying			Number not studying		
		P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Migrants . . .	Total	308 (100.00)	169 (100.00)	139 (100.00)	106 (34.42)	52 (30.77)	54 (38.85)	202 (65.58)	117 (69.23)	85 (61.15)
	5—9	39 (12.66)	22 (13.02)	17 (12.23)	35 (89.74)	20 (90.91)	15 (88.24)	4 (10.26)	2 (9.09)	2 (11.76)
	10—14	49 (15.91)	23 (13.61)	26 (18.71)	46 (93.88)	23 (100.00)	23 (88.46)	3 (6.12)	..	3 (11.54)
	15—19	26 (8.44)	10 (5.92)	16 (11.51)	25 (96.15)	9 (90.00)	16 (100.00)	1 (3.85)	1 (10.00)	..
	20—24	21 (6.82)	10 (5.91)	11 (7.91)	..	..	..	21 (100.00)	10 (100.00)	11 (100.00)
	25+	173 (56.17)	104 (61.54)	69 (49.64)	..	..	..	173 (100.00)	104 (100.00)	69 (100.00)
Last residence outside the town but in the district.	Total	141 (45.78)	83 (49.11)	58 (41.73)	45 (31.91)	23 (27.71)	22 (37.93)	96 (68.09)	60 (72.29)	36 (62.07)
	5—9	18 (5.85)	11 (6.51)	7 (5.04)	15 (83.33)	9 (81.82)	6 (85.71)	3 (16.67)	2 (18.18)	1 (14.29)
	10—14	21 (6.82)	10 (5.92)	11 (7.91)	20 (95.24)	10 (100.00)	10 (90.91)	1 (4.76)	..	1 (9.09)
	15—19	11 (3.57)	5 (2.96)	6 (4.32)	10 (90.91)	4 (80.00)	6 (100.00)	1 (9.09)	1 (20.00)	..
	20—24	9 (2.92)	3 (1.77)	6 (4.32)	..	..	..	9 (100.00)	3 (100.00)	6 (100.00)
	25+	82 (26.62)	54 (31.95)	28 (20.14)	..	..	..	82 (100.00)	54 (100.00)	28 (100.00)
Last residence in other states	Total	167 (54.22)	86 (50.89)	81 (58.27)	61 (36.53)	29 (33.72)	32 (39.51)	106 (63.47)	57 (66.28)	49 (60.49)
	5—9	21 (6.82)	11 (6.51)	10 (7.19)	20 (95.24)	11 (100.00)	9 (90.00)	1 (4.76)	..	1 (10.00)
	10—14	28 (9.09)	13 (7.69)	15 (10.79)	26 (92.86)	13 (100.00)	13 (86.67)	2 (7.14)	..	2 (13.33)
	15—19	15 (4.87)	5 (2.96)	10 (7.19)	15 (100.00)	5 (100.00)	10 (100.00)	..	..	..
	20—24	12 (3.90)	7 (4.14)	5 (3.60)	..	..	..	12 (100.00)	7 (100.00)	5 (100.00)
	25+	91 (29.54)	50 (29.59)	41 (29.50)	..	..	..	91 (100.00)	50 (100.00)	41 (100.00)

5.2. Among the migrants excluding the population of age-group 0-4, 56.17 per cent of the population are in the age-group above 25 years, the males being 61.54 per cent and females 49.64 per cent. 12.66 per cent of the migrants are in the age-group 5-9, 15.91 per cent in the age-group 10-14, 8.44 per cent in the age-group 15-19 and 6.82 per cent in the age-group 20-24. Of them, 34.42 per cent of the migrants are studying in educational institutions and 65.58 per cent are not studying. It is seen that the percentage of persons studying is more among females (38.85 per cent) than males (30.77 per cent). The maximum percentage of migrants studying is in the age-group 15-19. 31.91 per cent of the migrants whose last residence was outside the town but in the district are studying in the educational institutions. Similarly, 36.53 per cent of the persons migrated from other states are attending educational institutions.

Workers classified by migration status and Duration of Residence

6.1. Of the 376 workers, 133 are migrants with reference to the last residence. Of them 94 workers are from the islands in the territory, other than Kavaratti and 39 workers hail from other States/Union Territories with reference to their last residence. The percentage distribution of migrant workers by sex and age-group to total workers in the town are given below:—

Table VI-6

Distribution of workers by migration status, sex and broad age-groups

(Survey data)

Migration status with reference to place of last residence		0—14			15—59			60+			All ages		
		P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Total workers . .		2 (0.53)	..	2 (0.53)	369 (98.14)	345 (91.76)	24 (6.38)	5 (1.33)	5 (1.33)	..	376 (100.00)	350 (93.09)	26 (6.91)
Migrant workers .	Total	2 (0.53)	..	2 (0.53)	130 (34.57)	112 (29.79)	18 (4.78)	1 (0.27)	1 (0.27)	..	133 (35.37)	113 (30.05)	20 (5.32)
	Rural	2 (0.53)	..	2 (0.53)	66 (17.55)	57 (15.16)	9 (2.39)	1 (0.27)	1 (0.27)	..	69 (18.35)	58 (15.42)	11 (2.93)
	Urban	..	..	..	64 (17.02)	55 (14.63)	9 (2.39)	..	..	..	64 (17.02)	55 (14.63)	9 (2.39)
Workers whose last residence is outside the	Total	..	..	..	93 (24.73)	79 (21.01)	14 (3.72)	1 (0.27)	1 (0.27)	..	94 (25.00)	80 (21.28)	14 (3.72)
town but in the Territory.	Rural	..	..	..	60 (15.95)	52 (13.83)	8 (2.13)	1 (0.27)	1 (0.27)	..	61 (16.22)	53 (14.10)	8 (2.13)
	Urban	..	..	..	33 (8.78)	27 (7.18)	6 (1.59)	..	..	..	33 (8.78)	27 (7.18)	6 (1.59)
Workers whose last residence is in other	Total	2 (0.53)	..	2 (0.53)	37 (9.84)	33 (8.78)	4 (1.06)	..	..	..	39 (10.37)	33 (8.78)	6 (1.60)
states.	Rural	2 (0.53)	..	2 (0.53)	6 (1.60)	5 (1.33)	1 (0.26)	..	..	..	8 (2.13)	5 (1.33)	3 (0.80)
	Urban	..	..	..	31 (8.24)	28 (7.45)	3 (0.80)	..	..	..	31 (8.24)	28 (7.45)	3 (0.80)

6.2. From the table it is seen that of the total workers 93.09 per cent are males and 6.91 per cent are females. 64.63 per cent of workers are the natives of Kavaratti island. 25.00 per cent from other islands in the territory and 10.37 per cent from other States and Union Territories in India. Another feature which can be seen in the above table is that only 6 out of 26 female workers are non-migrants. Of the remaining female workers 14 are from other islands and 6 from outside the Union Territory, ie from other States.

Employment status of workers

7.1. Among the migrant workers there is no employers. 127 persons (95.49 per cent) are employees and 6 persons (4.51 per cent) are single workers. Among them, family workers, cultivators and agricultural labourers are also reported to be absent during the survey. The table given below shows the employment status of workers by migration with reference to place of last residence and sex.

Table VI-7

Employment status of workers by migration

(Survey data)

Place of last residence	Employment status by sex								
	Total workers			Employees			Single workers		
	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total	133 (100.00)	113 (100.00)	20 (100.00)	127 (95.49)	107 (94.69)	20 (100.00)	6 (4.51)	6 (5.31)	..
Last residence in other islands .	94 (70.68)	80 (70.80)	14 (70.00)	91 (96.81)	77 (96.25)	14 (100.00)	3 (3.19)	3 (3.75)	..
Last residence in other states .	39 (29.32)	33 (29.20)	6 (30.00)	36 (92.31)	30 (90.91)	6 (100.00)	3 (7.69)	3 (9.09)	..

7.2. Out of the migrant workers from the islands, 96.81 per cent are employees and 3.19 per cent are single workers. Similarly, 92.31 per cent of the workers migrated from other states are employees and 7.69 per cent are single workers. More than 80 per cent of the employees migrated from other states are from the neighbouring state Kerala, 8.33 per cent of the migrant employees are from Delhi, 5.56 per cent from Tamil Nadu and 2.78 per cent from Maharashtra and Assam respectively. Among the single workers one half is from the rural islands and the other half from the Kerala State.

Migrants classified by place of last residence as related to place of birth.

8.1. Out of 1,475 persons covered by the survey 239 persons have their last residence different from the place of birth and they include 63 persons who were born at the place of enumeration but resided elsewhere and again came back at the time of survey. Among 171 migrants from the Union Territory, 120 persons migrated to the town direct from their place of birth and 51 persons have migrated from places other than from their birth place. Among 180 persons who migrated from other states, 125 persons moved to other places before coming to Kavaratti and 55 persons have migrated direct from their birth place. The table given below shows the place of last residence as related to place of birth.

Table VI-8

Place of last residence as related to place of birth

(Survey data)

Place of birth	Same place of birth			Different from place of birth			Total		
	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total	1,236	633	603	239	137	102	1,475	770	705
In the same place	1,061	541	520	63	39	24	1,124	580	544
In the same Union Territory	120	65	55	51	32	19	171	97	74
In other states	55	27	28	125	66	59	180	93	87

Number of members by migration status and place of birth/last residence of head of household.

9.1. Usually, when a person gets employment or transfer to other place he would like to shift the entire household to the working place. But, in the town this is not exactly so due to many reasons. Out of 106 households whose heads of households born outside the town, 52 are from other islands and 54 from other states. The table given below shows the households by number of members migrated from other islands as well as from other states.

Table VI-9

Distribution of households by number of members, migration status and place of birth of head of household

(Survey data)

Migration status and place of birth of head of household	Number of households having members									
	Total	Single	2	3	4	5	6-7	8-9	10-12	13+
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Total	250 (100.00)	34 (13.60)	20 (8.00)	23 (9.20)	34 (13.60)	29 (11.60)	43 (17.20)	18 (7.20)	27 (10.80)	22 (8.80)
Non-migrant (Born in the town)	144 (100.00)	6 (4.17)	11 (7.64)	6 (4.17)	13 (9.03)	12 (8.33)	32 (22.22)	16 (11.11)	26 (18.05)	22 (15.28)
Migrant	106 (100.00)	28 (26.41)	9 (8.49)	17 (16.04)	21 (19.81)	17 (16.04)	11 (10.38)	2 (1.89)	1 (0.94)	..
Born in other islands	52 (100.00)	14 (26.93)	4 (7.69)	9 (17.31)	10 (19.23)	7 (13.46)	6 (11.54)	1 (1.92)	1 (1.92)	..
Born in other states	54 (100.00)	14 (25.93)	5 (9.26)	8 (14.81)	11 (20.37)	10 (18.52)	5 (9.26)	1 (1.85)	..	..

9.2. A perusal of the table reveals that single member households are more in the case of migrants. As against 4.17 per cent of single member households for the non-migrant, there are 26.41 per cent of single member households among the migrants, which is the highest among any type of households. This is equally applicable to the migrants born in other islands as well as in other states, except that, though the number of single member households are the same (14 households) for both of the migrants from the islands and states, the percentage of the latter is one less than the former. Thereafter, the number of households increases when the number of members are more upto 4 members and then the number of households decreases. The average number of members per household of the town comes to 5.69 as per the 1981 Census. The table given below shows the households by number of members, migration status and place of last residence of head of household.

Table VI-10

Distribution of households by number of members, Migration status and place of last residence of head of household

(Survey data)

Migration status and last residence of head of household	Number of households having members									
	Total	Single	2	3	4	5	6-7	8-9	10-12	13+
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1. Total	250 (100.00)	34 (13.60)	20 (8.00)	23 (9.20)	34 (13.60)	29 (11.60)	43 (17.20)	18 (7.20)	27 (10.80)	22 (8.80)
2. Non-migrant (Born in the town)	144 (100.00)	6 (4.17)	11 (7.64)	6 (4.17)	13 (9.03)	12 (8.33)	32 (22.22)	16 (11.11)	26 (18.05)	22 (15.28)
3. Migrant	106 (100.00)	28 (26.41)	9 (8.49)	17 (16.04)	21 (19.81)	17 (16.04)	11 (10.38)	2 (1.89)	1 (0.94)	..
4. Last residence in other islands	76 (100.00)	20 (26.32)	6 (7.89)	14 (18.42)	13 (17.10)	14 (18.42)	7 (9.21)	1 (1.32)	1 (1.32)	..
5. Last residence in other states	30 (100.00)	8 (26.67)	3 (10.00)	3 (10.00)	8 (26.67)	3 (10.00)	4 (13.33)	1 (3.33)	..	..

9.3. Here, out of the migrated 106 households, the last residence of 71.70 per cent of heads of households are in other islands of the Union Territory and 28.30 per cent are in other states. This indicates that some of the households whose heads of households were born in other states in India have stayed in other islands of the Union Territory before coming to the town. Here also single member households are found more in the case of migrant households.

Households by longest stay of any member

10.1. There are 131 non-migrant households whose heads of households were born within the town as well as their last residence was in the town. Out of the remaining households, 65 have moved from rural area and 54 from urban area. The longest stay of any member of the migrant households in the referent town is considered as the duration of residence of the household in the town. Among the households whose head has moved from rural area, 3 households have a duration of residence for more than 20 years in the town, 12 households between 10-19 years, 11 households between 5-9 years, 31 households between 1-4 years and 8 households less than one year. Among the households whose head has migrated from rural area and having any member of the household the longest in the town, majority of single member and two-member households, half of the three-member and five-member households were settled in the town within the last five years. The duration of residence of nine households whose heads have come from urban area as their last residence and at least one member having the longest stay in the town is between 10-19 years, 11 households between 5-9 years, 25 households between 1-4 years and 9 households less than one year. More than half of the single member households, three-member households and four-member households were settled during the last five years. Half of the two-member households were in the town between 5-9 years. The classification of these households with reference to longest stay of any member in the present residence is as follows:—

Table VI-11

Migration status of households and duration of stay of any member of the household who stayed the longest in the present residence

(Survey data)

Last residence	Total house-holds	Duration of residence				
		Less than one year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20 years and above
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total	119	17	56	22	21	3
Last residence in rural area	65	8	31	11	12	3
Last residence in urban area	54	9	25	11	9	

Distribution of households by place of birth of head of household and state to which he belongs

11.1. Out of 250 sample households, birth place of 144 heads of households is in the town. Heads of 52 households were born in other islands of the Union Territory and 54 in other states. No household was found migrated from other countries during the survey. The heads of households who migrated from outside the territory were born 50 in Kerala, one each in Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh. The birth places of majority of heads of households in other islands are in rural areas whereas in the case of other states only about 50 per cent of the birth places are in rural areas. The birth place falls to the same state to which the head of household belongs.

Migration stages of households hailing from outsed

12.1. Out of 250 sample households covered by the survey, 106 (42.40 per cent) have migrated from outside the town. Out of the migrated households 12 (11.32 per cent) have hailed from other census towns in the Union Territory, 4 households being from Minicoy and 8 from Amini. 40 households (37.74 per cent) are from the rural islands of the territory. They are from Kalpeni (14), Androtl (11), Agatti (4), Kadmat (4), Kiltan (5) and Chetlat (2). As much as 54 households (50.94 per cent) have hailed from other states in India. Of them just one half of the households is from rural areas. Among the 54 households hailed from other states 50 (92.59 per cent) are from the Kerala state and one each (1.85 per cent) from Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh. The table given below shows the migration stages of households hailing from outside.

Table VI-12

Migration stages of households hailing from outside

(Survey data)

Place from where household hails		Total No. of house-holds	No. of households migrating			
			1966 or earlier	1966-70	1971-75	1976 or later
1		2	3	4	5	6
Total	T	106	13	29	15	49
	R	67	11	14	10	32
	U	39	2	15	5	17
Other islands of the Union Territory	R	40	3	7	7	23
	U	12	1	1	1	9
Other states	R	27	8	7	3	9
	U	27	1	14	4	8

12.2. Out of the total 106 households 13 migrated in 1966 or earlier, 29 during 1966-70, 15 between 1971-75 and 49 in 1976 or later. Among the households migrated between 1966-70, 9 migrated directly from the place of origin, 3 households in two stages, 2 households in three stages and 15 households in four or more stages. Similarly, during 1971-75, 7 households moved directly from the place of origin, 1 in two stages, 4 in three stages and 3 in four or more stages. During 1976 or later 36 households hailed directly from the place of origin, 5 in two stages, 6 in three stages and 2 in four or more stages.

Characteristics of the place of origin of migrants and *reasons for migration.*

13.1. Among the migrant households, the place of origin of 63 are villages, 17 are small towns, 2 are medium size towns and 24 are cities. Out of these, 52 households originally belonged to the islands of the Union Territory. The islands are scattered in the Arabian sea. Generally, they are at a distance 51-200 kms., except Minicoy. The islands Agatti (57 kms), Amini (65 kms) and Kadmat (76 kms) are at a distance between 51-100 kms., whereas the islands Bitra and Kalpeni (124 kms. each), Androtl (119 kms), Kiltan (115 kms) and Chetlat (126 kms) are at a distance ranging from 101-200 kms. Minicoy island lies at a distance of 252 kms. i.e. in the range of 201-500 kms.

13.2. In order to calculate the distance from the town to any place on the mainland, the distance to the nearest port on the mainland (Cochin/Calicut/Mangalore) is first taken and then the distance to the actual place of destination from the port of call is added. The mainland ports of Cochin is at a distance of 404 kms., Calicut at a distance of 346 kms. and Mangalore 352 kms. from the town. Usually, the nearest port from the actual place on the mainland is taken for calculating distance from the town. Almost all places in the neighbouring state Kerala are within the range of 201 to 500 kms. and places in other states are, of course, at a distance of 501 + kms.

13.3 Out of the total 106 migrant households 103 households have moved to the town in connection with the employment which constitutes 97.17 per cent of the migrant households. 3 households (2.83 per cent) have migrated for educational purpose. Out of the 103 households moved to the town for the purpose of employment, 13 households started staying prior to 1966, 27 households between 1966-1970, 14 households between 1971-1975 and 49 households during 1976 and later. Among the 3 households migrated for the educational purpose, 2 were during 1966-70 and one between 1971-1975.

Characteristics of the places of successive migration

14.1. The households which came to the town by successive migration in two stages constitute only 10 numbers (9.43 percentage of the total migrant households). Of these, one household each migrated to the town prior to 1966 and during the period 1971-1975. 3 households moved to the town between 1966-70 and 5 households after 1976. The reason for the first stage of migration in respect of all the households is in connection with employment. The frequent transfer and posting of employees in these islands is the reason for the successive migration.

14.2. The households which migrated to the town by successive migration in three stages accounts for 16 households (15.09 per cent to the total migrant households). Of these, 14 households migrated for the purpose of employment and 2 for education in the initial stage. The second stage of migration is due to providing employment in respect of one case, transfer and posting in 14 cases and shift of the family to the native place in another case. The reasons for the third stage of migration are reported as employment for one household and transfer and posting for 15 households. 26 households have migrated to the town in four and more stages. Of these, 6 households have moved to the town prior to 1966, 15 households during 1966-70, 3 households between 1971-75 and 2 households in 1976 or later.

Property at the place from where migrated

15.1. A good proportion of migrants from all places still retain ownership of their property in their native places and this accounts for 82.08 per cent of the total migrants. From the data collected during the survey it is seen that the recent migrants have more property than the old migrants. 90.20 per cent of those who came to the town during the last 4 years could claim properties at their previous residence. 75.76 per cent of the immigrants are the owners of their property who came to the town 10 years ago. 72.73 per cent of the migrants who reached in the town during the period 5-9 years earlier are having the property in their previous houses. This indicates that the people with longer absence from their former houses did not retain as much landed property in their native places as the recent migrant households hold. Usually, the migrants hand over the management of the property to the parents or other close relatives. 65 households (43 rural and 22 urban) are having property elsewhere in the district and 22 households (4 rural and 18 urban) in other states. Among those migrated from the states and having property 18 households belong to the State Kerala, one household each (all urban) hail from Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu and 2 households (urban) from Delhi.

15.2. Total number of 65 households migrated from other islands of the Union Territory who own landed property include households originally belonged to other states also. Because among 106 migrant households only 52 households originally belonged to the islands other than the referent town. Therefore, the number of households belonging to the other islands retaining the ownership of the property should be still lower than 52. Anyhow, all the 65 households retain the ownership of property in their native place i.e. either in the islands or mainland. Their duration of residence in the town is with reference to their settlement in the town and not the migration from their native place. So the other islands acted as a medium of migration to some of the households belonging to the mainland.

15.3. The properties of 97.70 per cent of the total households having land in their original places are looked after by their relatives. In the case of one household the properties were managed by his neighbour and in another case household has given the property for lease. Among the relatives who look after the properties of the household in the original place of migration, 31.76 per cent are parents, 21.18 per cent brothers, 5.88 per cent uncles, 7.06 per cent wives and 84.12 per cent other relatives. The original house of migrant household who leased out the property during his absence is at Andrott island. Similarly, the property of one migrant household from other state is looked after by the neighbour of the original house. No households have returned that they have sold out the property at the time of or after migration to the town.

15.4. Out of total 87 households who migrated from outside the town and whose property is available at the place of migration, 20 households (22.99 per cent) are enjoying benefit of property at the place of migration. It shows that households migrated during the last 4 years (14.94 per cent) and 5-19 years (6.90 per cent) are enjoying more benefits from the property.

Close-relations at the place from where migrated

16.1. Among the migrant households included in the sample, 90.57 per cent have their close relations like father, mother, son, un-married daughter, brother and sister, wife and husband who stay in the places where from the households migrated to the town as shown below:—

Table VI—13

Households having their close relations in places where from they have migrated to the town

(Survey data)

Details of relative	No. of household
Total	96
Father	24
Mother	33
Son	2
Unmarried daughter	1
Unmarried brother	13
Unmarried sister	11
Husband	1
Wife	11

Unit of Migration

17.1. For determining the unit of migration we have adopted the criteria as (i) Male working members only, (ii) All at a time, (iii) Male working members first, others follow and (iv) Female working members first, others follow. Out of the total migrated households, the unit of migration of 32 are the 'male working members only'. In respect of 40 households 'all the members moved at a time. In the case of 32 households the 'male working members' moved first and others followed. Only in 2 households the 'female working members shifted first and others followed'. In 46.00 per cent of the households from the urban area the 'entire family' was the unit of migration. The corresponding percentage of rural area is 30.36 per cent. In 35.71 per cent of households from rural area the 'male working members moved first and others followed'. But the corresponding percentage in urban area is only 24.00 per cent. Out of 50 households who migrated from rural islands of the Union Territory, the unit of migration of 30.00 per cent of households is the 'male working members alone'. In 34.00 per cent of households the entire family was the unit of migration and in 36.00 per cent 'male working members moved first and others followed'. The corresponding figures of urban area is 26.92 per cent, 53.85 per cent and 15.38 per cent respectively. In addition, there is one household where the 'female working members moved first and others followed'. In the case of migrants from the neighbouring states, in an equal number of 9 households each the first two units were the mode of migration. In 10 households the third unit was the mode of operation and in one household the fourth unit.

17.2. The above facts indicate that in the case of majority of households from urban area the unit of migration was the entire family. But regarding rural area the entire family does not move. Either male worker alone or male worker first and others later moved to the town. From this it can also be construed that more households from urban area liked to migrate to the town with the entire family members, whereas in majority of households from rural area either the male working members alone shifted to the town or the male working members moved first and others followed later.

Help received from various sources during migration

18.1. Out of the migrant households, only 4 have received help on their migration to the town. Of these, two households belong to Hindus and one household each is from Muslim (Non-Scheduled Tribe) and Christian. These households received help by way of free accommodation. Among the four households, 2 households migrated from Kerala and one household from other island of the Union Territory. They received help of the earlier settlers from their home town. One household migrated from other rural island received help from the co-workers. No households received help from relatives, religious institutions, employing agency etc.

Problems faced during or after migration

19.1. Out of the total migrated households 59 (55.66 per cent of total migrant households) reported that they had faced problem during or after migration. Of these 57 households (96.61 per cent of the total migrants) were facing problem of accommodation, one household because of the non-co-operation from earlier settlers of their home town due to inter-religious marriage and another household for job and shelter. Among the 57 households facing problem due to accommodation 28 (49.12 per cent are from the rural islands and 9 (15.79 per cent) from the urban islands of the Union Territory, 8 (14.04 per cent) from the rural area and 10 (17.54 per cent) from the urban area of Kerala state and one household each from the urban area of Orissa and Uttar Pradesh. The household faced problem because of the non-co-operation due to inter-religious marriage, migrated from Minicoy and another household which had problem due to job and shelter migrated from rural part of Kerala.

CHAPTER VII

NEIGHBOURHOOD PATTERN

Introduction

1.1. The town under study, though considered as a census town according to 1981 Census, is not recognised as a town by the Lakshadweep Administration. The Socio-economic conditions, amenities and services available in the town are equitable to other islands as well. Kavaratti is still having rural characteristics. The island has a very compact area of 3.63 sq. kms. It has an insular society living in isolation. The inhabitants of the town are all Muslims and except few, all are Scheduled Tribes. Only the temporary migrants from the mainland who are residing in the town for employment purpose and their family are the only non-Muslim population which form only a minority. The inhabitants of the town have been closely knit by bonds of communal discipline. Usually, a number of people take part in launching the fishing crafts. At the time of construction of houses and buildings, participation of a number of people by mutual service is worth mentioning here. The persons who assist the construction are only served with special meals and not paid at all. *Eli Nazattu* (rat hunting) is another interesting community endeavour. The system of communal contributions in cash or kind towards the expenses of marriages is still in Vogue in the town. When a death occurs in a house, the entire community not only shares the expenses but also provides the bereaved family with food till the entire ceremonies are over. Large congregations are found for the Muslim festivals. Community feast is also prevalent in the town. For example, a big feast is arranged in Mohiddin Mosque with contributions made by the people in the form of offerings of goats, cows, rice, etc. Another peculiar feature found in the town is that even three to four persons having some acquaintance sit together and take their meals from one plate. This is a primitive rural character but the style of the town.

1.2. Because of the peculiar nature of the living conditions of the indigenous population coupled with the size of the town and its small size of population, none of the neighbourhoods in the town appear to have a potentiality of developing into viable autonomous neighbourhood units. The Caste system such as Koyas, Malmis and Melacheries which was prevalent in the past is not in existence at present. Moreover, the people of the town are now opposed to this system. Houses of these three castes are scattered in the islands. It is also difficult to identify the pockets having economic depressions. The boundaries of these areas are not well defined. It is also difficult to net together cent per cent homogenous character. However, we have distinguished three neighbourhoods numbering 1 to 3 among the indigenous population of the town. At the southern side of the town most of the Government employees migrated from other islands and neighbouring states as well are staying. This part of the island can be identified as a separate neighbourhood (number 4).

1.3. In spite of the peculiarities as stated above four neighbourhoods have been selected from the town. Three from the indigenous population originally settled in the town and the other from *Pandaram*. For the first three neighbourhoods there is no specific name or special area cannot be earmarked. There is no specially named areas in the town. The town has been divided into five electoral blocks. For the purpose of the special study the town has been divided into four regions or localities mainly based on the blocks. Blocks I and II are combined to form Region I. Block III comprises Region II, Block IV includes in Region III and Block V is Region IV. The principle of homogeneity or unity among the people of particular neighbourhood has not been given due importance while carving out the unit. The entire people of the town shows unity in many respects. However, in each region some superfluous but not clear cut characteristics in respect of Socio-economic aspects, which were once prominent, can be observed if we go deep into the life of the town. For the purpose of neighbourhood pattern one unit has been taken from each region. In each of these units 10 neighbourhood schedules were canvassed in sample houses in addition to the other schedules of the study.

Neighbourhood—I

2.1. The location of this unit is on the north-east part of the town. It is bounded by sea on the north and east and by lagoon on the west. The main road leading from Kutchery upto Keelavaye road bifurcates this unit from other part of the town. Actually this region is mainly occupied by the former 'Melacheries' the original labour class of the island. Their traditional occupation was climbing coconut trees to pluck nuts and tap *neerah*, the sweet toddy and their women folk engaged in coir twisting. But, now it appears that their participation in traditional occupation has declined considerably or almost absent. However, their economic conditions have improved a lot due to the employment in other sectors of economy. Generally, the people of this locality can be grouped under middle income class. About 10 per cent of the households belong to Koya family, and 5 per cent Government quarters lying scattered in this area.

2.2. All the households where neighbourhood schedules were canvassed are Muslims as well as Scheduled Tribes. Out of 10 persons interviewed in this unit two persons are in the age-group 20-34 and all the other persons are in the age-group 35-59. Of these 3 persons are matric and above and all the remaining persons are literate upto matric. All the persons except one have 10+ years duration of stay in the

locality. One person has 1-3 years duration of stay. Out of 10 persons 2 are non-workers. Of the 8 workers 2 persons each are saw-mill/manju owners and maistry (Public Works Department) and one person each police constable, teacher, coconut tree climber and clerk in Secretariat.

2.3. Death anniversary of Saint Shaik Mohiddin is celebrated throughout the town. *Andunercha* is also conducted during this festive occasion. Only two households have participated in this celebrations within the units during the last year and they have paid their financial contributions also. One household has no faith in this celebration. Another festival celebrated in the town is Milad-Sherif. 7 households participated in this festival inside the unit and they have made financial contribution also. No cultural or social activities have taken place in this unit. Two Muslim households have actively participated in the *Andunercha* of Saint Moula conducted outside the neighbourhood. They have also contributed money for the function. 5 households purchase commodities from inside the unit and 4 from outside the unit. One household procures commodities from inside as well as outside the unit of neighbourhood.

2.4. In this neighbourhood educational or medical institutions are not available. All the households require this facilities and avail it outside the unit within the town. Recreational facilities are available in this neighbourhood. There is one club named 'sports complex' within this neighbourhood. This club provides facilities for indoor and outdoor games. There is one mini-library and reading room in this club. Television is also shown here. 7 out of 10 households avail the facilities in this club. Other households do not require recreational facilities.

Neighbourhood—2

3.1. This neighbourhood unit is within the Electoral Block III almost in the Central portion of the habitation of the island. It is bounded by the Electoral Blocks I, II, IV, and V. This region is generally occupied by former *Malmis* and *Koyas*. Malmis were the sailors and koyas were the chief land owning class of the society. This distinction does not exist at present. These people are from high income group. About 25 per cent of the households belong to Melacheri families. They are not economically sound comparing to the above group. Above all, about 15 per cent of the households belong to those indigenous population originally hailed from other islands. Most of them are Government employees in the lower class as well as labourers in the various Government departments.

3.2. Out of the 10 interviewers in this neighbourhood unit 5 persons each are in the age-group 20-34 and 35-59 and all of them are Muslims as well as Scheduled Tribes. Of these 7 persons are literate upto matric and 3 persons are matric and above. 8 of them have a duration of stay for more than 10 years in this locality and one each less than one year and 1-3 years. Out of these 10 persons, 2 are peons in Secretariat and one each is working as watchman in Social Welfare Office, Line helper in Electricity department, Weights and Measures Inspector, Upper Division Clerk in Secretariat, Coir Instructor, Boat Driver, Labourer in Public Works Department and Petty shop owner.

3.3. The people of this locality celebrate the death anniversary of Saint Hazarath Ubaidulla (R.A.). *Andunercha* is also conducted during this occasion. 8 households out of 10 participated in the celebration during last year. Of these 5 households had only mere participation. 2 households had active participation in this celebration and one interviewer was the organising committee member. All have made financial contribution for the function. Similarly, during Milad-Sherif only one household participated in the functions inside the neighbourhood and had made financial contribution also. In the *Andunercha* of Saint Moula conducted throughout the town, 3 households participated outside the neighbourhood and contributed money for it. Similarly, for the Milad-Sherif two households participated outside the neighbourhood and contributed in cash. No cultural or Social activities took place within the neighbourhood during the last year or no households participated in any social or cultural programmes organised outside the neighbourhood.

3.4. All the households purchase commodities from outside the neighbourhood within the town. One Senior Basic School is available within the unit. All the households avail this facility. There is only one Hospital in the town and it is outside the unit and all the households avail this facility. Institution for recreational facility is not available within the unit. 9 households avail this facility outside the neighbourhood but within the town.

Neighbourhood—3

4.1. This neighbourhood is within the block IV on the western coast of the island. This unit consists of working class population. Most of the workers are coconut climbers, fishermen etc. deriving only nominal income. Out of the 10 persons interviewed three persons are in the age-group 20-34 and others are in the age-group 35-59. All of them belong to Muslim. Among them one person is illiterate, 7 persons are literate upto matric and two persons are matric and above. 8 of them have a duration of stay of more than 10 years, one person between 1-3 years and one person less than one year in the locality. Out of 10 persons interviewed, one is a non-worker, 2 are clerks in Secretariat 3 persons watchmen and one person each labourer in Public Works Department, Peon in Secretariat and Contractor of transportation of cargo.

4.2. It is seen that no household participated in any social or cultural activities inside or outside the neighbourhood. In Muslim festivals 3 persons participated and 5 persons took active participation in the

Andunercha/death anniversary of Saint Moula which was celebrated by all the Muslims throughout the town. Only 7 households have made financial contribution to it. For the festival Milad-Sherif, 3 households paricipated and 4 actively participated outside the neighbourhood within the town. All of them have contributed to it in terms of money.

4.3. All the households purchase commodities from outside the unit but within the town. Educational institutions are lacking in this neighbourhood. Hence, 8 households are availing the educational facility outside the unit within the town and two households do not require this facility. All the households avail the facility of hospital outside the unit but within the town. Recreational facilities are not available in this neighbourhood. 7 households avail the recreational facilities outside the neighbourhood within the town.

Neighbourhood—4

5.1. This neighbourhood is located in the Vth Block on the sourthern end of the habitation. Land on the sourthern part is owned by the Government and leased to the islanders. Hence, this part of land is called as *Pandaram*. The Government offices and the quarters for officials are located in this area. This portion was once separated from the inhabited area by a wall. Earlier, at the time of Arakkal Beebi's Administration no islander was allowed to go south of the wall without a pass from her representative. This part is mainly the residential area of Government employees and all of them are migrants either from other islands or from neighbouring states on mainland. Out of the 10 persons interviewed two persons are in the age-group 20-34 and 8 persons in the age-group 35-59. 8 out of 10 are Muslims (7 Scheduled Tribes and one non-Scheduled tribe) and 2 are Hindus. All are matric and above. Only 4 persons have duration of stay for more than 10 years in the locality. 5 persons between 4-9 years and 2 between 1-3 years. All the informants are employees. One person each is a Stenographer, Teacher, Health Inspector, Assistant Engineer, Attender, Veterniary Officer and Accountant and 3 persons are clerks in Secretariat.

5.2. Independence day and Republic day are celebrated in this neighbourhood. Out of the ten households 5 Muslim households and one Hindu household participated in the independence day celebrations. Interviewer from the Hindu household was the organising committee member. Similarly, 2 Muslim households and one Hindu household participated in the Republic day celebrations. All the persons contributed to both the celebrations in cash. 2 households participated in the Muslim festival Milad-Sherif celebrated throughout the town and they contributed for it in cash.

5.3. All the households purchase commodities from within the neighbourhood. High School and College are functioning within the unit. All the households require the educational facility and they make use of it. Hospital is just outside the neighbourhood and all the households avail this facility. Recreational facility is also available within the neighbourhood. A club named 'Southern Mahila Mandal' functions within the neighbourhood. Facilities for Indoor as well as outdoor games are available here.

5.4. As Kavaratti is only a census town in rural settings clear cut neigbhourhoods are yet to emerge. Since it is a compact town with small area in isolation, demarcation of the neighbourhood has become difficult. However according to the present study the neighbourhoods outlined above will develop into well defined ones, unless any large scale development programme tilt the magnitude and direction of growth of this town.

CHAPTER VIII

FAMILY LIFE IN THE TOWN

1.1. The traditional pattern of marital residence of the town has been duolocal. Neither of the spouses is required to leave the natal home after marriage. The husband visits his wife during night. During the day time he attends to the activities of his original home. Hence, by marriage transfer of residence does not, usually, take place in the town. Children born to the couple remain in their mother's house and they have claim of their mother's *tarqwad* property and not the *tarawad property* owned by their father, but individual property. Thus, in general, husband has little scope to exercise any control over his wife and children. The woman is under the protection of her *Karanavan* of the *tarawad*. Therefore, the women enjoy more social and economic freedom. In addition to the property descends through the female line, the husband is obliged to make an annual payment towards the maintenance of the wife. The wife can demand a divorce on grounds of non-payment of these customary dues. Based on the *Shariat* law and local customary laws the husband can demand divorce. Generally, divorces take place on grounds of infidelity or some quarrel between the families of the couple. Now, a lot of transformation has taken place in this regard. Generally, men prefer to decentralise the joint family system and like to build his own family consisting of his wife and children looking after his property. Now-a-days due to this change in trend the husband, therefore, has attained more control over his wife and children than the traditional way of living.

Composition of households by nature, relationship to head of household classified by age-group

2.1. The classification of the sample households by number of members and age of head of household is given in the table below:—

Table VIII-1

Composition of households by number of members

(Survey data)

Age of head of households	Number of households having members									
	Total	Single	2	3	4	5	6-7	8-9	10-12	13+
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Total . . .	250	34	20	23	34	29	43	18	27	22
Below 20 . . .	3	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
20—29 . . .	27	11	3	4	4	..	3	1	1	..
30—39 . . .	77	11	3	10	13	9	16	3	6	6
40—49 . . .	74	5	5	4	9	11	15	8	9	8
50—59 . . .	49	4	7	4	6	5	5	6	8	4
60+ . . .	20	3	1	1	2	4	2	..	3	4

56 per cent of the total households have 5 members or less. Among these, there are 13.60 per cent single-member households, 8 per cent two-member households, 9.20 per cent three-member households, 13.60 per cent four-member households and 11.60 per cent five-member households. 6 to 7 member families constitute 17.20 per cent of households, 8 to 9 member families 7.20 per cent, 10 to 12 member families 10.80 per cent and 13+ member families 8.80 per cent. In the households surveyed only 3 heads of the households are below the age of 20 years. Among these three households one is two member household and two households are with 6-7 members. Majority of heads of households to the tune of 80 per cent belong to the age group 30-59. 8 per cent of the households are managed by persons at the age of 60 and above.

Households by number of members

3.1. According to the 1981 Census the average number of persons per household in the town is 5.69. This number is 5.99 for the Union Territory as a whole and 6.16 for the urban area alone. Among the Census towns, Kavaratti has the lowest number of persons per household. The comparative strength of the households in the Union Territory and Census towns is given in the following table:—

Table VIII-2

Average number of persons per household in the urban area of Lakshadweep and Census towns

(1981 Census)

Name of Union Territory/ Census towns	Total No. of persons	Total No. of households	Average No. of persons per household
1	2	3	4
Lakshadweep (Urban) .	18,629	3,026	6.16
Minicoy town . . .	6,658	1,008	6.61
Kavaratti town . . .	6,604	1,161	5.69
Amini town . . .	5,367	857	6.26

3.2. The reason for comparatively small size of household in this town may be due to the existence of a large number of migrant households with small household size i.e. single member households, two member households, etc. According to the survey, out of 250 households the average number of persons per household is calculated as 5.90. Among the migrant households this number is 3.31. As stated, the small size of the migrant households has considerably reduced the average number of persons per household in the town.

Nature of relation of members to head of household

4.1. According to the survey data it is found that the family system in the town is very much complicated. Several types of households by nature of relation of members of head of household were recorded during the survey. The largest number of households (26.40 per cent) come under the composition of "self, spouse, unmarried sons and daughters". Of these 78.79 per cent are migrant households. Next to this is the single member household. There are 34 single member households (13.60 per cent). Among these 82.35 per cent are migrant households. Then comes the household composition of "self (female) unmarried sons/daughters". Out of 14 households of this type, 9 are non-migrant households.

Table VIII-3

Nature of relation of members to head of household

Sl. No.	Nature of relation of members of head of household	Number of Household
1	2	3
	Total	250
1.	Self	34
2.	Self, Spouse	7
3.	Self, Spouse, unmarried sons and daughters	66
4.	Self, Spouse with married daughters and unmarried sons and daughters and with daughetr's unmarried sons and daughter	11
5.	Self (Female) unmarried Son/daughter	14
6.	Self (Female) with married daughter, daughter's unmarried sons and daughters	11
7.	Self (Male) with father/mother, married/unmarried sisters and sister's unmarried sons/daughters	11
8.	Self (male) with married/widowed brothers and sisters and sister's unmarried sons and daughters	22
9.	Self (male) with widowed father/mother, unmarried sisters and brothers and married sister's unmarried sons and daughters	20
10.	Self (male) with widowed/divorced Sister/Brothers and Sisters, married/unmarried sons and daughters and Sister's daughter's unmarried sons/daughters	12
11.	Self (male) with married/unmarried sons and daughters and with daughter's unmarried daughters	10
12.	Others	32

In the case of 120 households where head's spouse is not living in the household, the following general pattern is found to emerge. When the head is a male he is living with his married sisters and their children and in case head is female she is found with married daughter and her children. In these cases brothers if married have their spouses and children staying in their wife's house separately. The matrilocal residence is projected in these relations.

4.2. In order to fully evaluate the parameters in the family composition the households have been grouped into 'Types of households' as suggested by Pouline M Kolenda. Thus there are 34 single member households, 73 nuclear families of couples with or without unmarried children and 13 'others' types of families. The remaining 120 households could not be grouped into types as the spouse of the head is usually living in their own houses nearby, the males staying in their house paying visit to females and children. This has relevance to the former *tarawad* system existed among the 'Nairs of Kerala'. Due to the insulated nature, smallness in area, the traditional economy of the islands etc. the system was continuing unabated but signs of disintegration of *tarawad* and formation of nuclear families are evident now-a-days.

Table VIII-4

Distribution of the households by type

(Survey data)

Type of household	Religion/Tribe/Community				
	Total	Scheduled Tribe	Muslim Non-Scheduled Tribe	Hindu	Christian
1	2	3	4	5	6
Total	250	196	4	46	4
Nuclear	73	38	3	30	2
Supplemented nuclear	3	2	..	1	..
Sub-nuclear	3	3	..	..	..
Single person	34	21	1	10	2
Lineal Collateral joint	1	1	..	..	..
Others	136	131	..	5	..

The above table shows that out of 250 households 73 (29.20 per cent) belong to the nuclear family followed by single person family with 34 (13.60 per cent) of the total households. 3 households each (1.20 per cent each) constitute supplemented nuclear and sub-nuclear family. There is one household which belongs to lineal collateral joint family. An important feature of the type of household in the town is that the majority of the households (54.40 per cent) come under the category 'Others'. A perusal of the table will show that as much as 131 households (66.84 per cent) belonging to Scheduled

Tribe Muslims fall under 'others'. 19.39 per cent of the Scheduled Tribe Muslim households are nuclear. 10.71 per cent are single person, 1.53 per cent sub-nuclear, 1.02 per cent supplemented nuclear and 0.51 per cent lineal collateral joint family. Only 10.87 per cent of the households belonging to Hindu come under the category 'others' and majority (65.22 per cent) are nuclear family, 21.74 per cent single persons and one supplemented nuclear family. The peculiar social set up of the indigenous population of the town is visible from the above facts. Further, it can also be seen that 40.15 per cent of the heads of households falling under the category 'others' are illiterates, 48.90 per cent have an educational level upto Primary, 8.76 per cent have studied upto matric and 2.19 per cent have educational qualification of degree and above.

Composition by Country, State, Religion, Caste and Language

5.1. Out of the total 250 households surveyed, the heads of 144 households belong to the same town, heads of 52 households belong to the other islands of the territory, heads of 50 households to Kerala and one each Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh. According to the classification based on religion, 200 households are Muslim households with 684 males and 622 females, 46 Hindu households with equal sex break up of 154 persons and 4 Christian households with 9 males and 6 females.

5.2. According to the definition of Census the inhabitants of Lakshadweep who and both of whose parents were born in those islands are treated as scheduled tribes. No Caste has been scheduled in relation to this Union Territory. Hence, there is only one Tribe among the Muslims of the territory. Those of the Muslims who do not satisfy the criterion are treated as Non-Scheduled Tribes. There are 4 households with 9 males and 7 females in this non-scheduled tribe category. The mother tongue of majority of the people in the sample households is Malayalam.

Members staying outside-reason, nature of link with the household

6.1. Out of the 250 households covered by this special study, close family members of 100 households, are staying outside. Of them, 57 are Muslim households, 40 Hindu households and 3 Christian households. Of the 100 households whose family members are staying outside, the heads of 54 households belong to Lakshadweep. Of these 17 are from the town and the remaining from other islands. All of them are Muslim households. 46 heads of households whose family members are staying outside belong to other states. Among them, 42 are from Kerala and one each from Orissa, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh. Further, only 3 heads of households each who belong to Kerala and whose family members are staying outside are Muslims and Christians and all others from Kerala as well as from other states are Hindu households. The last residence by head of household of 17 households, all being Muslims, whose family members are staying outside, was in the town, that of 14 households was in a place at a distance 51-100 kms., 19 households at a distance 101-200 kms., 39 households at a distance 201-500 kms. and 11 households at a distance of more than 500 kms.

6.2. The heads of 92 households whose family members are staying outside the town, are engaged in economically active work and the heads of the remaining 8 households are non-workers. Among Muslims, out of 57 households, heads of 49 households are workers and all others are non-workers. Similarly, 40 heads of households of Hindus are workers. In the case of Christians, all the three heads of households are workers. Among the heads of the above mentioned 49 Muslim households who are engaged in work 16 persons are clerical and related workers, 6 persons work as Policemen, 5 persons as field workers in agriculture demonstration units, 3 persons as Engineers, 2 persons each as Statistical Assistants, Teachers, Jeep Drivers, Boatmen and labourers and one each as Physical Scientist, Inspector of Weights & Measures, Stenographer, Cook, Fisherman, Tailor and Carpenter. Of the heads of Hindu households who are economically active, 9 persons are employed as Policemen, Watchman and Chowkidar, 5 persons work as Accountants, Auditors, 4 persons as Teachers, 3 persons as Stenographers and 2 persons each as Engineers, Technicians, Clerks, Telephone Operators and Carpenters and one person each as Physician (Allopathy), Veterinarian, Surveyor, Nurse, Postmaster, Tea shop keeper, Compositor, Electric Lineman and Line helper. Among the three Christian families, head of each family is an Engineer in Satellite, a Wireless Operator and a Tailor.

6.3. 202 persons of the households studied are staying outside the town. They include both out-migrants of the household in the town or the family members of the migrant households in the town. Among them, 20.79 per cent belong to 0-14 age-group and 53.96 per cent are in the age-group 15-59. There are 25.25 per cent in the age-group 60 and above. Study of relationship of these persons to heads of households shows that 54 persons are mothers, 43 persons are sons, 31 persons are daughters 29 persons are fathers, 19 persons are wives, 9 persons are brothers, 8 persons are sisters, two persons each are husbands, daughter's sons, mother's brothers, sister's sons and one person is a step mother. Among them 35.15 per cent are illiterates, 23.76 per cent each have below primary and primary level of education, 15.84 per cent have passed matric and 3 persons (1.49 per cent) are degree holders and above. The following table gives the particulars of family members staying outside by educational level and relation to head of household.

Table VIII-5

Family members staying outside by educational level and relation to head of household

(Survey data)

Educational level	Number of persons staying outside who are related to head of household as								
	Total	Father	Mother	Son	Daughter	Brother	Sister	Wife	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total	202	29	54	43	31	9	8	19	9
Illiterate	71	9	37	13	6	..	..	2	4
Below primary	48	12	6	12	7	4	3	3	1
Primary	48	5	10	6	10	2	3	10	2
Matric	32	1	..	12	8	3	2	4	2
Degree and above	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..

6.4. Among the persons staying outside 26.24 per cent are old aged dependent parents. Again 11.88 per cent of the persons are parents who look after the household works. Only 5.94 per cent are infants and depending children, 21.78 per cent of the persons are full-time students. Particulars of family members staying outside by nature of occupation and relationship with head of household is given below:—

Table VIII-6

Particulars of members staying outside by nature of occupation

(Survey data)

Occupational Divisions (NIC)	Relationship to head of household						
	Total	Father	Son	Daughter	Brother	Wife	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total	27	4	6	1	7	5	4
0-1 Professional technical and related workers	8	1	..	1	2	3	1
3 Clerical and related workers	3	..	1	..	2	..	..
5 Service workers	3	..	..	..	1	2	..
6 Farmers, fishermen, hunters, loggers and related workers	6	2	..	..	1	..	3
7-8-9 Production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers	7	1	5	..	1	..	..

6.5. Maximum number of workers (25.93 per cent) staying outside are related to the head of household as brothers followed by those as sons (22.22 per cent). Then comes the wives (18.52 per cent) in numerical strength. 30 per cent of the family members are employed as professional, technical and related workers followed by those (29.17 per cent) in production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers and 25.00 per cent are farmers, fishermen, hunters, loggers and related workers. Among the persons who are staying outside 11 persons are seeking employment. This will include those non-workers who are engaged in some non-productive activities also. 7 of them are related to the head of household in the town as sons, 3 of them as daughters and one as brother. Except one son and one brother who are staying in rural islands, all others are staying in the neighbouring state of Kerala. Among them 8 are matriculates, two have studied upto primary and one is below primary.

6.6. As far as the duration of residence outside the town is concerned, 32.18 per cent of persons have stayed away from the town for 1-4 years, 23.76 per cent for 5-9 years and 15.84 per cent for 10-19 years. Persons who have been staying outside the town for less than one year constitute only 7.43 per cent. At the same time persons away from the town for 20+ years represent 20.79 per cent of the total persons staying outside. 83.17 per cent of the total persons are staying in their native places outside town. 7.43 per cent of the total persons are staying outside for employment purpose, 1.98 per cent due to shifting of household, 4.45 per cent for educational purpose and 2.97 per cent to have independent living.

Remittance

7.1. Out of the 27 members of the households who are employed in other places, only 6 persons are sending money to their relations in the town. Of these, one person each remits Rs. 1,000/- per year, Rs. 1,500 per year and Rs. 2,000/- per year and 3 persons send Rs. 1,200 each per year.

7.2. According to the household survey, out of the total 100 households in the town whose relatives are staying outside, 80 households are stated to have sent money to their absentee members who are staying outside. A total amount of Rs. 2,31,150/- was sent by the households to their absentee family members during one year.

Frequency of visit to close relations

8.1. Out of 250 households where survey was conducted, 91 households are having close relations at place from where migrated. Among the 91 households, at least one member of 90 households visited their relatives at the last residence during the last three years. Of these, members of 88 households (97.78 per cent) visited their relatives 1-3 times during the last three years. 50 per cent of these households have stayed in the town upto 4 years, 25 per cent upto 5-9 years, 22.73 per cent upto 10-19 years and 2.27 per cent for 20+ years. Members of two households visited their relatives more than six times during the last three years. Of these, one household each has stayed in the town upto 4 years and more than 20 years. Members of one household did not visit their close relatives at place from where migrated during the last three years.

8.2. Among the 90 households who visited their relatives at place from where migrated, only 2 (2.22 per cent) are non-migrant, all being Muslims and 97.78 per cent are migrants. Out of the migrant households 32.95 per cent (30.68 per cent Muslims and 2.27 per cent Hindus) are from the rural islands of the Union Territory and 13.64 per cent (12.50 per cent Muslims and 1.14 per cent Hindus) are from Urban islands. 26.14 per cent of households (2.27 per cent Muslims, 22.73 per cent Hindus and 1.14 per cent Christians) have hailed from the rural area of Kerala, 26.14 per cent (1.14 per cent Muslims, 21.59 per cent Hindus and 3.41 per cent Christians) from the urban area of Kerala and 1.13 per cent Hindus households from Maharashtra. All the migrant households are stated to have visited their close relatives in the native place. In other words most of these persons were born in the places visited i.e. in their ancestor's home.

CHAPTER IX

HOUSING AND MATERIAL CULTURE

Introduction

1.1 As a prelude to the 1981 Census a separate list called 'houselist' was prepared in 1980 during the houselisting operations. According to this list there are altogether 2,544 Census houses in the town. Of these 979 (38.48 per cent) are used exclusively for residential purpose, 9 (0.35 per cent) for shop-cum-residence and 35 (1.38 per cent) workshop-cum-residence. Other houses are used as shops, offices, tourist homes, workshops, worksheds, mosques, madrassas, etc. Besides, 124 census houses (4.87 per cent) were vacant in the town at the time of houselisting as against 7.19 per cent for the Union Territory as a whole. An abnormal increase (i.e. 67.81 per cent) of Census houses from 1971 is observed during the last Census in the town. It was in fact keeping pace with the developmental activities in the island during the decade. There has been increase in almost all categories of census houses. The occupied residential houses have increased from 1,023 in 1980 to 1,063 in 1981 in the town.

1.2. The houses of the local people are distributed in a dispersed fashion over the northern part of the town. Usually, the houses are constructed facing north. This is only to be safe from the monsoon storms which sweep the island from south-west direction. Usually, the house is enclosed with a tall fencing of 5' height made of coconut stalks and plaited coconut leaves in order to be safe from wind as well as to maintain privacy.

1.3. The people of the town live in their own houses except Government employees who live mostly in staff quarters constructed by the Lakshadweep Administration. The local people do not find shortage of accommodation in the town whereas employees find it difficult to get accommodation at the time of transfer as well as eligible quarters during the stay in the town. As private houses are rarely available in the island the Administration is constructing quarters to meet the requirements of the staff. Shortage of accommodation is not felt by the local inhabitants. It is mainly because the matrilineal system in relation to descent, inheritance and succession is prevailing in the town. Husband is only a visiting member to the wife's house. Joint family system exists in the town. Usually, married daughters are living in one house. In a few cases it is noticed that more than two households are living under the same roof. This tendency is found slowly reducing now consequent on the spread of education, mingling with the people from different places and also on account of economic independence due to various developmental activities taking place in the town.

House types

2.1. The majority of traditional houses are rectangular structures with thatched roofs. Owing to the salinity of the sand and the water and calcium content in the stones, terraced as well as multi-story buildings are not usually constructed in the islands. Further, very few persons can afford the expenses for bringing the construction materials from the mainland. Limited number of double storied old residential houses and newly constructed single storied terraced private houses can also be seen in the town. The administration has constructed single as well as twin houses for the requirement of staff. The Public Works Department of the Administration has now constructed a few two storey buildings for office and residential flats for the staff. This is the first attempt made by the Administration in the Union Territory. The old way of constructing houses by the islanders is interesting to note. Raising of roof before the construction of walls is mostly seen among the local people. The walls made of irregular coral stones and slow setting lime mortar may not be in a position to support the superstructure for quite some time. So the roof is at first raised on strong pillars and the walls are subsequently constructed under the protected roof. The house construction does not have any set pattern and is based on merely convenience Nowadays, it is seen that, in a few cases, masons are brought from mainland for constructing good houses in the town.

2.2. The availability of materials, the climatic conditions, geographical features and the economic level of the people are the main factors influencing the type of houses that are built in an area. Most common material for construction of wall in the town is the coral stones collected from the beach and the lagoon. The only other material available in the island is the leaf of coconut tree. Hence, coconut leaf is the common type of material used for the roof. Next to coconut leaves, tiles are the most common material of roof. The roof is usually low and sloping on all four sides. Lime mortar is used for plastering the house. In many of the houses the flooring was also done with lime mortar. Lime required for the preparation of mortar is obtained by burning the coral stones. The frames of doors and windows are made of trunk of coconut tree, but the shutter are made of wooden planks imported from mainland. Windows of old houses are very small. The houses are badly ventilated. Therefore, the interior of the house looks very dark. The bedrooms and the dining rooms have raised platforms which are used for sitting and sleeping. In the front varandha on either side of the door raised platforms are made to receive the guests. Usually, kitchen is constructed separately and attached to the main house on its

eastern side. Generally, each married woman has separate bedroom. A typical island house has a spacious front room which leads to a corrirod. The living room and bedrooms are arranged on either side of the corridor. The majority of houses are without ceiling but a few houses have ceiling with wooden planks of coconut trunks. There are only 3 residential houses with second storey. All other houses are single storey structures. Bathroom, shed for storing coconuts and firewood are within the fencing made around the house using coconut stalks and plaited leaves.

2.3. Wall of the Government quarters are constructed using rectangular slabs made up of a mixture of cement, sand and coral shingles (small coral pieces) and the roof is made up of asbestos cement sheets, corrugated iron or other metal sheets. Now, the Public Works Department of the Administration is importing building materials such as granite stone, bricks, sand etc. from the mainland and using them instead of island materials. They are making an attempt to construct two storey buildings at Kavaratti. Now, on experimental basis the Public Works Department of Kavaratti has constructed double storey building consisting of 6 office buildings and 2 residential flats using the materials brought from the mainland. The islanders having financial resources are making use of modern method of constructing house. Now, they are using either rectangular slabs of cement mortar with coral stones or even burnt bricks instead of irregular coral stones for the construction of wall and tiles or asbestos sheets for the roof instead of cadjan leaves. Cement mortar is also used for plastering of walls as well as for flooring instead of lime mortar. Even the local people have constructed houses with cement concrete roof using the materials available in the island.

2.4. The indigenous people of Lakshadweep have been declared as Scheduled Tribes. The Administration is making its best efforts to the advancement of Scheduled Tribes in all respects. The assistance given by the Administration for the construction of houses is worth mentioning. With a view to improve the living conditions of the people by providing well ventilated houses, the house construction project was first initiated during the Third Five Year Plan. Two housing schemes are in operation; (a) loan for Rs. 10,000/- and (b) subsidy for Rs 1,875/-. Both these schemes are extended to the Scheduled Tribe candidates only. Loans under these rules are granted for the construction of new houses or for improvement of existing houses to the selected residents who are economically weaker and whose income limit is upto Rs. 350/- per month. The loans granted for either of the two purposes mentioned above shall not exceed 70% of the estimated cost of construction or improvement of the house subject to a maximum loan of Rs. 10,000/-. The cost of land will be excluded from the estimate. The amount is paid in instalments. The loan shall be recovered in 20 annual instalments of principal and interest.

Relation of selected houses with adjoining houses in space by locality

3.1. Out of 250 surveyed houses, 150 (60 per cent) have separate structures with compound and 100 (40 per cent) have separate structures without compound. The locality-wise data of relation of selected houses with adjoining houses are given below:—

Table IX-1

Relation of selected houses of selected households with adjoining houses

(Survey data)

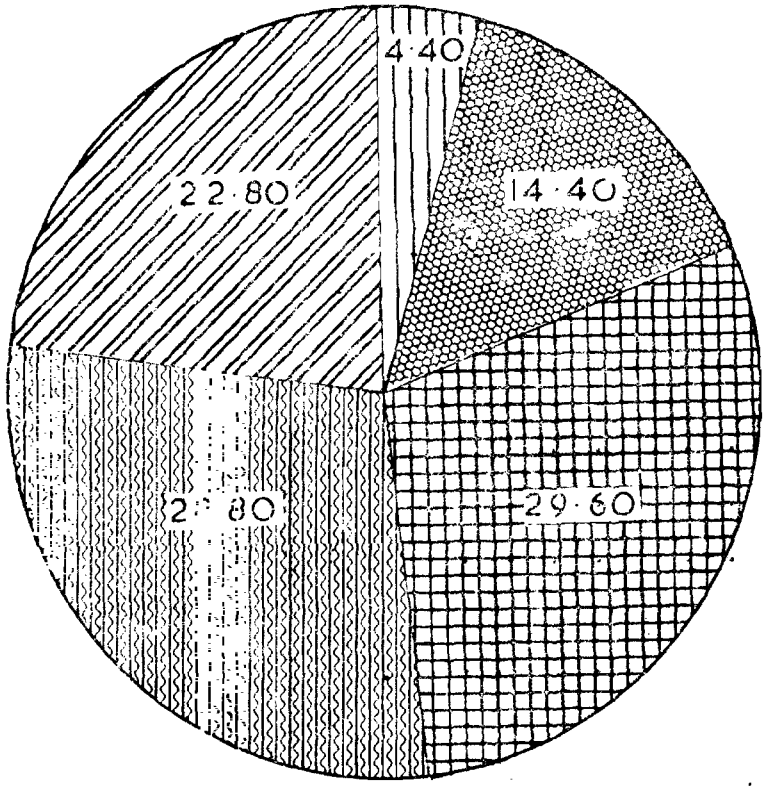
Locality	Total Houses	No. of separate houses with compound	No. of separate houses without compound
1	2	3	4
Total	250	150	100
	(100.00)	(60.00)	(40.00)
I	75	65	10
	(100.00)	(86.67)	(13.33)
II	60	59	1
	(100.00)	(98.33)	(1.67)
III	45	23	22
	(100.00)	(51.11)	(48.89)
IV	70	3	67
	(100.00)	(4.29)	(95.71)

3.2. Among the four localities divided for the purpose of survey in the town, 98.33 per cent of the houses in locality II are separate structures with compound. In locality I, 86.67 per cent of the houses are separate structures with compound. In locality III, 51.11 per cent of the houses are with compound. In the case of locality IV, only 4.29 per cent of the houses are with compound. In this locality almost all the heads of households are employees. They are migrants and housed in staff quarters.

3.3. 95.71 per cent of the houses in locality IV are without compound. The cases of structures without compound are also again seen in other localities i.e. I upto III. This is applicable only in the case of tenant Muslim households. The house is situated on the land of *Jenmi* who has not handed over the right to the tenant. Hence, the household can only stay in the house. They cannot use the premises of the house without the permission of the *Jenmi*. Some households have reported that they have not been permitted by the *Jenmi* even to make fencing of the house with cocount stalks and leaves or even to construct latrines, bathrooms, etc. or to rear poultry or cattle in their house. In the case of quarters very few structures have been provided with compound wall or wooden fencing by the Public Works Department. In other cases, the households have made

HOUSEHOLDS WITH PERCAPITA FLOOR SPACE

(SURVEY DATA)



PERCAPITA FLOOR SPACE

(IN SQUARE METRE)

- 2 – 3
- 4 – 5
- 6 – 9
- 10–15
- 16 AND ABOVE

fencing of their own with coconut stalks and leaves. Majority of households in localities I, II and III and 40 per cent of households in locality IV belong to Muslim. All the Hindu and Christian households are living in staff quarters allotted to them.

Predominant materials of construction of house

4.1. According to the sample survey, 90 per cent of the houses have cement floors, 1.60 per cent have shingle and lime, 0.40 per cent mosaic/tiles and 8.00 per cent of the houses have used other materials such as mixture of lime and sand. Houses with floors made of mud, wood/planks, bamboo or logs are totally absent in the town.

Table IX-2

Predominant material of floor, wall and proof

Material	Number of houses
1	2
I Floor	
Total	250
1. Bricks, stone and lime	4
2. Cement	225
3. Mosaic/Tiles	1
4. Others (materials not stated)	20
II Wall	
Total	250
1. Grass, leaves, reeds or bamboo	1
2. Stone	164
3. Cement concrete	73
4. Others (materials not stated)	12
III Roof	
Total	250
1. Grass, leaves, reeds, thatch, wood, mud, unburned bricks or bamboo	26
2. Tiles, Slate and shingle	172
3. Corrugated iron, zinc or other metal sheets	2
4. Asbestos sheets	50

4.2. Stone is the predominant material used for making walls in the town. As much as 65.60 per cent of the houses are made of stones, 29.20 per cent rectangular slabs making use of mixture of cement, sand and shingle, 0.40 per cent plaited coconut leaves and 4.80 per cent other materials such as G.I. sheets, plastering cement mortar on bamboo sheets, etc. In majority of cases stone refers only irregular coral stones. The materials under 'others' have been made use of for the construction of Government quarters of semi-permanent nature. The above data indicate that there has been improvement in the use of cement concrete in the case of material of wall.

4.3. Tiles have become the predominant material of roof in the town. According to the survey, the roof of 68.80 per cent of the houses is Tiles. In 1971 there were only 27.9 per cent houses with tiles as roof of the house. Slate and shingle are not available in the Union Territory and therefore, they are not used as materials of roof. The percentage of houses having roof with plaited cadjan leaves is only 10.40 as against 61.3 per cent during 1971 Census. In 20.00 per cent of the houses the roof is made out of asbestos Cement Sheets and 0.80 per cent corrugated iron, zinc or other metal sheets. Among these, almost all the houses are staff quarters. The above data indicate that there has been improvement in the use of tiles as well as asbestos cement sheets during the last 15 years.

4.4. Out of 250 houses studied 164 houses have no ceiling at all. Among 86 houses with ceiling, in 84 houses (97.67 per cent), wood is the predominant material of ceiling. Only in two houses (2.33 per cent) asbestos has been used as ceiling material.

4.5. Among 250 houses studied during the survey, in 248 houses (99.20 per cent) wood is used as predominant material of door and windows. Only in two houses (0.80 per cent) other materials such as plaited coconut leaves tied on frames of coconut stalks (or reepers) are used for making doors and windows.

Number of rooms

5.1. In 250 households 1,475 persons are living in 813 rooms with an average of about 2 persons per room. There are 32 households with one-room each where 67 persons stay. There are 32 households again with two rooms each where 112 persons live. Three-room houses number 94 with 459 persons, four-room houses 53 with 417 persons and five-room houses 24 with 235 persons. There are 7 six-room houses in which 96 persons live and 5 seven-room houses in which 57 persons live. In one eight-room house 5 persons live and in 2 nine-room houses 27 persons stay.

5.2. The average number of persons per room is two in households having any number of rooms except households with six-rooms and eight-rooms, where in the average number is three and one respectively. The following table gives the number of households classified by number of married couples (a) without other members aged 5 and above (b) with other members aged 5 and above and number of rooms occupied by them.

Table IX-3

Households classified by number of married couples (a) without other members aged 5 and above, (b) with other members aged 5 and above and number of rooms occupied by them

(Survey data)

Classification of households	Households occupying one room		Households occupying two rooms		Households occupying three rooms		Households occupying four rooms		Households occupying five and more rooms	
	No. of house-holds	No. of members	No. of house-holds	No. of members	No. of house-holds	No. of members	No. of house-holds	No. of members	No. of house-holds	No. of members
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Total . . .	32	67	32	112	94	459	53	417	39	420
One married couple										
(a) . .	5	14	2	4	10	26	1	3	..	..
(b) . . .	7	31	13	68	38	182	18	147	16	165
Two married couples										
(a) . .	..	..	..	..	1	10	..	..	..	..
(b) . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Three married couples										
(a) . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others (without married couple)	20	22	17	40	45	241	34	267	23	255

5.3. The above table reveals that in the case of 12 households, staying in one-roomed houses, married couples stay with other members of all ages including aged five and above. This means that 24 persons who have the relationship of husband and wife share their one roomed accommodation with 21 other members of all ages. Among them in 5 households married couples stay with only 4 other members aged 5 and below. This shows that at least one couple stay alone in a one-roomed house. In the case of two roomed houses, 15 married couples share with 42 other members. Similarly, in three-roomed houses 48 married couples share with 112 other members, in four-roomed houses 19 couples share with 112 other members. There is an instance where two couples share one three-roomed house with 6 other members. It is, thus found that in quite a few houses there is no privacy.

5.4. Another main feature to be observed from the table is that in 139 out of 250 households (55.60 per cent) there are no couples. Of these there are 20 one-roomed houses, 17 two-roomed houses, 45 three-roomed houses, 34 four-roomed houses and 23 five and more roomed houses. This is due to the peculiar social set up prevailing in the islands. The islanders follow matrilocal form of residence. Generally, after marriage females stay in the place of their mothers. Husband is only a visiting member to the wive's house in the night time. Therefore, the husband, generally is not a member of the wife's house. He will be available in his house during day time. Because of this peculiar custom, usually, couples are not found in most of the households of the local people. On the other hand, in almost all the households of the employees migrated from outside, married couples are found.

Per capita floor space

6.1 The maximum per capita space (16 sq. metres or more) is seen in the case of 57 households with 129 members. 72 households with 357 members have per capita floor space ranging from 10-15 sq. metres, 74 households with 502 members from 5-9 sq. metres and 36 households with 344 members from 4-5 sq. metres. Per capita floor space of less than 3 sq. metres is held by eleven households with 143 members. No household having per capita floor space of less than 2 sq. metre has been reported during the survey. The following table gives the distribution of households classified by locality and per capita floor space.

Table IX-4

Households classified by locality and per capita floor space

(Survey data)

Locality	Per capita											
	1 or less sq. metre		2-3 sq. metre		4-5 sq. metre		5-9 sq. metre		10-15 sq. metre		16 and above sq. metre	
	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Total	..	..	11	143	36	344	74	502	72	357	57	129
I	..	..	5	65	11	116	30	194	16	106	13	39
II	..	..	2	29	12	121	13	97	18	99	15	34
III	..	..	3	43	6	65	18	144	10	58	8	22
IV	..	..	1	6	7	42	13	67	28	94	21	34

Amenities

7.1 Kitchen.—A majority of households—235 (94.00 per cent) have separate kitchen. 12 (4.80 per cent) have no kitchen and 3 (1.20 per cent) share with other households. Out of 12 households having reported as 'no kitchen available, 11 are in locality IV and one is in locality II. These are single member households taking their meals from the canteen. Two households in locality II and one household in locality I share the kitchen with other households.

7.2. Bath-room.—99 (39.60 per cent) households have separate bath-rooms, 29 (11.60 per cent) households share with other households and 122 (48.80 per cent) have no bath-room at all. Out of 122 households without having bath-rooms 42 (34.43 per cent) are in locality I, 38 (31.15 per cent) in locality II, 37 (30.32 per cent) in locality III and 5 (4.10 per cent) in locality IV. Similarly, 29 households having common bath-rooms are distributed as 3 in locality I, one in locality II, and 25 in locality IV.

7.3. **Lavatory.**—111 (44.40 per cent) households have separate lavatory, 28 (11.20 per cent) have common lavatory and 111 (44.40 per cent) have no lavatory at all. Majority of households in locality II and III do not have lavatory at all. 35 (46.67 per cent) households out of 75 have no lavatory in locality I. Only 6 (8.51 per cent) households out of 70 are not having the lavatory facility in locality IV. 25 households out of 28 are with common lavatory in Government quarters in locality IV and the remaining in locality I.

7.4. Drinking water and water for washing.—Facilities for drinking water are available to all households. 154 (61.60 per cent) households have separate drinking water facility and 96 (38.40 per cent) have common facilities. Similarly, for all households water is available for washing. 149 (59.60 per cent) households have their own arrangement of water for washing, whereas 101 (40.40 per cent) households commonly use water for washing purpose.

7.5. **Electricity.**—Separate connections exist for 242 households and common connections for 2 households. Six households do not live in electrified houses.

7.6 Tenurial status.—Out of 250 households, 147 (58.80 per cent) are living in owned houses, 22 (8.80 per cent) in rented houses and 81 (32.40 per cent) in quarters allotted by Government.

7.7. Most of the households are settled in the town for a long time. This is evident from the fact that 165 households out of 250 have been residing in the town for ten years or more. 23 for 5-9 years and 47 for 1-4 years. There are only 15 households who came to the town during the previous year to the survey. The proportion of duration of stay for 10+ years is more in localities I, II and III compared to the town as a whole. But in locality IV, this proportion is only 28.57 per cent for 10+ years, 21.43 per cent for 5-9 years, 35.71 per cent for 1-4 years and 14.29 per cent for the last year. In this locality only 2 households reside in their own house and all the remaining 68 households are staying in staff quarters alloted by the Government. More than half or 58.80 per cent of the households are residing in owned houses.

7.8. **Furniture.**—Out of the 250 households covered for this study, 37 households have no furniture in their house. Majority of the households are having essential ordinary furniture while only very few have costly modern furniture. 75.60 per cent of the households have cots, 74.80 per cent have chairs, 66.00 per cent have tables and 4.00 per cent have stools. Only three households have Almirah, two households each have newar-cot and sofa-set and one household each has diwan, teapoy, dining-table, bench and show-case. Majority of tables are without drawers and made locally. Most of the cots are ordinary type plaited with strong thin coir yarn on the frame made from coconut timber. Because of the peculiar conditions of the island the availability of furniture, type and number of furniture cannot be considered as a norm for economic conditions.

7.9. **Utensils.**—Generally, households covered under the survey belonging to different communities, irrespective of their occupation and economic status use aluminium utensils for cooking and steel utensils for serving. Out of 250 households 247 use aluminium utensils for cooking. Single-member households report that they do not cook food and hence no utensils are used. Their position in using utensils were recorded either when their family members were available in the house or as and where from his food is cooked at present. Out of the total households one household use earthen pots, one household has reported that aluminium and hindaleum utensils as well as earthenwares are used for cooking. Another has reported that it uses aluminium as well as steel utensils for cooking. For serving food 234 households use steel utensils and 6 households use porcelain. Another 10 households use porcelain as well as steel utensils.

7.10. **Fuel.**—Two types of fuel, viz. firewood and kerosene are used in the town. A few households use two types of fuel. 12 households (single-member households) do not use fuel at all. Out of the total 238 alone and 20 households (8.40 per cent) use both firewood alone 16 households (6.72 per cent) use kerosene alone and 20 households (8.40 per cent) use both firewood and kerosene as fuel. All the 144 non-migrant households use firewood for fuel. Out of the 106 migrant households, 58 (54.72 per cent) use firewood alone for fuel and 16 (15.09 per cent) use kerosene alone, 20 households (18.87 per cent) use both firewood and kerosene as fuel and 12 households do not cook themselves. The following table gives the distribution of migrant and non-migrant households by use of fuel and light by locality.

Table IX-5

Light and fuel by locality and migration status of household

Locality	No. of households			Number of households using fuel				No. of households using light			
	Total	Non-migrant	Migrant	Migrant		Non-migrant		Migrant		Non-migrant	
				Firewood	Kerosene	Firewood	Kerosene	Kerosene	Electricity	Kerosene	Electricity
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Total .	250	144	106	78	36	144	..	3	103	3	141
I . .	75	62	13	10	3	62	..	..	13	1	61
II . .	60	42	18	17	1	42	..	..	18	1	41
III . .	45	37	8	7	1	37	..	2	6	1	36
IV . .	70	3	67	44	31	3	..	1	66	..	3

From the above table it is clear that kerosene is used as fuel by the migrant households only. Of these 86.11 per cent households are in the locality IV.

Dress

7.11. **Men.**—The dress of the local inhabitants resembles that of the Malabar Muslims. Men generally wear a coloured or white lungi, a rectangular piece of cloth, tied tight to the waist from right to left. Usually, the ends of lungi are stitched together. A silken thread is worn around the waist. Elderly persons draw the tips of the lungi through a string to hold it round the waist. Men generally do not wear anything above the waist. But, now they wear banyan generally red or blue or shirt while going out the house or on special occasions. A fine piece of embroidered cotton or silk cloth (Thattam) is put around the shoulders on festive occasions. Shirts are more popular among the younger generations. Some local people shave their heads and wear a white cap on the head. Men from other communities wear lungi at home and Trousers and shirts while going out or in office. Most of the males wear sandals, leather shoes or slippers. The young and educated ones have been influenced by the change of fashion of dress. Students in schools and colleges and grown up children generally wear lungi and shirt. But some use trousers and shirt. Muslim children wear lungi, whereas boys from any other community wear shorts.

7.12. **Women.**—The muslim women wear *Kachi*, a rectangular piece of cloth, around the waist. The cloth is tucked in the thread or waist belt. The *Kachis* are either black or green with borders. The upper part of the body is covered using tight fitting full sleeved jacket. The head dress of the women is the *Thattam*. Women from all other communities generally wear saree and blouse. Saree is being substituted to *kachi* among the muslim women while they go out. Especially among the younger generation, there is remarkable change from their traditional dress. Young women are in full skirt and blouse while going outside. Girls are now in skirt at home and full skirt with or without half-saree while going to school or outside. The muslim women in the town do not wear purdah to screen themselves from the sight of strangers.

7.13 **Ornaments.**—The muslim women in the town use ornaments lavishly. An *Aranjanam* around the waist, *Vala* or *kadakam* on the wrists, *koodu, minni,* kombanjali, *Alikkath* and *Neelam* on the ears and a Urukku around the neck are usual ornaments of a

muslim woman in the town. Aranjanam (waist-belt) is either of gold or silver. The bridal ornaments are more elaborate with a variety of necklaces and other Jewellery. Generally, women from all communities except indigenous Muslims put on a gold chain to which 'tali', the token of marriage bond is tied. Women other than muslims usually do not wear gold ornaments while going out. Besides, the common ornaments used by all women of the town are ear studs, rings and bangles. It is seen that the women as well as girls among the local inhabitants usually wear some additional ornaments at home.

7.14. **Food.**—All the muslims, Christians and majority of Hindu households except Brahmin community are non-vegetarians. The staple food of all communities is rice. Parboiled rice is preferred to raw rice. The meals of non-vegetarians generally consist of rice and fish. Irrespective of religion the people of the town drink tea or coffee. Concentrated tea with more sugar without adding milk is preferred by the local inhabitants. Smoking beedies and pan chewing are also very popular among island people. Coconut oil prepared in each household of the local people is used for culinary purposes. They add coconut in some form or other in most of the preparations. Rice with coconut *Thangachoru* is very famous among the islanders. They even take this rice in the absence of any curry. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the town. Muslims are also strictly prohibited from taking alcoholic drinks. Meat, fruit and milk are rare commodities in the island and therefore, people consider these items as a luxury. For better nutrition and taste, vegetables and fruits are imported to the town from the mainland by societies, private shops as well as individuals. Some non-vegetarians import dressed chicken, mutton and even fish to the town on their own risk. The employees store at Kavaratti takes active participation in importing these food items.

7.15. **Luxury and Costly goods.**—Being an isolated town, luxury and costly goods are found in few households. The local people have become aware of the luxury life only recently. Since everything has to be brought from the mainland generally the people concentrate on necessary items such as food and stationery items. Recently, more attention is given to building materials. The co-operative societies in the town take more interest to purchase and supply luxury and costly goods such as refrigerator, Television sets, wet grinders, construction materials, etc. to the people at less price than on the mainland. The people are attracted by this and they give intend for their purchase through societies.

7.16. Out of 250 households covered by the study 214 households have members who own wrist watches and 95 households have table clocks. Radios are found in 134 households and tape recorders in 86 households. 10 households possess refrigerators, 3 households have purchased television sets, 2 households Video cassette record player and one household gramophone. Telephone facility is available to seven households. Mixie or Grinder is available in 16 households, 8 households have bike/scooter/luna. One household has outboard engine and 4 households sewing machines.

CHAPTER X

SLUMS, BLIGHTED AND OTHER AREAS WITH SUB-STANDARD LIVING CONDITIONS

There is no slum area in the town. Besides the slums, no 'blighted area' or 'area with sub-standard living conditions' has been identified in the town at the time of survey conducted for this special town study.

CHAPTER XI

ORGANISATION OF POWER AND PRESTIGE

Traditional Power structure of the town

1.1. A transformation in the Socio-economic and political set up has taken place in the islands after 1964. Consequent to it the organisation of power and prestige has undergone a tremendous change in the town. However, due to the peculiar set up of the islands different groups of the indigenous people based on religion, caste and political parties dominate the power structure of the town even now. It is reported that in the earlier days dominance of some sections in the society was prevalent in the town and it has almost disappeared at present. During the past, among the three endogamous groups viz. Koya, Malmi and Melachery of the island, the Koya represented the aristocracy and were the owners of land and *odams*. They were the respected class and were the only people who had tenants. By virtue of their highest social status they enjoyed many social privileges which included leadership in social, religious and economic matters. The Malmi were a small group. Therefore, they had only insignificant role in the social, economic and political and religious life of the islands. However, they preferred to identify themselves with the Koya and tried to praise the social status of Koyas. Malmis were considered epert navigators They plied the *odams* of Koya and they were economically better than the Melacheries. Melacheries were the tenant class.

1.2. Dominant roles played by the Koya were also seen in the political and religious life on the island. The Amin and Karanavars belonged to this group. Jobs which required some educational background went only to the Koya. The posts of *Karanavars* were purely honorary and did not carry any remuneration. The hereditary heads of families were nominated as *Karanavars*. The Amin, who is the king pin of the Administration was selected from *Karanavars*. Later, in 1956 this post was made general to make appointment from the open market. Now the post of Amin has been filled by a qualified candidate appointed by the Administration. The highest religious office, namely, that of the Kazi was occupied by the Koya. Similarly, *Thangals* who headed the Mohiddin and the Ujira mosques where *Ratheeb* was conducted were also Koyas. For all intents and purposes, the *kazi* was the religious head of the islanders. The *Thangals* claimed to be the descendants of the religious perceptors who were descendants of the prophet and considered themselves to have spiritual powers. The islanders had great faith in *Thangal*. Thus the Koya exercised their political and religious authority and economic control of the island.

Transformation in the social, political and economic set up

2.1. The political changes expedited the social revolution with the dawn of independence. Any one could become leader irrespective of caste or creed. For popular support politicians and others closely associated themselves with the people of all communities to win their confidence. The policy of the Government was to give equal opportunities to all sections of the people in providing amenities and facilities such as school, dispensaries, protection against crime. Government did not discriminate between one group and the other. Whereas it tried to introduce measures of reforms which helped the lower groups in fighting their battles. The oppressed people revolted against the supremacy and fought against the traditional leadership. All sections of the society were given equal opportunity in jobs. Slowly, the weaker sections of the society who are more in strength acquired power in social, political and economical aspects. At a later stage the social status began to give way to economic status.

Present position or power structure

2.2. A look of the power structure in the town envisages that no discrimination or inequalities are visible in the social, political or economic fields. There is no Municipality, Panchayat or the like for the administration of the town. The Administrator who is appointed by the President of India is the highest authority in the Union Territory as a whole for the maintenance of law and order, in the execution of which he is assisted by the magistracy and police. His function is chiefly to implement the policies of the Government. Advisory bodies have been constituted to ensure people's close association in local administration and development of the Union Territory. The Advisory council constitued by the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs advises the Administrator in the execution of plans and programmes. The nomination of members to this council consisting of 17 members including Administrator and Member of Parliament, has wide representation. Similarly, Advisory Committee associated with the Ministry of Home Affairs includes the Administrator, Member of Parliament and five other nominated non-official members. Citizen council constituted by the Administrator takes decision on all matters relating to the town. This council has representation from all sections of the people, institutions and organisations in the town. The indigenous people in the town are all Muslims and they give more weight to religious authorities. Even now, *kazi* is the religious head of the town and he belongs to Koya. The Naib *kazi* who is the assistant of *kazi* is from the Melacheri group. Till now the religious perceptors in the town were the descendants of the prophet and it is hereditary. But in other islands the elected members are holding the office of the *kazi*. The islanders are the strict followers of Islam and do not deviate themselves from any customary laws.

Representation in the Legislatures

2.3. Lakshadweep has no legislature at the state level. Before the re-organisation of states, these islands form-

ed part of the Chevayoor Assembly Constituency in Malabar District of the erstwhile Madras state. The members elected from these constituencies to the state Assembly and Parliament continued to represent these islands until 1956. From 1957 onwards, Lakshadweep was represented in the Lok Sabha by a member nominated by the President of India under the representation of peoples Act 1956. Shri K. Nallakoya Thangal was the nominated Member of Parliament to the Loksabha from 1956 to 1966. Under the Union Territory (Direct Election to the House of the people) Act of 1966, the Loksabha seat was made elective and the first election took place in February, 1967. It is a reserved constituency for Scheduled Tribe.

Political Parties and Trade Unions

2.4. On enquiry it is reported that at present there are three political parties found in the town. They are Indian National Congress (I), Muslim League and Lakshadweep Vikasana Samithi. District unit of Indian National Congress (I) is *functioning in Lakshadweep since 1968 with head*quarters at Kavaratti. The other two parties are of recent origin and they have not contested in their banner in any of the general elections. Lakshadweep Vikasana Samithi is stated to have been more a social organisation than a political party. The contest in 1967 for the Parliament seat was between five independent candidates. The member who won the election joined the congress party. Subsequently the same member contested the mid-term election in 1971 as a Congress (R) candidate and he was elected unopposed. During 1977 the contest was between two candidates, one on the banner of Congress (R) and the other independent. The Congress candidate Shri P. M. Sayeed was declared elected. In 1980 general election there were three candidates on the banner viz. Indian National Congress (U), Indian National Congress (I) and Janatha Party. The Indian National Congress (U) candidate Shri P. M. Sayeed won the election. In 1984 the contest was between Indian National Congress (I) and an Independent candidate. Indian National Congress (I) candidate Shri P. M. Sayeed was declared elected in the Lakshadweep Parliamentary Constituency.

Voting behaviour of the population

2.5. The total voters of the town during the first general election in 1967 was 1773. Of these number of votes polled is, 1511. In 1984 there were 4 polling stations. Out of the total votes of 3,279 polled, 3,256 were valid and 23 were invalid. Of these, the elected member got 1,642 votes. From the above facts Shri P. M. Sayeed has won in all the general elections to the Parliamentary constituency of Lakshadweep. This indicates that the people of Lakshadweep have more confidence in him irrespective of political party.

Most respectable persons in the locality and town

3.1. From the information gathered by canvassing the schedules on Neighbourhood pattern 10 persons interviewed mentioned the names of 30 persons who are respectable in the locality I. Of these, eleven persons have been referred to at the town level as well. Four persons, which is the maximum number, have stated the names of (i) Haji Shri Shaik Koya Musliyar, (ii) Shri C. K. Hassan and (iii) Shri M. Hamzath Musliyar and three persons suggested the name of Shri K. Ahamed. They have also been referred to at the town level.

3.2. Out of 8 persons interviewed in locality 2, four persons have put forward the names of (i) Shri T. Hamzath Haji and Shri M. P. Cheriyakoya. The latter has been referred to at the town level also. In addition to them, other 25 persons are also stated to have been respected in the locality. According to the persons interviewed, there are 20 persons respectable in locality 3. Of these, 9 persons have been mentioned at the town level also. Among the ten households only 6 persons have returned the names of 14 respectable persons in locality 4. Among them, 4 persons mentioned the name of Dr. K. Attakoya.

3.3 According to the persons interviewed in all localities there are 57 persons in the town who command respect in the town. Due to the smallness in area and population this number seems to be very high. On going through the schedules it appears that most of the names reported are biased due to kinship or friendship. Hence, the most respected persons in the town based on the survey and further enquiry are listed below:—

Table XI-1

Particulars of respected persons in the town

Sl. No.	Name of most respectable person	Sex	Religion	Educational level	Occupation
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Haji U. Sayed Shaikkoya Musliyar	M	Muslim	5th standard	Kazi
2.	Shri M. Hamzath Musliyar	M	Muslim	—Do.—	Nayab Kazi
3.	Shri J. Sagar	M	Christian	I.A.S.	Administrator
4.	Shri U.C.K. Thangal	M	Muslim	5th standard	Politician
5.	Shri A. Attakoya Thangal	M	Muslim	—Do.—	Coconut plantation
6.	Haji A. Cheriyakoya Thangal	M	Muslim	—Do.—	—Do.—

3.4. **Haji U. Sayed Shaik Koya Musliyar.**—He is the Kazi, a Muslim religious head priest of the town and a wellknown religious preacher as well as an orator. He is the founder of 'Noorulfalahiya Arabic College' at Kavaratti. He was on the fore-front in the construction of a number of new Madrassas and renovation of mosques in other islands. He has been in the post of *kazi* for more than 30 years. He commands respect not only in the town, but in the Union Territory as a whole.

3.5. **M. Hamzath Musliyar.**—He is the Nayab *kazi* of the town. He is a religious scholar and a good preacher. He is the founder of 'Bakhiyathussalihath Madrassa'. He is more a social reformer aiming to wipe out social evils of the town.

3.6. **J. Sagar.**—He was the Administrator of Union Territory of Lakshadweep during the survey period and his tenure extended from 9-7-1985 to 7-9-1987.

3.7. **U. C. K. Thangal.**—He is a wellknown politician renowned social worker, journalist, writer, orator etc. He is now holding the post of D.C.C. (I) president. Mr. Thangal is the first islander to publish a weekly newspaper named 'Deepaprabha' from Calicut for the circulation in the islands. He is the executive editor of 'Jasseera', a fortnightly published in the town and the honorary editor of 'Sagarakala' of Sahithya kala Academy. He is also a good writer of novelettes, Short stories, dramas, mapilasongs and small poems. Most of his writings were broadcast through the AIR Calicut in the special programme to Lakshadweep.

3.8. **A. Attakoya Thangal.**—He belongs to the famous *Arenakadu tarawad.* He is a citizen council member. He is a social worker and an active participant in religous activities. Mr. Thangal contested the Election during 1967 as independent candidate in Lakshadweep Parliamentary constituency.

3.9. **A. Cheriya Koya Thangal.**—He belongs to the famous *Ekarpalli tarawad* and is the religious head of 'Refaii Ratheeb'. He is a citizen council member. Mr. Thangal is the first man to mechanise the *dweep-odam* and to bring mechanised passenger boat not only in the town but in the whole of this territory. He also contested the Election in 1967 as Independent candidate in Lakshadweep Parliamentary Constituency.

Most Influential Persons in the locality

4.1. From the information gathered by canvassing the schedules on 'Neighbourhood pattern' persons interviewed in 9 households have mentioned the names of 15 influential persons in locality I. Of these 10 persons are common to both locality as well as town. 5 persons supported Shri M. P. Cheriyakoya. Seven persons, who were interviewed, have stated 16 influential persons in the locality 2. 4 persons have suggested the name of Shri P. P. Koyamma Haji. Out of 10 households only 5 persons have referred to the names of 15 influential persons in locality 3. Among them only one person named Shri A. P. Kasmi has been returned as influential person at the town level also. Out of 10 households in locality 4 only 2 persons have referred to 7 persons as influential at the locality. Among the names of influential persons put forward by the persons interviewed most influential persons in the town are listed below:—

Table XI-2

Influential persons in the town

Sl. No.	Name of the most Influential persons in the town	Sex	Religion	Educational level	Occupation
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Shri U.C.K. Thangal	M	Muslim	5th standard	Politician
2.	Shri M.P. Cheriyakoya	M	—Do.—	—Do.—	Coconut plantation
3.	Shri K. Sayed koya	M	—Do.—	—Do.—	—Do.—
4.	Haji Sayed Shaikkoya Musliyar	M	—Do.—	—Do.—	Kazi
5.	Dr. K.K. Mohammed koya	M	—Do.—	M.B.B.S.	Private Medical Practitioner
6	K.N.K. Habeeb	M	—Do.—	5th standard	Coconut plantation

4.2. Among the 6 persons listed above the biography of Mr. U. C. K. Thangal and Haji Sayed Shaikkoya Musliyar have been given among the persons who are most respectable in the town.

4.3. **M. P. Cheriyakoya.**—He is the leading politician of the town and holds the posts of Vice President of District Congress Committee (I), president of Lakshadweep Co-operative Marketing Federation and co-operative supply and Marketing Society, Mr. Koya is a Citizen Council member and Home Minister's Advisory Committee member. He is also the publisher of the fortnightly 'Jasseera' and also a leading *Muktiar.*

4.4. **K. Sayed Koya.**—He is one of the leading politicians in the town and belongs to the *Koliyala tarawad.* He holds the posts of Joint Secretary of District Congress Committee (I), President of Service Co-operative Society and President of Parent Teachers Association. Mr. Koya is a citizen Council member and also a leading *Muktiar* of the town.

4.5. **Dr. K. K. Muhammed Koya.**—He was born at Kalpeni and settled in the town. Dr. Koya is a leading politician and the president of 'Lakshadweep Vikasana Samithi', a political party organised recently. He is also Home Minister's Advisory Committee member and a Private Registered medical practitioner. He contested the elections in 1977 and 1984 as Independent candidate and in 1980 as the candidate of Janatha Party in the Lakshadweep Parliamentary Constituency.

4.6. **K. N. K. Habeeb.**—He is one of the leading politicians in the town. He is the office bearer of Lakshadweep Vikasana Samithi, Citizen Council member and Administrator's Advisory Council member.

CHAPTER XII

LEISURE AND RECREATION, SOCIAL PARTICIPATION, SOCIAL AWARENESS, RELIGION AND CRIME

Introduction

1.1. Being an isolated small town, life of an average citizen in the Kavaratti Census Town, is very leisurely. This is more in the case of non-workers. Other than Government Employees in the town most of the workers are not engaged in their work on full time basis. It will also be seen that majority of them are engaged in more than one occupations and most of them are taking it as leisure time activity. Presently, the main occupations of the population of the town are the coconut plantation, copra making and related activities and fishing and processing of fish. These are seasonal as well as leisurely works. Plucking of coconuts is done once in 45 days to 50 days (less days in summer) and stored till copra is made during the months of November to April. Time lag is observed between one stage of work and the other. Similar is the case of fishing also. The private boat owners do not engage in fishing regularly. Even, it may also be seen that the fishing is discontinued if the personal requirement of fishermen and their relatives is met for the time being and they do not at times care for the requirement of others or for selling. This is a peculiar character which can be seen in the islands.

1.2. It appears that the main reason for the leisurely out look of life that can be observed in the town is partly attributed to the high per capita expenditure from the Government side and also high income from household side. Another reason is that Kavaratti town is not an industrial, trade or business centre. There are no facilities for entertainment or cultural activities due to the peculiar set up of the town. This will naturally lead to either to sit idle or to do the work leisurely. This does not mean that they are not capable for doing work or they do not work seriously.

1.3. The facilities for refreshing or amusement are generally lacking in the town. There are only limited number of clubs, gardens, play grounds, auditoria etc. There is a beautiful lake like lagoon on the western part of the island. People, who are interested go there for lagoon cruise. Some people go for swimming, rowing in the lagoon and viewing the underwater coral world in a glass bottom boat, etc. Besides, there is good sea-shore where people assemble in the evening in small groups to enjoy breeze and gossip. The natural scenic beauty of the town is attractive and enjoying. The indigenous population very seldom avail the opportunities for lagoon cruise or swimming or going round the lagoon. For them there is no attraction in the scenic beauty of the town. Many of the indigenous people are interested in lagoon fishing as their leisure time activity.

Park

2.1. At present, there is only one small children's park located in the premises of Mahilasamajam maintained by State Social Welfare Advisory Board. This park was opened in 1978. Facilities for children's recreation are available here. Toys and other playing equipments available for children are 1. Toy car, 2. Toy cycle, 3. Rocking horse, 4. Rocking duck, 5. Rocking swan and 1, see saw, 2. swing, 3. slide and swing, 4. Jungle-jim and 5. Merry go-round respectively. Another park named Mahatma Gandhi Centenary Park is not in existence now.

Botanical Garden

2.2. The only one botanical garden of the Union Territory is in the Kavaratti town. This garden inaugurated on 28-1-1986 by Shri Ajit Kumar Panja, Union Minister of State for Planning is located in front of the Secretariat building. The purpose of the garden is (i) to preserve and perpetuate the flora including medicinal plants of Lakshadweep, (ii) to study the modes of migration access through wind, water, birds and human agency (iii) to study the economic importance of flora in Lakshadweep, (iv) to make environmental and ecological awareness among the mass, (v) to harness the florestic resources for green wealth and create plant interest (vi) to approach to 'one man one tree' awareness among population and (vii) to popularise tree-belt and man-grove vegetation against sea erosion problem and to promote land accretion. Presently the garden has a collection of 36 trees, 62 shrubs, 6 creepers, 28 foliage and 16 other plants. This is benefited by the public, students in schools and colleges and scientists as well.

Play Ground

2.3. There is one play ground attached to the High School and Junior College. This is the only play ground in the town. This ground is mainly used as play ground for games especially football. School and College level, island and Union Territory level sports, games and tournaments are conducted here. No stadium is available in the town.

Town Hall

2.4. Lakshadweep Bhavan inaugurated on 18th February 1976 is located near Kutchery. It serves the purpose of a town hall. Besides public functions and cultural programmes, film shows are also conducted here. In addition to this, one college auditorium, one conference hall and one Sahithya Kala Academy (Indira Bhawan) hall are available in the town. These halls are also used for public meetings, cultural programmes, seminars, workshops etc. There

is one *Bharkath* Bhavan located in front of Kutchery. It is used for public meetings and film shows. There is no cinema theatre or big auditorium in this capital, town.

Clubs

2.5. The Youth Recreation club in Kavaratti was opened in 1960 with the backing of the Administration. The main object of the club is to provide recreational facilities to the youths of the island and coordinate their Social and cultural activities. The staff recreation club available in the town aims to extend the facilities to the Government employees for the indoor and outdoor games. It is also to organise sports and games and conduct tournaments.

2.6. Although the above clubs are in existence in the town and they are well aware of their objectives, in reality, these clubs are not functioning properly and the people do not get any benefit out of them. Besides the above, there are a number of recreation clubs and voluntary organisations registered in the town under the Societies Registration Act. Some of them are aided by Lakshadweep Social Welfare Board, Lakshadweep Social Welfare Office and Nehru Yuvak Kendra. A few of them are (i) Krishik Arts and Sports club, (2) Kavaratti Eastern Brothers Integrating Recreation club, (3) Kalabila Young Challengers club, (4) Pushpa Arts and Sports club, (5) Kalabhavan, (6) Lucky star, (7) Northern Brothers, (8) Navodaya Arts and Sports club, (9) Middle Star Recreation club, (10) Roopak, (11) Southern star Mahila Mandal, (12) Kasthurba Mahila Samajam and (13) Mahila samajam.

Library and Reading Room

2.7. A Central Library of the Union Territory was opened in 1958 at Calicut, the then headquarters of the Administration. It was then shifted to Kavaratti island in 1964. The library has a collection of 4,342 books in Malayalam, 5,241 books in English and 200 books in Hindi. Till 1972 this library was opened only to Government officials and the library was known as Secretariat Library. Later the facility was extended to the students and public as well by remitting a refundable deposit of Rs. 3 to students and Rs. 7 to others. Indian Express is the English newspaper and Malayala Manorama and Mathrubhoomi are the Malayalam newspapers brought here for the readers. Weeklies are also available in the library. At present 24 English, 10 Malayalam and one Hindi weeklies are available here for the readers. The reading materials such as news papers and periodicals are carried to the islands from Cochin by the ships, whereby a week's issues of dailies are available together to the library.

2.8. In addition to this, there is a reading room-cum-library in the town. The college and schools are having their own libraries. Besides these, three Islamic libraries viz. (1) Al-manaar Islamic Centre, (2) Ishaathussunniya Vidhyarthi Samaajam-cum-library and (3) Daarul—uloom Reading-cum-Library are functioning in the town with the aim of promoting reading habit among students and youths and to preserve the Islamic culture.

Sports & tournaments

2.9. U. R. Panicker Memorial Football tournament, selection tournament for Subrado Mukherji cup Football tournament, Union Territory level folk dance competition, Union Territory level drama competition, Independence day and Republic day tournaments are conducted in the town. An ad-hoc sports council for the territory as a whole is functioning in the town. This council is responsible for conducting tournaments and also to audit the accounts and attend to other work connected with sports and games. The Nehru Yuvak Kendra, an autonomous organisation with its headquarters at Delhi, located at Kavaratti, arranges vocational training to the youths and provides financial aid to the clubs to conduct tournaments. It also conducts Annual District level cultural Programmes and Workshops, Work-camps, Youth leadership Training Programme, Youth Club Development Programme, Exchange Programmes and the Great Nehru Trial. etc. This kendra is financed by the Ministry of Human Resources Development of Government of India. It has aided Northern Brothers Club with Rs. 28,250 and Karaikad young Challengers Club with Rs. 20,750.

2.10. Sahithya Kala Academy inaugurated on 2nd October 1983 by Shri Venkata Subhayya, the then Deputy Home Minister, is a registered society. The aims of the Academy is to promote talents in literature and to preserve culture and tradition. The Administrator who is the president of the Academy nominates 18 general council members and 5 executive council members. The Academy located in the Vth Block is functioning in its own building. It has a circular hall named Indira Bhawan, the walls of which are decorated with beautiful paintings by the young Artists of Lakshadweep. The hall is used for conducting selected seminars, workshops and conferences.

2.11. The Lakshadweep Society for the Promotion of Recreational Tourism and Sports (SPORTS), Kavaratti has been registered as a Society under Societies Registration Act, 1960. The main aim of this organisation is to promote recreational tourism and sports in islands in collaboration with various departments of the Administration. The headquarters of this organisation is located in the town. The first batch of tourists under this programme reached Kavaratti on 25th September 1982. One Luxury ship 'M. V. Bharat Seema' with air-conditioned cabin class and economy class deck accommodation has been arranged for the tourists during fair season. Educated unemployed youths are mainly deployed under the SPORTS. Different types of tours for short periods for domestic tourists and special tour for foreign tourists to Bangaram are arranged by this agency. Tourist huts and cottages are provided at Kavaratti as in other islands.

Particulars of newspapers, journals etc.

2.12. A daily newspaper entitled 'Lakshadweep Times' was first introduced in Kavaratti in English on 2nd October 1982 by Information and publicity department. Now this daily is printed and published in both English and Malayalam. The Information department was also publishing a fortnightly entitled 'Lakshadweep'. One fortnightly named 'Jazeera' is published by private management in the town. Another religious monthly periodical by name 'Al-khalam' is also published from the town. No other newspapers and periodicals are published from the town. Since Malayalam is the mother tongue of islanders as well as the neighbouring mainland of Kerala many of the dailies and periodicals published from Kerala are in circulation in the town. The Malayalam dailies viz. Malayala Manorama and Mathrubhumi and English dailies namely Indian Express and The Hindu are most widely read newspapers in the town. The important Malayalam weeklies published from outside the Union Territory and circulated in the town are Mathrubhumi, Malayala Manorama, Mangalam, Manorajyam, Chitrakaumudi, Kunkumam, Nana, Chithrabhumi etc. The important English weeklies circulated in the town are Illustrated Weekly of India, India Today, Competition Success, Science magazines, etc.

Nature of leisure time activities

3.1. According to the household survey out of 1475 persons 1099 persons are non-workers. Among 376 workers 206 are reported having leisure time activity. The leisure time activities usually prevalent in the mainland like club activities, cinema going, sight seeing, visiting liquor bars etc. are not popular in the Islands, may be due to the absence of such facility. There are no cinema theatres in the Town, but cinemas are shown by Video records which are attended to by some of them. Service organizations like Rotary, Lions etc. are yet to find a place in the islands. Tobacco is a habit of the Islanders and its use is associated with the leisure activity also. Since some of the works like construction of house, thatching the roof etc. are usually done by mutual help and not by engaging labour, the time available after work is devoted for such beneficial activities. Of the 206 workers reported having leisure activity, 192 are males and 14 females. Of them 33.98 per cent are of the age group 25-34, 30.10 per cent of the age group 35-44, 22.81 per cent of the age group 45-59, 9.22 per cent of the age group 20-24, 3.40 per cent of the age group 15-19 and 0.49 per cent of 60+ years.

Table XII-1

Leisure time activity of workers

Sl. No.	Description of leisure time activity	No. of persons engaged
1	2	3
All activities		206
1.	Lagoon fishing for pleasure	55
2.	Listening to Radio/Tape recorder	48
3.	Book reading	28
4.	Gossipping in sea shore/Jetty	20
5.	Watching Television	8
6.	Playing games	7
7.	Attending to Social work	7
8.	Recreation in club	7
9.	Attending to Association to activities	6
10.	Attending to club activities	6
11.	Lagoon cruising	5
12.	Engaged in religious activities	5
13.	Attending to political activities	4

3.2. Workers with leisure time activity are mainly seen from the unskilled manual workers, lowest professional and administrative workers followed by skilled manual and highly skilled workers. Among the leisure time activities, lagoon fishing for pleasure ranks first with 26.70 per cent followed by listening to Radio/tape recorder with 23.30 per cent, book reading 13.59 per cent and gossipping in sea shore/jetty 9.71 per cent. Watching Television Programme is reported as leisure time activity by only 3.88 per cent but this will definitely shoot up in the near future, since there is great demand for Television sets in the Islands and the adoption of Video Cassette facilities by some of the families will divert the leisure time activity to the viewing recorded cinema cassette, attracting some of their neighbours, friends and relatives also.

Religious Institutions

4.1. There are 36 mosques and one temple in the town. There is no church in the town. One Nursery school, 8 Madrassas and one Arabic College, where religious education is imparted are also functioning in the town. Majority of the mosques are owned and managed by private individuals and households and the remaining are managed by wakf board constituted by the Administration. All the Muslim educational institutions in the town such as Madrassas Arabic College etc are under the control of 'Samastha Kerala Islam Madha Vidhyabhyasa board' of Kerala state. This is managed by a committee selected by the Muslim population of the town. Among the mosques four main mosques viz, the Juma, the Mohiddin, the Ujira and the Marakara Palli are very famous. Apart from these, there are numerous mosques, big and small in size in the town. The details of important mosques are given below. Each mosque is in charge of a *Mukri* or *Mullah*. In Kavaratti separate *Niskarapuras* (prayer houses) are available for Muslim women. There is one Christian prayer hall in the town. All christians assemble here on Sunday and offer prayers to Christ. The only temple constructed during 1978 is within the premises of Madhya Pradesh State Armed Force and is open to all irrespective of religion, caste



Plate 31—Arabic College



Plate 32—Old Juma Mosque

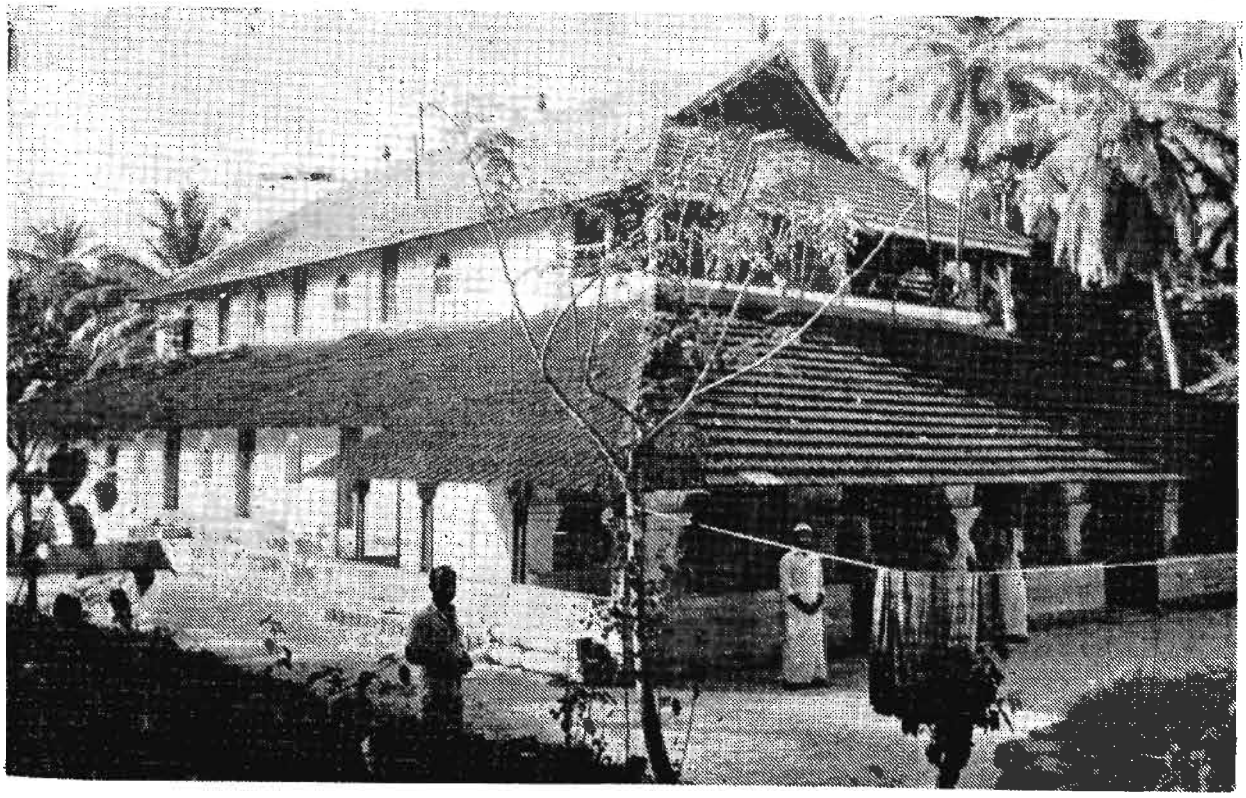


Plate 33—Juma Mosque



Plate 34—Tank believed to contain medicinal water behind the Ujira Mosque

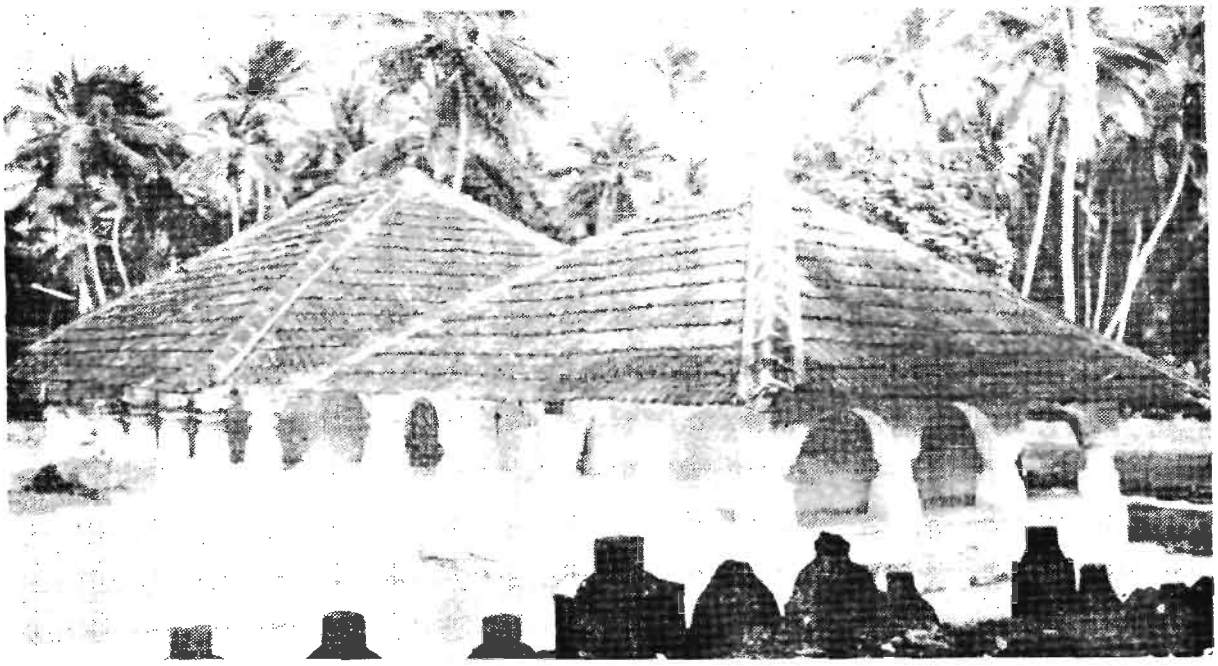


Plate 35 -Makbara in front of Ujira Mosque

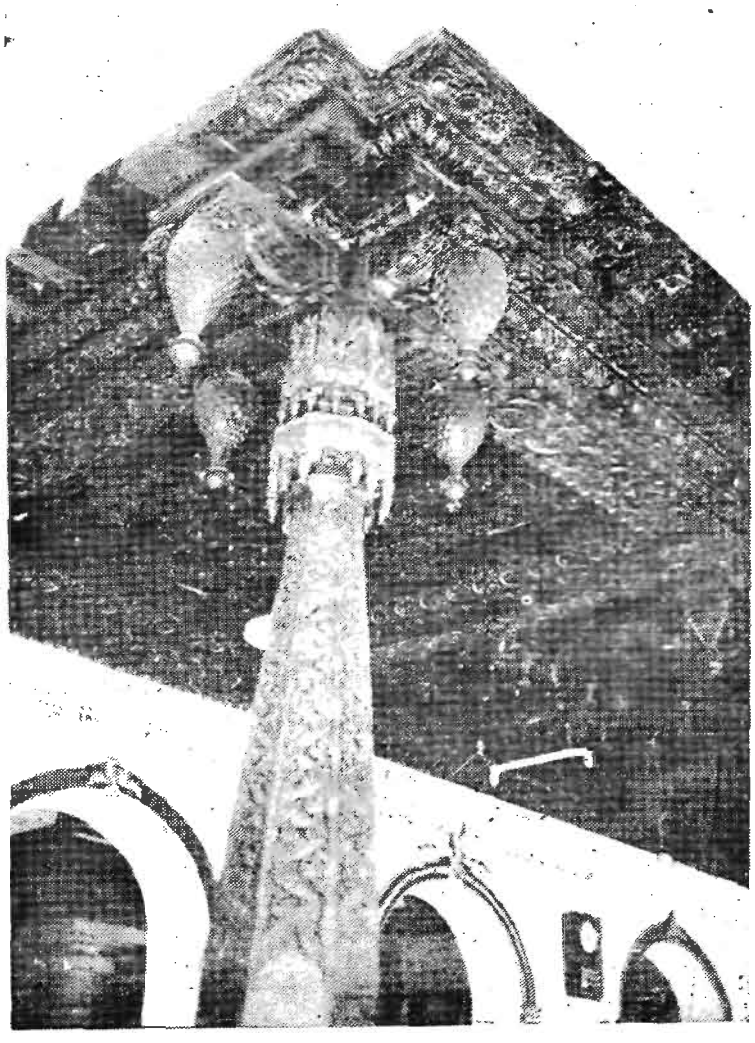


Plate 36—Intricate carvings in Ujira Mosque

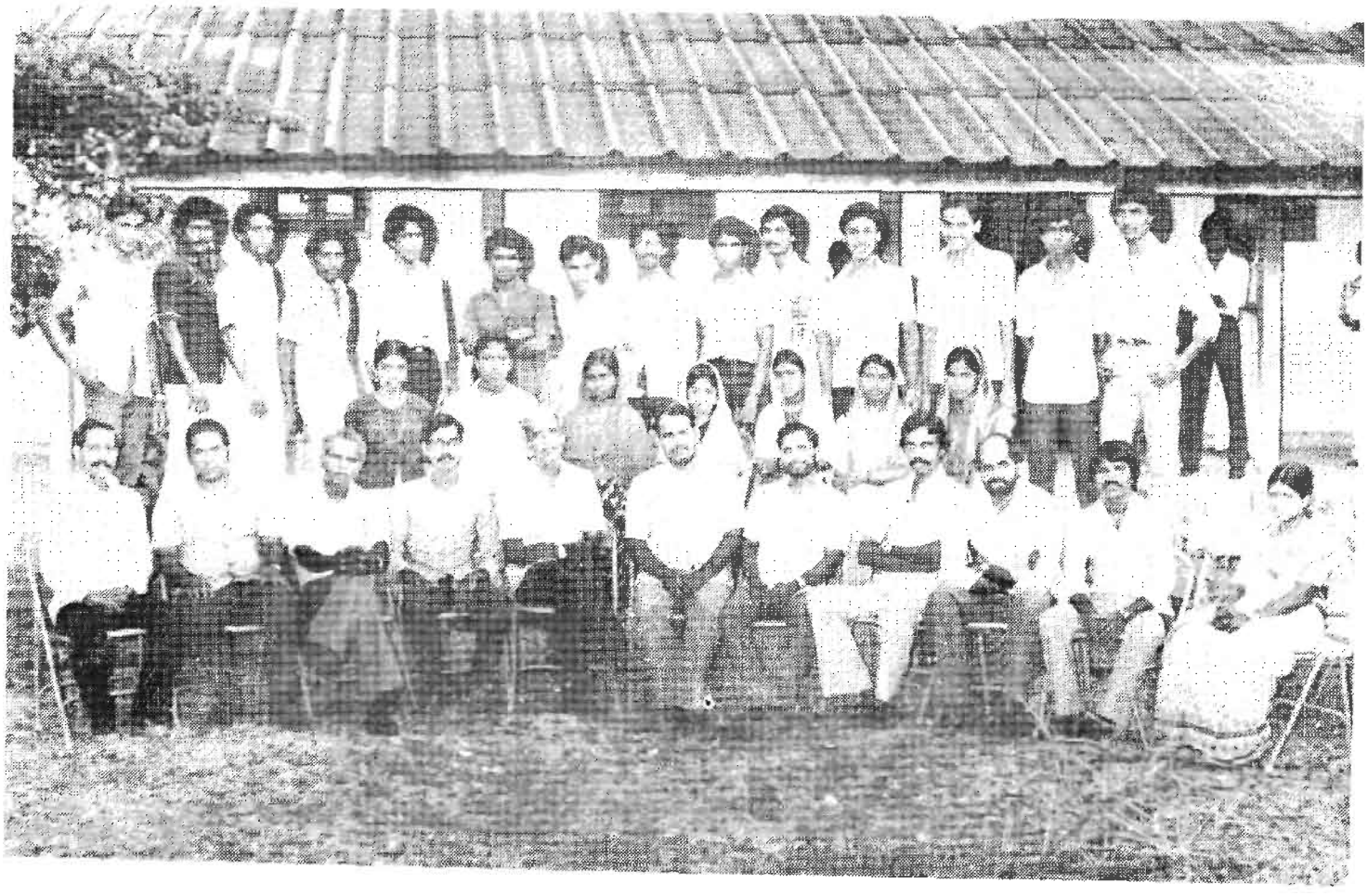


Plate 37. Group of staff and students—J. N. College

or creed. This temple is managed by a registered Temple Trust consisting of a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and 9 other members.

4.2. The old Juma mosque was constructed during Hijara 41. It is believed that the Juma mosque is said to have been founded by the Saint Ubaidullah. This mosque has a large building. Initially, the Juma mosque was located near Amin Kutcherry. Later another large building was constructed for Juma almost at the centre of the habitation. Besides the usual Friday prayer, Id congregation meets in this mosque. It has the largest tank of any mosque in the Union Territory. The Tomb of Syed Umer Makhabi Oliyulla is at Juma Mosque.

Ujira Mosque

4.3. The Ujira mosque constructed about 300 years ago is about one km. away from Kutchery Jetty. The Tomb of Sayed Mohammed Quasim in front of the Ujira Mosque is very famous. It is reported that the Saint Mohammed Quasim who came from Angole in South Kanara District of erstwhile Mysore State about 300 years back. He preached *Rifaii* order for the first time in Lakshadweep. The intricate carvings on wood inside the Ujira mosque is a fine specimen of the craftsmanship of a *mukri* in the Mukriya illam house of Kavaratti island. It is believed that the *mukri* got the ideas of making various designs of carvings from a flower grown in front of the mosque. It is also told that the wooden chains in the middle of two pillars of the mosque was made by the *mukri* when he was stranded at Kalpeni during monsoon period. It is believed that the Saint Sayed Mohammed" Quasim supervised the construction of the mosque.

Marakara Palli

4.4 The Marakara Palli was constructed about 152 years ago. The Tomb of Sayed Aboobacker Seedi Oliyulla is in this mosque. Saint Aboobacker Seedi was a native of Kottakkal and was a member of Marakar family.

Religious Activities

4.5. Islam enjoins five duties upon its followers— They are (i) the recitation of *Kalima,* (ii) offering of *Namaz* 5 times a day (iii) *roza* (fasting in the month of Ramzan) (iv) *zakat* (contribution in cash or kind for charitable purposes) and (v) Haj to Mecca. The people of the town are very strict in all their religious observances. A mosque is in charge of *Mukri* or *Mullah,* whose main function is to make the call of prayer five times a day and lead the *Niskaram.* The *Mukri's* remuneration consists of the yield of the coconut trees set apart for the purpose by the community and offering or *Nercha* by the devotees. The *Kazi* leads the Friday prayers. The office of the *kazi* is hereditary in the town. Muslims of the town perform *Rathib* twice a week in the name of the two shaiks popularly known as Rifai Shaik and Mohiddin Shaik at the Ujira Mosque and Mohiddin Mosque respectively. Special *Rathibs* are also conducted on special days and also by individuals. There is very little difference in the ritualistic practices followed in the two *Rathibs,* except in the rendering of the *baith* or hymns sung in praise of the respective saints during the performances. The performance of the *Rathib* is initiated by the *Khalifa* of the mosque who renders the *baith.* The participants sit in two rows facing each other and beat the *duff* to the tune of the *baith* and perform a series of exercises. At the same time, about half a dozen of them dance up and down between the rows carrying a sharp instrument known as *labbus* and get into fits of frenzy as the pace of the *baith* as well as the beating gain momentum. At the climax they leap into the air shouting and apply the *labbus* in their bodies. *Rathib* on special occasions is also performed without the accompaniment of the *duff* and the ritual inflicting of *labbus.*

4.6. The Ramzan fast lasting for thirty days begins on the first of Ramzan, the ninth month of Hijira. The fasting requires total abstinence from food and drink from sunrise to sunset. On 27th day Muslims give zakat to the poor. Id-ul-Zuha (Bakrid), Id-ul-Fitre, Milad-Un-Nabi, Shab-e-Barat and Muharram are promptly and ethusiastically celebrated in the town. Annual death celebrations of deaths of Rifaii Shaik, Sayed Mohammed Quasim and Saint Ubaidullah and *Andunerchas* are conducted with special *mouloods* and prayers in every year.

Crime

5.1. The Police Station in the town was opened in 1964. The post of Deputy Superintendent of Police and a Circle Inspector of Police were sanctioned in the same year. Now, the strength of the Police Station of the town is one sub-Inspector, 2 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 13 Head Constables and 36 Constables. One band troup consisting of 15 constables is also available here. Apart from local Police, one company of the Madhya Pradesh Special Armed Force is also stationed in the town. At present the Police department headed by the Inspector General of Police is having separate office in the town. There is one Superindent of Police and one Deputy Superintendent of Police and one Circle Inspector in the office. The Administrator is the Ex-officio Inspector General of Police. There are no institutions dealing with criminal deviant behaviour in the town.

5.2. Crimes in the town are limited. Only four cases were reported in the town from 1985 to 1987, i.e. one case each of housebreaking and theft and misappropriation during 1985 and two cases of the former in 1987. The reason for the small number of crimes may be due to the smallness of the island and the interdependence of the people. Generally, the people of the town are peace loving and law abiding. Serious crimes are practically unknown in the town till recently. Prohibition is in force in the town. Gambling is also uncommon in the town.

Social Participation and Awareness

Family Planning

6.1. The family planning programme was introduced in the island in 1966. One health educator was appointed in 1968-69 in order to facilitate for Health Education and motivational work. During 1971-72 the family planning was intensified in the islands. Family Planning Bureau with the local Advisory Council Members and other prominent leaders including the religious heads as its members was constituted in the town for eliciting the unstinted cooperation of the local people in the programme. At the initial stage of implementation of family planning programme the people were reluctant to accept as well as to co-operate with the scheme. Later, of course, with the wide publicity from the Government side and also due to the mingling with the people from different parts of India, the indigenous people realised the facts and co-operated with the programme. During 1981 there were 7 Vasectomy, 4 Tubectomy and one IUD insertion and in 1985 there were 11 Vasectomy, 8 tubectomy and 9 IUD insertions. 5,545 Nos. of condoms were also issued in the town. The table given below shows the family welfare activities in Kavaratti Census Town.

Table XII-2

Family Welfare Activity in the town, 1980—1985

(Survey data)

Family planning measures	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Vasectomy	..	7	9	12	12	11
Tubectomy	3	4	5	10	6	8
IUD (Intra Uterine Device)	..	1	14	13	15	9
Condoms	2,750	2,430	1,044	2,742	2,460	5,545

6.2. According to the household survey, out of 250 informants, 153 have knowledge about family planning. 142 informants are aware of the possibility of prevention of birth and 109 have knowledge about family planning measures. Majority of the informants of the Muslim (Scheduled Tribes) households are aware of the prevention of birth and a large number of them have knowledge about family planning measures. All the infomants of Hindu, Christian and Muslim (Non-Scheduled Tribes) households have knowledge about family planning. In most cases literacy and education is not at all a bar for the awareness of possibility of prevention of birth, but education standard, of course, is found as an influencing factor for the awareness of family planning measures in the town. According to the household survey vasectomy and use of condoms are found to be the popular measures of family planning among the people of the town. Regarding the desirable number of children, majority of informants who originally belonged to the town report for 'any number of children'. At the same time more than half of the informants from other households report for 'one son and one daughter' and almost all the remaining households as 'two sons and one daughter'.

6.3. The main reason for majority of informants why they desired the number 'one son and one daughter', '2 sons and one daughter' as well as 'any number' is for happy family life. Some of the informants among households of indigenous population did not express any opinion. But a few informants of indigenous households are even found arguing against family planning. According to informants, 'safe period' is the widely adopted practices of family planning measures among the indigenous population. A few are reported to have been adopted tubectomy and Intra Uterine Device. Among the practitioners of family planning measures, except one from each sex of Hindus, none has reported about the physical, psycological or other after effects. One lady has reported that she is having some Uterus complaints after undergoing tubectomy.

Indian Social Legislation

7.1. Among the 250 households covered during the survey only 102 informants are aware about the Indian Social Legislation. Of these, 73 informants are literates upto matric standard and 29 are educated above matric. Out of the remaining 148 informants who are not aware, 45 are illiterates, 97 literates upto matric standard and 6 educated above matric. Just one half of the informants among indigenous population are not aware of the Indian Social Legislation. Majority of informants from Hindus are aware of Social Legislation. Among the 205 informants who are engaged in some occupation, 102 persons are aware of the social legislation. Among them 5 persons have thorough knowledge of all social legislations and 34 persons have only general knowledge of social legislations. The following table shows the Indian Social Legislations and the number of informants having knowledge of them.

Table XII-3

Reporting of Indian Social Legislations and number having knowledge of them

Sl. No.	Indian Social Legislations	Number having knowledge of			
		Total	For the last 5 years	6-10 years	11+ years
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Child marriages restraint Act	44	23	14	7
2.	Abolition of Child labour	45	27	14	4
3.	Abolition of bonded labour	11	4	5	2
4.	Dowry prohibition act	5	1	2	2
5.	Minimum wages act	19	13	5	1
6.	Special marriage act	1	..	..	1
7.	Kazi's Act	2	1	..	1
8.	Restriction of Entry Permit act	4	3	..	1
9.	Hindu succession act	1	1	..	..
10.	Untouchability offences act	5	2	1	2
11.	Land tenancy rules	1	..	..	1
12.	Hindu minority and guardianship act	1	1	..	..
13.	Muslim minority act	1	..	1	..
14.	Packaged commodities act	2	2	..	..

7.2. Out of 102 informants 57 consider the legal action to social evils is adequate and 5 consider legal action to social evils is not adequate. 3 persons out of the latter suggest to implement social legislations strongly, one person suggests to include some more stringent action in the rule so that no culprit escapes and another person suggests to make aware of the people by way of hectic propaganda campaigns. Another 40 persons do not offer any comments on it. The following table shows the attitude of the informants with respect to the Indian Social Legislations.

Table XII-4

Attitude of the Informants with respect to the Indian Social Legislations

Sl. No.	Social Legislation	Number of Informants			
		Total	Supporting	Not supporting	No opinion
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Child marriages act	21	18	2	1
2.	Abolition of child labour	30	29	..	1
3.	Minimum wages act	4	3	..	1
4.	Dowry prohibition act	3	2	1	..
5.	Untouchability offences act	2	2	..	..
6.	Land tenancy rules	1	1	..	..
7.	Hindu minority and guardianship act	1	1	..	..
8.	Muslim minority act	1	1	..	..
9.	Packaged commodities act	2	2	..	..

7.3. Among the 68 informants having comparative knowledge about Indian Social Legislations, 15 support all legislations. Out of the 34 informants having general knowledge, 20 support it and 14 do not offer any opinion on it. Out of 148 informants who have no knowledge about Indian Social Legislations, one person supports it and 147 persons do not offer any opinion on it. Among the 250 households only one informant has sought legal help for enforcement of registration of marriage act, 1956 for himself. No other informants are aware of any such case being pursued by his/her kins or any acquaintance.

CHAPTER XIII

LINKAGE AND CONTINUA

General Demographic and Economic Characteristics of the District

Introduction

1.1. The present Union Territory of Lakshadweep was part of erstwhile Madras State. Prior to the formation of the Union Territory, the Amindivi group of islands were under the jurisdiction of South Canara District and the Laccadive and Minicoy group of islands under the jurisdiction of Malabar District. In November 1956, the Union Territory of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands was formed. The territory was officially named as Lakshadweep only from 1st November 1973. The district of Lakshadweep is co-extensive in area with the Union Territory. This is not a district with compact area, but consists of 27 scattered coral islands. Of these, 10 are inhabited and 17 uninhabited. Besides, there are a number of sunken banks, open reefs and sand banks. The district has a land area of 32 sq. kms. Though the land area is extremely small, its lagoon area is about 4,200 sq. kms., area under territorial waters 20,000 sq. kms. and the area of economic zone about four lakhs sq. kms.

1.2. The islands generally lie from north to south and are identical in physical confirmation. They are narrow smooth sandy strips of lands lying not more than 3 to 4 metres above the sea level. All the islands, except Andrott have shallow lagoons on their western side. The eastern side of the islands is slightly low lying area compared to the other side. The lagoons are bounded by a coral reef. There is one storm beach on the eastern side of the islands. The lagoons protect the islands from the fury of south-west monsoon.

General demographic and economic characteristics

2.1. Coconut is the staple product of the district and the mainstay of the economy. Besides coconut growing and copra making, fishing is the main occupation of the people of the district. Majority of the employees in the Lakshadweep Administration are from the islands. The labourers working for the Agriculture department, Harbour department, etc. and under integrated Rural Development Project, National Rural Employment Programme, Rural Landless Employment Guarantee programme, etc. are all from the indigenous people of the islands. Poultry keeping is popular on the island and cattle and goats are reared in a limited scale. The islands are treasure houses of a veriety of marine fauna which can not be found anywhere else in the country. Turtles and sea-slugs are abundant, coral and shells in attractive colours are also in plenty.

2.2. According to 1981 Census Lakshadweep has a population of 40,249 consisting of 20,377 males and 19,872 females. The estimated population of Lakshadweep is 43,400 persons in 1986. Lakshadweep constitutes the smallest Union Territory as well as the district in the Indian Union. The growth rate of population of the district is recorded as 26.53 per cent in 1981 as against 31.95 per cent for the 1971. The territory includes a number of uninhabited islands, sand banks and reefs. Even then, the density of population of the district is as high as 1,258 persons per sq. km. —1,010 for rural and 1,759 for urban areas. The males out number females in the territory with 975 females for every 1000 males. In the rural area this ratio is 986 and urban area 963. Among the census towns in the district, Amini census town has the highest density of population with 2,072 and Minicoy has the lowest with 1,524. The following table gives the area, population, density of population and sex-ratio of each town.

Table XIII-1

Area, population, density of population, sex-ratio of each town in Lakshadweep

Name of the town	Area in sq. km.	Total population			Density of population	Sex-ratio (number of females per 1000 males)
		Persons	Males	Females		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Minicoy	4.37	6,658	3,091	3,567	1,524	1,154
Kavaratti	3.63	6,604	3,623	2,981	1,819	823
Amini	2.59	5,367	2,776	2,591	2,072	933

2.3. The bulk of the population in the district is Muslims. The other religious people are all temporary migrants. According to 1981 Census, Muslims constitute 94.84 per cent of the total population of the district, 4.47 per cent are Hindus and 0.66 per cent Christians, 0.03 per cent of the total population constitute 'religion not stated'. As much as 85 per cent of the people in the territory speak Malayalam and others speak more than 12 languages. The percentage of literate and educated persons to the total population of Lakshadweep as recorded in 1981 Census is 55.07 per cent. The rate is 51.98 per cent among rural population and 58.65 per cent among urban population. Lakshadweep ranks 7th in the case of literacy among the states/Union Territories in India.

Amenities in the district

3.1. Communication facilities in the district have received adequate attention. Besides steamer services, the islands are now benefited by the services of helicopter as well as vayudoot which ply between the islands and mainland. In the district all the inhabited islands are having basic amenities in the island itself. In every island there is atleast one Junior Basic school. Every island, except Bitra, has a high school. The Junior colleges are functioning at Kavaratti and Andrott. Nearly 13,000 students are attending various educational institutions in the islands.

Amenities in other towns

4.1. Minicoy and Amini are the other census towns in Lakshadweep. Most of the amenities as provided in Kavaratti as well as in other islands are available in these census towns. Junior college is available only at Kavaratti and Andrott. Although helicopter service is available to all islands, air-strip has been constructed only at Agatti. All the economic plans and programmes, Social welfare schemes and other cultural facilities are provided equally to all islands. Besides Common amenities and facilities extended to all the islands, Kavaratti occupies a unique position in all aspects, being the Union Territory headquarters. This is evident from the additional facilities provided under transport and communication such as Inter-State Police Wireless, Telephone facility to outside the Union Territory (even to foreign countries), medical and educational facilities and location of central library, etc.

Travel index of the population

5.1. Out of the 250 households canvassed for special study, more than 51 per cent of the total population have travelled from place to place in connection with employment, medical treatment, education, business, pilgrimage etc. Of these 32.20 per cent are males and 18.92 per cent are females. The travel index shows the average of the maximum distance travelled by the members of the sample households, aged 5 and above. It is 774 kms. for persons, 856 kms. for males and 635 kms. for females. The travel index is high in locality IV (1082 kms.) compared to other localities. The reason is obvious that this locality largely constitutes Government employees and their families. 32.63 per cent of the persons have travelled in locality I, 18.83 per cent of the persons in locality II, 20.82 per cent of the persons in locality III, and 27.72 per cent of the persons in locality IV.

5.2. While we consider the travel index by community the travel index is 679 kms. for Muslims with a breakup of 676 kms. for Scheduled Tribes and 830 kms. for non-Scheduled Tribes, 1,155 kms. for Hindus and 1,340 kms. for Christians. The travel index for persons who are engaged in some occupation is 873 kms. with 862 kms. for males and 1038 for females.

Particulars of places from/to where people commute for earning livelihood

6.1. Kavaratti Census Town is the headquarters of the Union Territory Lakshadweep Administration. Various offices of the Administration as well as other Central Government department offices are located here. One Junior college with Arts and Science subjects is functioning here. Besides, Indira Gandhi Hospital, a referral hospital in the territory, is located here. Employment Exchange is also located at Kavaratti. A large number of persons belonging to other islands and also other states are working in various offices at Kavaratti. Though Kavaratti is not an industrial, business, trading or commercial centre, people from other islands move to the town for employment, education and medical purposes. Some people of other islands proceed first to Kavaratti to catch the conveyance to their destination in the absence of direct trips.

Marketing of Commodities

7.1. The hats/markets are lacking in the town. Almost all the commodities like rice, sugar, oil including vegetables, stationeries, provisions etc. except coconut are imported to the town. Recently the Animal Husbandry department has started to import polythene packed milma milk to the town from the mainland and to supply to the consumers in order to meet their additional requirements apart from what produced in the town. Copra, *mas*, dried fish and mattress and bristle fibre are exported from the town to the mainland.

Participation in Cinema and other entertainment

8.1. The cinema theatres or talkies are lacking in the town. Besides the films exhibited by the publicity department of the Administration, Cinema are shown through Video as well as Television sets. Direct receiving sets have also been installed in the town. The people of the island generally patronise the film shows although a few in the town are still upholding the traditional outlook towards the exhibition of films.

8.2. There are many Muslim festivals celebrated in the town throughout the year. Besides the general festivals celebrated by the entire Muslim community

in India. a few special festivals are also celebrated in the town. Death anniversary celebration of Rafai Shaik Syed Mohammed Quasim is conducted in every year at Ujira Mosque. Large gatherings of people are found in the mosques. Offerings are received here from all over the islands and even from the mainland. Religous *Adiyantharam* of Marakara Palli is being conducted in every year in the month of *Rajab*. People from other islands come here to offer *Nercha*. The sports, games and tournaments conducted at School as well as college level and also at national level attract the people of the town as well as other islands.

Reading in Educational Institutions

9.1. Till 1983 J. N. College, Kavaratti was the only Junior college in the whole of this Union Territory. Later, one junior college was started at Andrott. Both these colleges offer Arts as well as Science groups. English medium schools are available at Kavaratti and Minicoy. The students from other islands move to the town for studying in the college. High schools of Malayalam medium are available in all islands except Bitra. Only those who wish to study in English medium try to come to Kavaratti. In the absence of any technical institutions or colleges for courses other than Pre-Degree, the students who desire for higher studies move to mainland for admission in colleges and other educational institutions.

Obtaining medical facilities

10.1. The Indira Gandhi Hospital at Kavaratti Census Town is the only referral hospital in the territory where more facilities are available. It is a 50 bedded hospital. Specialists are available in this hospital. The patients from Primary Health Centres as well as Hospitals of other islands are referred to the town. Only such patients for whom treatment is not sufficient in the town are taken to the hospitals in Cochin, Calicut or Mangalore at mainland.

Everyday contact with other places

11.1. Kavaratti Census Town is a small island having an area of 3.63 sq. kms. with a maximum length of 5,132 metres and a breadth of 1,516 metres at the widest point. The town is connected to other islands only by boats/launches during fair season and steamer as well as helicopter throughout the year. Road service between the islands does not arise in the territory. Every day contact, between the town and the other islands by surface communication is very remote in the territory.

Frequency of Visit to rural areas

12.1. Kavaratti Census Town lies at a distance of 404 kms. from Cochin and 346 kms. from Calicut and 352 kms. from Mangalore. Nearest island to the town is Agatti (57 kms.), then comes Amini (65 kms.), Kadmat (76 kms.), Kiltan (115 kms.), Andrott (119 kms.), Kalpeni (124 kms.), Bitra (124 kms.), Chetlat (126 kms.), and Minicoy (252 kms.). Two rural islands and one census town are within the range of 51-100 kms. 5 rural islands are within the range of 101-200 kms. and one census town is above 200 kms. It is reported during the survey that members of 40 households out of 250 visited rural areas. Out of these, members of 19 households visited the islands ranging 51-100 kms. distance from the town. Of these, members of 18 households visited once in a year and members of one, twice a year. Similarly, members of 20 households visited islands ranging from 101-200 kms. Among them, the frequency of members of 17 households was once in a year and 3, twice a year. Members of one household visited once to the rural areas at a distance of 201 kms. from the town. The number of households whose members visited the rural areas alongwith the purpose of visit are shown in the table below:—

Table XIII-2

Visit to rural areas by members and the purpose

Purpose	No. of households visited to places at a distance			
	Total	51-100 kms.	101-200 kms.	201+ kms.
1	2	3	4	5
To know the welfare of relatives . .	21	6	14	1
Friendly . . .	11	8	3	..
Official . . .	5	3	2	..
To convey condolence .	1	..	1	..
To bring labourers for household industry . .	1	1	..	..
To spend summer vacation .	1	1	..	..

12.2. The table given below shows the visit to rural areas by members by migrational status with reference to place of last residence of head of household and categories of the places visited and purpose.

Table XIII-3

Visit to rural area by members according to the migration status of heads of households and categories of places visited and purpose

Migration status and place of last residence of head of household	Rural islands						Rural area of Kerala for official purpose
	To know the welfare of relatives	Friendly	Official	To convey condolence	To bring labourers for household industry	To spend summer vacation	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total	21	11	4	1	1	1	1
A. Non- Migrant (Born in the town)	7	9	2	1	1	..	..
B. Migrant							
(a) Rural	13	2	..	..	..	1	..
(b) Urban	1	..	2	..	..	..	1
I. Last residence in other islands							
(a) Rural	13	2	..	..	..	1	..
(b) Urban	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
III. Last residence in other states							
Kerala							
(a) Rural	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Urban	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Maharashtra							
(a) Rural	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Urban	..	..	1	..	..	..	..

Urban influence on demographic and other characteristics of other islands in the Union Territory

13.1. Usually villages with urban influence tend to have larger population, greater density and higher ratio of households to house. Villages are connected to the town by roads, some of them both by road and rail and some of others by road, rail and waterway. The urban growth extends the residential area and small townships are formed in the villages. The percentage of workers increases in the villages due to more participation of work in industries, trade, business and commerce. A number of persons travel to the town from these villages daily for work or business. Usually educational institutions are in plenty in urban centres. People move to the towns for education and thereby the educational standards as well as literacy of the rural villages increase.

13.2. As far as the Kavaratti Census Town is concerned, it is not at all an industrial, commercial, trade orbusiness centre. The island is a distinct unit as well as isolated. It is not connected by road or rail. Though the islands are connected by waterway, it is very much restricted by weather conditions and also the number of trips of steamer service. Extension of residential area or daily movement of the people from the villages to the town does not arise. A number of persons from other islands are employed in the town. But their visit to their native places are not frequent. In a way, the surface contact between the town and the other islands are very much limited and hazardous. The other islands are having more or less equitable distribution of amenities and services comparing to the town. It can, therefore be inferred that in the case of Kavaratti Census Town, the urban influence on the demographic or economic characteristics of all the islands at different distances from the town tends to become inoperative due to various reasons stated above.

CHAPTER XIV

CONCLUSION

1.1. This report largely contains an account of the socio-economic structure of the Kavaratti Census town and its change during the past. The important characteristics relating to political, social, cultural and economic aspects are found uniform in all the islands throughout the territory as in the town except that of Minicoy. The size of the town is third among the islands in the Union Territory. Kavaratti Census Town is one among the major islands as well as census towns. The island-Kavaratti was declared as census town only recently during 1981 Census along with other islands of Minicoy and Amini. Till then, the entire area of the territory was treated as rural. The whole of Kavaratti island, which is a distinct unit, is treated as urban. All other inhabited and uninhabited islands in the group are treated as rural. Most of the characteristics of the town have resemblance with that of other islands in the territory.

1.2. The industry, service and commerce are the real stepping-stone to pave the way for the urbanisation. These factors tend to change the economic and social out-look of the people of the place. But, the case of Kavaratti is entirely different. It is lagging behind in all these aspects. The only achievement of this town or the advantageous position it enjoys among the other islands is that it is the seat of the Administration. It does not reflect the characteristics of the town. It has only the headquarters status. The possibility of expansion by setting up more of administrative units is rather difficult due to the limited land area it has. The scope for the development of industries or commerce in the town is rather remote due to the peculiar set up of the town.

1.3. A significant proportion of the population in the town still depends on the primary sector for their livelihood. Coconut growing and copra making and fishing are the main occupation of the people in the town and the mainstay of the economy. The number of persons employed in household industries has declined considerably during 1981 Census. This is, of course a great set back for the development of the economy. Very seldom people come forward to invest capital or to take up entrepreneurship in the town. The number of teashops, stationery and provision stores have certainly increased. Majority of the population of the town are interested to get into petty Government jobs. The 1981 Census data show that majority of the people are employed under 'other services'.

1.4. Being the headquarters island of the union Territory, Kavaratti is the media of migration. Most of the employees are the temporary migrants from other islands as well as other states. The people from different parts of India having different culture and ethnic composition moved to the town on account of employment. A change in the social structure has taken place by the mingling of these people in the past. A change in the social set up has contributed much to the change in the attitude of the people towards economic as well as other spheres of life. In the past the people of the town were happy and contented with what they had. Later, the people became more conscious for owning land and the strong feeling for saving something for the future formed the target in their life. The people became motivated and interested to wear clean and costly dress, construct good houses, avail facility of school and hospital and also to visit mainland once a while. Most of them were eager to get into Government jobs to improve their economic position and consequently to promote the standard of living. Above all these, elevation of status on modern lines became their style and way of life.

1.5. The population of the town is increasing by leaps and bounds as seen in the earlier chapters. The rate of growth of population of various classes or groups of the town are not available. It is clear that the population during the period 1961-71 marked an abnormal growth. The reason attributed to it in the census report is the shifting of the headquarters from Calicut to Kavaratti. Consequent to it, a number of offices had sprung up in the island. The 1981 Census shows a slightly lower growth rate than the 1971. The growth of indigenous population is not slow in the town. Various development activities have caused expansion of offices which resulted in the influx of people from other islands as well as mainland. The reduction in mortality rate as a result of improvement in medical services is also evident in the town. However, the growth of population of the town does not in any way influence other parts of the territory since outgrowth or spread over of population is not possible as other islands are scattered away in the Arabian Sea and are not easily accessible as in the mainland.

1.6. Being a small island, the people of the town have not felt much for the road transport. To meet emergency, department vehicles are available in the town. Bicycles are the common man's means of transport. A few persons own scooters and motor-cycles. One car is also available in the town. Two all-weather ships connect islands and mainland ports. One ferry vessel also plys between islands and Beypore port. One Helicopter makes its trips from Cochin to Kavaratti and then to other islands. Vayudoot is in service twice a week between Cochin and

Agatti, an island near the town. Even then, the requirements of the people are not met by their services. It is seen that more the facilities, more the needs of the people. The round the clock supply of power is available in the town. A High School with both English and Malayalam medium, one Junior College and one Hospital are available in the town. Lakshadweep Administration arranges seats every year for higher studies of the islanders and also meets their expenses outside the territory. Thus there are students from Kavaratti town and other islands in different branches of Engineering colleges and Polytechnics and Medical and other professional and Arts and Science colleges in the neighbouring states. The Town has a referrel hospital with specialists, in paediatrics, ophthalmology etc. and it has better facilities than other islands in this regard. Yet serious patients for whom specialised treatment is not available in the town hospital are referred to the hospitals on the mainland, and free air lift is given in case of emergency to save life.

1.7. There are no definite areas allotted for the residence of a particular class or community in the town. All the indigenous population are Muslims. Hindus and Christians who are temporary migrants form only a minority. However, they reside in harmony and cordial relationship in the town.

Summing up

2.1. The study of this Town is unique in nature in our country as it is away from the mainland by more than 340 kms. in the Arabian Sea. Similar study of Towns has never been attempted earlier in the group of islands and hence this is the first of its type. The study has revealed as to how a town has to depend on for its entire essential commodities and other requirements with the mainland and also for marketing its commerical crops and other products. Kavaratti is a Class V Non-municipal town where urban characteristics and additional facilities are not available. It is strange to note that in such an Indian Town in rural settings there are no cultivators or agricultural labourers in the population.

2.2. Kavaratti town is not an industrial, business or trade centre. Along with the Administration offices, setting up of some small industrial units will help to provide more employment opportunities to the islanders. The means for development of the town has to come either from within or being a Union Territory from the Government of India. Investment by mainlanders are not permitted in the town. Therefore, the islanders with high potentiality may be encouraged to channel their resources with suitable schemes befitting to the town. Labour is not problematic here. As in any other innovations, the town may not be free from the initial resistance. If entrepreneurs are not forthcoming, Government may establish units of manufacturing, assembly etc. of small items in softwares, electronics, chronometers etc. which consume only less space. This is because the raw materials have to be brought from and the finished items have to be transported back to the mainland for marketing. The industry should not consume fresh water lavishly since there is acute shortage of fresh water and only sub-soil water is available in the town. The required man power may be utilised from the town itself after imparting training for supervisory and other work initially.

2.3. Lakshadweep with its headquarters town is enjoying special attention from the island Development Authority under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister and several developmental programmes are under active consideration. In a vast country like India, to bring optimum development to a small place like Lakshadweep with special attention to its headquarters town is not an uphill task. But ecological balance has to be maintained while implementing various projects in this small area of 3.63 sq. km. isolated by sea water. Since the coral island, Kavaratti presents peculiar set up with problems of ecological balance, the Lakshadweep Administration along with top Scientists and experts in different branches and high officials and dignitaries of our country are making efforts to evolve future programmes which will enable to elevate this Headquarters Town to an ideal and prestigious town of excellence and splendour in the Arabian Sea.

APPENDIX

TABLES FROM HOUSEHOLD SCHEDULES

TABLE-1

Distribution of Population by Age, Sex and Marital Status

Age group	Marital status and Sex							
	Never married		Married		Widowed		Separated	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Total	414	354	338	290	12	47	..	..
0 — 4	83	92	..	..	..	..	..	..
5 — 9	89	87	..	..	..	..	..	..
10—14	95	92	..	..	..	..	..	..
15—19	73	62	2	19	..	..	..	..
20—24	53	16	12	54	..	..	..	..
25—29	17	3	43	52	..	..	..	..
30—34	2	..	63	39	1	..	..	..
5—49	2	1	152	101	3	10	..	..
50—59	..	..	50	24	2	13	..	..
60—69	..	1	15	1	6	17	..	..
70+	..	..	1	..	..	7	..	..
Age not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE 1—*Contd.*

Distribution of Population by Age, Sex and Marital Status

Marital status and Sex						Age group
Divorced		Unspecified		Total		
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
10	11	12	13	14	15	1
6	14	..	..	770	705	Total
..	..	..	..	83	92	0 — 4
..	..	..	..	89	87	5 9
..	..	..	..	95	92	10 14
..	..	..	..	75	81	15—19
..	2	..	..	65	72	20—24
1	3	..	..	61	58	25—29
1	3	..	..	67	42	30—34
2	3	..	..	159	115	35—49
2	3	..	..	54	40	50—59
..	..	..	..	21	19	60—69
..	..	..	..	1	7	70+
..	..	..	..	..	..	Age not stated

TABLE-2

Distribution of Households and Population by Locality, Caste/Tribe/Community and Sex

Locality	Caste/Tribe/Community and Sex								
	Total			Muslims (S.T.)			Muslim Non-Scheduled Tribe		
	House-hold	Male	Female	House-hold	Male	Female	House-hold	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total	250	770	705	196	675	615	4	9	7
I	75	261	259	71	257	255	1	1	1
II	60	190	190	57	184	187	..	..	..
III	45	191	141	43	188	137	..	..	..
IV	70	128	115	25	46	36	3	8	6

TABLE-2— *Contd.*

Distribution of Households and Population by Locality, Caste/Tribe/Community and Sex

Caste/Tribe/Community and Sex						Locality
Hindu			Christian			
House-hold	Male	Female	House-hold	Male	Female	
11	*12*	*13*	*14*	*15*	*16*	1
46	77	77	4	9	6	Total
3	3	3	..	..	..	I
2	5	3	1	1	..	II
2	3	4	..	..	..	III
39	66	67	3	8	6	IV

TABLE-3

Distribution of Households by number of Members, Migration status and place of Birth of Head of Household

Migration status and place of birth of Head of household	Number of households having members									
	Total	Single	2	3	4	5	6-7	8-9	10-12	13 and above
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Total	250	34	20	23	34	29	43	18	27	22
A. **Non-migrants (Born in the town)**	144	6	11	6	13	12	32	16	26	22
B. **Migrants** (a) Rural	66	15	4	12	14	13	6	1	1	..
(b) Urban	40	13	5	5	7	4	5	1	..	..
I. **Born** outside the town in the district										
(a) Rural	40	10	3	8	8	6	4	..	1	..
(b) Urban	12	4	1	1	2	1	2	1	..	..
II. **Born** within the State in the District*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		..
III. **Born** in other states	54	14	5	8	11	10	5	1	..	..
1. Kerala (a) Rural	26	5	1	4	6	7	2	1	..	..
(b) Urban	24	8	4	2	5	3	2	..	..	..
2 Karnataka (a) Rural	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Urban	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Maharashtra (a) Rural	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Urban	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Orissa (a) Rural	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Urban	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5 U.P. (a) Rural	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Urban	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
IV. **Born** in other country	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
V. **Unspecified**	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

*Lakshadweep is a single district Union Territory.

TABLE-4

Distribution of Households by Nature of Relation of members to head of Household and Migration status of Head of Household

Sl. No.	Nature of relation of members of head of Household	Number of House-holds	Migrant	Non-migrant
1	2	3	4	5
	Total	250	106	144
1.	**Self**	34	28	6
2.	Self, Spouse	7	5	2
3.	Self, Spouse, unmarried sons and daughters	66	52	14
4.	Self, spouse with married daughters and unmarried sons and daughters and with daughter's unmarried sons and daughter	11	1	10
5.	Self (Female) unmarried son/daughters	14	5	9
6.	Self (Female) with married daughters, daughter's unmarried sons and daughters	11	..	11
7.	Self (male) with father/mother, married/unmarried sisters and sister's unmarried sons/daughters	11	1	10
8.	Self (male) with married/widowed brothers and sisters and sister's unmarried sons and daughters	22	1	21
9.	Self (male) with widowed father/mother, unmarried sisters and brothers and married sister's unmarried sons and daughters	20	1	19
10	Self (male) with widowed/divorced sister/brothers and sisters, married/unmarried sons and daughters and sister's daughters unmarried sons/daughters	12	..	12
11.	Self (male) with married/unmarried sons and daughters and with daughter's unmarried daughters	10	..	10
12.	Others	32	12	20

TABLE-5

Distribution of Households by Number of Members and Occupational Diversity (i.e., Different members having different occupations)

Description of occupational diversity	Number of households with number of workers and diverse occupations in									
	All Localities		Locality I		Locality II		Locality III		Locality IV	
	No. of households	No. of workers	No. of households	No. of workers	No. of households	No. of workers	No. of households	No. of workers	No. of households	No. of workers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Total	63	171	20	52	11	32	20	62	12	25
1. Carpenter . — Teacher — Group 'D'* — Police — Clerk	1	6	..	..	1	6	..	..	..	..
2. Welder . . — Group 'D' — Police — Mason — Labourer	1	5	..	..	1	..	1	5	..	..
3. Group 'D' . — Labourer — Police — Teacher — Fishing.	1	6	..	..	..	..	1	6	..	..
4. Coconut grow ing. — Contractor — Clerk — Shop keeper	1	5	..	..	..	..	1	5	..	..
5. Coconut growing — Group 'D' — Fishing.	1	5	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Group 'D' . — Health worker — Salesman.	1	3	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Salesman . — Labourer — Group 'D'	1	3	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Mason . . — Group 'D' — Labourer.	1	4	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Coconut growing — Driver — Shop keeper.	1	4	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	..
10. Group 'D' . — Teacher — Clerk	1	3	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..
11. Climber . — Mate — Group 'D'	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..
12. Maistry . . — Labourer — Welder.	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..
13. Climber . . — Fishing — Labourer.	1	5	..	..	..	..	1	5	..	..
14. Boatman . — Salesman — Labourer.	1	4	..	..	..	..	1	4	..	..
15. Salesman . — Mason — Labourer	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..
16. Fishing . — Police — Group 'D'	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..
17. Group 'D' . — Teacher	1	3	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
18. Group 'D' . — Clerk	1	3	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
19. Lineman . — Salesman	1	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
20. Sailing of manioo— Teacher	1	3	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
21. Group 'D' . — Labourer	4	9	2	5	..	..	2	4	..	..
22. Group 'D' . — Gramasevika	1	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
23. Clerk . . — Coconut growing	1	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
24. Carpenter . — Group 'D'	1	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
25. Maistry . . — Health worker	1	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
26. Group 'D' . — Maistry	1	3	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
27. Mate . . — Driver	1	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
28. Clerk . . — Maistry	1	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
29. Teacher . . — Agricultural Officer	1	2	1	2	..	..	..	..		
30. Fishing . . — Police	1	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE-5—*Contd.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
31. Clerk . . — Lineman	1	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
32. Group 'D' Driver	1	3	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..
33. Climber . . — Labourer	1	3	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..
34. Lecturer . — Teacher	1	2	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..
35. Group 'D' . — Police	1	3	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..
36. Mason . . — Group 'D'	1	2	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..
37. Clerk . . — Labourer	2	4	..	..	1	2	..	..	1	2
38. Coconut growing — Labourer	1	2	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..
39. Teacher . . — Clerk	1	2	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..
40. Cook . . — Clerk	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..
41. Climber . — Group 'D'	4	8	..	..	..	..	4	8	..	..
42. Coconut growing — Fishing	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..
43. Group 'D' . — Fishing	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..
44. Fishing . . — Contractor	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..
45. Mason . . — Labourer	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..
46. Engineer . — Teacher	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
47. Group 'D' . — Tailor	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
48. Health Inspector — Telephone operator	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
49. Maistry . . — Teacher	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
50. Salesman . — Cook	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
51. Police . — Staff nurse	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
52. Clerk . . — Technician	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
53. Mechanic . — Teacher	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
54. Pharmacist . — Healthworker.	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
55. Health Inspector — Nurse	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
56. Engineer . — Clerk	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2

*Group 'D' Government employee.

TABLE-6

Place of Last Residence of Members of Households as Related to place of birth

Place of Birth		Place of last Residence			
		Same as place of birth		Different place of birth	
		Males	Females	Males	Females
1		2	3	4	5
Same place		541	520	39	24
Same District	Rural	44	38	21	18
	Urban	21	17	11	1
Other District of U.T.	Rural	..	..	..	..
	Urban	..	..	..	..
Other States		27	28	66	59
1. Karnataka	Rural	..	..	..	..
	Urban	..	..	2	1
2. Kerala	Rural	6	13	20	18
	Urban	21	15	39	35
3. Maharashtra	Rural	..	..	..	..
	Urban	..	..	2	1
4. Orissa	Rural	..	..	..	..
	Urban	..	..	1	..
5. U.P.	Rural	..	..	..	..
	Urban	..	..	2	4
Other country	Rural	..	..	..	..
	Urban	..	..	..	..
Total		633	603	137	102

TABLE-7

Age, Sex and Study in Educational Institution by Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Others

Category of Caste or Tribe or Community	Age-group	Total		Number studying		Number not studying	
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
All Communities	5—9	89	87	78	71	11	16
	10—14	95	92	87	80	8	12
	15—19	75	81	45	38	30	43
	20—24	65	72	6	2	59	70
	25+	363	281	1	..	362	281
	Total	687	613	217	191	470	422
Muslim	5—9	81	78	70	62	11	16
	10—14	81	78	75	69	6	9
	15—19	71	71	41	29	30	42
	20—24	56	68	6	2	50	66
	25+	317	244	1	..	316	244
	Total	606	539	193	162	413	377
(i) Scheduled Tribes	5—9	79	77	68	61	11	16
	10—14	81	76	75	67	6	9
	15—19	70	70	40	28	30	42
	20—24	56	67	6	2	50	66
	25+	313	242	1	..	312	242
	Total	599	532	190	158	409	374
(ii) Non-Scheduled Tribe	5—9	2	1	2	1	..	..
	10—14	..	2	..	2	..	..
	15—19	1	1	1	1	..	..
	20—24	..	1	..	..	..	1
	25+	4	2	..	..	4	2
	Total	7	7	3	4	4	3
Hindu	5—9	8	7	8	7	..	..
	10—14	12	14	10	11	2	3
	15—19	4	9	4	9	..	..
	20—24	6	4	..	..	6	4
	25+	42	34	..	..	42	34
	Total	72	68	22	27	50	41
Christian	5—9	..	2	..	2	..	..
	10—14	2	..	2	..	..	..
	15—19	..	1	..	..	..	1
	20—24	3	..	..	..	3	..
	25+	4	3	..	..	4	3
	Total	9	6	2	2	7	4

TABLE-8

Distribution of Population by Age, Sex and Educational Level

Educational level		Age and Sex													
		5-9		10-14		15-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50+	
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Total		89	87	95	92	75	81	65	72	128	100	159	115	76	66
Illiterate		41	48	1	6	2	10	3	19	3	20	36	83	32	60
Literate (without educational level)	Non-formal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Formal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Educational level	Primary	48	39	68	57	29	26	20	24	48	39	55	15	30	3
	Middle	..	..	26	27	29	31	29	13	29	24	28	5	8	1
,,	Matriculation/ Secondary	..	..	..	2	15	9	10	15	30	11	27	9	6	2
,,	Higher Secondary/Intermediate/Pre-University	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	..	4	4	3	1	..	..
,,	Non-technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
,,	Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..
,,	Graduate degree other than technical degree	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	10	1	5	..	..	..
Edl. Technical level degree or diploma equal to degree or post graduate degree	Post-graduate degree other than technical degree	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	..	..
	Engineering and technology	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
	Medicine	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
	Agricultural and Dairying	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	Veterinary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
	Teaching	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE-9

Distribution of Workers and Non-workers by Sex, Caste or Tribe or Community and Broad Age-group

Caste/Tribe/Community	0—14						15—59					
	Workers			Non-workers			Workers			Non-workers		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
All	2	..	2	536	267	269	369	345	24	520	136	384
Muslim	..	..	..	479	240	239	310	295	15	469	127	342
(i) Scheduled Tribe .	..	..	..	472	236	236	306	291	15	464	126	338
(ii) Non-S.T. . .	..	..	..	7	4	3	4	4	..	5	1	4
Hindu	2	..	2	53	25	28	53	45	8	46	7	39
Christian	..	..	..	4	2	2	6	5	1	5	2	3

TABLE-9—*Contd.*

Distribution of Workers and Non-workers by Sex, Caste or Tribe or Community and Broad Age-Group

60+						All ages						Caste/Tribe/Community
Workers			Non-workers			Workers			Non-workers			
T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	1
5	5	..	43	17	26	376	350	26	1099	420	679	All
5	5	..	43	17	26	315	300	15	991	384	607	Muslim
5	5	..	43	17	26	311	296	15	979	379	600	(i) Scheduled Tribe
..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	..	12	5	7	(ii) Non-S.T.
..	..	..	..	..	..	55	45	10	99	32	67	Hindu
..	..	..	..	..	..	6	5	1	9	4	5	Christian

TABLE-10

Non-workers by Sex, Age and Type of Activity

Age-Group	No. of non-workers			Full time student			Household duty			Dependent		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Below 10	351	172	179	149	78	71	..	..	..	181	84	97
10—14	185	95	90	167	87	80	2	..	2	16	8	8
15—19	144	63	81	83	45	38	40	3	37	5	3	2
20—24	99	29	70	8	6	2	62	5	57	1	..	1
25—29	64	12	52	1	1	..	52	2	50	..	..	..
30—34	42	4	38	..	..	..	38	1	37	1	1	..
35—39	38	1	37	..	..	..	37	..	37	..	..	..
40—49	80	11	69	..	..	..	77	9	68	1	..	1
50—59	53	16	37	..	..	..	32	9	23	19	5	14
60—64	20	12	8	..	..	..	5	2	3	15	10	5
65+	23	5	18	..	..	..	1	1	..	22	4	18
Age not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1099	420	679	408	217	191	346	32	314	261	115	146

TABLE-10—*Contd*

Non-workers by Sex, Age and Type of Activity

Infant			Disabled			Retired			Rentier having independent means			Age-Group
T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	1
19	8	11	2	2	..	..		..	..	..	..	Below 10
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10—14
..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	15—19
..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20—24
..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25—29
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30—34
..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35—39
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40—49
..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	50—59
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60—64
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	65+
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Age not stated
19	8	11	7	6	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	Total

TABLE-11

Travel Index of Persons, Males and Females by Caste or Tribe or Community

Caste/Tribe/Community	Travel Index		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
All Religion	774	856	635
Muslim	679	773	501
(i) Scheduled Tribe*	676	768	502
(ii) Non-Scheduled Tribe	830	1,102	422
Hindu	1,155	1,277	1,020
Christian	1,340	1,303	1,394

Note :— No Caste has been scheduled in relation to this Union Territory. There is only one Tribe in the whole of this Union Territory which has no specific name.

*"The inhabitants of Lakshadweep who and both of whose parents were born in those islands are treated as Scheduled Tribes".

TABLE-12

Employment Status of Workers by Caste or Tribe or Community and Sex

Caste/Tribe/Community	Employment Status by sex											
	Total workers			Employer			Employee			Single worker		
	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
All Communities	376	350	26	4	4	..	305	279	26	60	60	..
Muslims	315	300	15	4	4	..	247	232	15	57	57	..
(i) Scheduled Tribe	311	296	15	4	4	..	243	228	15	57	57	..
(ii) Non-Scheduled Tribe	4	4	..	..	..	..	4	4	..	..	..	..
Hindus	55	45	10	..	..	..	54	44	10	1	1	..
Christians	6	5	1	..	..	..	4	3	1	2	2	..

TABLE-12—*Contd.*

Employment Status of Workers by Caste or Tribe or Community and Sex

Caste/Tribe/Community	Employment Status by Sex								
	Family worker			Cultivator			Agricultural Labourer		
	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
All Communities	7	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Muslims	7	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(i) Scheduled Tribe	7	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(ii) Non-Scheduled Tribe	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hindus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Christians	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE-13

Number of Persons seeking employment by Age, Sex, Educational Level and Registration with Employment Exchange

Educational Level	Seeking employment and registered with Employment exchange							
	Age-Group							
	Upto 14		15—24		25—34		35+	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Total	..	..	26	12	10	3	2	..
Illiterate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Education without level	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Below Primary	..	..	3	..	..	1	1	..
Primary	..	..	12	4	3	1	..	..
Matric	..	..	11	8	6	1	1	..
Diploma & Certificate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Degree and above	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..

TABLE-13—*Contd.*

Number of Persons seeking employment by Age, Sex, Educational Level and Registration with Employment Exchange

Educational Level	Seeking employment and not registered with employment exchange							
	Age-group							
	Upto 14		15—24		25—34		35+	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Total	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..
Illiterate	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Education without level	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Below Primary	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Primary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Matric	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Diploma & Certificate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Degree and above	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..

TABLE-14

Households Defaulting in Enrolling School going children by Caste or Tribe or Community of Head of Household

Caste/Tribe/ Community of head of household	Number of house-holds not having any child of school going age	Number of households having children of school going age (5-14)			Number of house-holds with only male children of school going age and failing to send them to school	Numer of house-holds with only male children of school-going age and failing to send some of them to school	Number of house-holds with only female children of school going age and failing to send them to school	Number of house-holds with only female children of school going age and failing to send some of them to school
		Male only	Female only	Male and female both				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
All Religion	97	42	36	75	5	3	1	5
Muslim .	70	35	30	65	4	3	..	5
(i) Scheduled Tribe .	68	34	30	64	4	3	..	5
(ii) Non-Scheduled Tribe .	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Hindu .	24	7	6	9	1	..	1	..
Christian .	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..

TABLE-14—*Contd.*

Households Defaulting in Enrolling School going children by Caste or Tribe or Community of Head of Household

Caste/Tribe/Community of head of household	Number of households having both male and female children of school going age and failing to send both to school	Number of households with both male and female children of school going age and failing to send male children only to school	Number of households with both male and female children of school going age and failing to send only some male children to school	Number of households with both male and female children of school-going age and failing to send only female children to school	Number of households with both male and female children of school going age and failing to send only some female children to school	Number of households with both male and female children of school-going age and failing to send some male & some female children to school
1	10	11	12	13	14	15
All religion . . .	..	4	3	8	7	4
Muslim	..	4	3	7	7	4
(i) Scheduled Tribe .	..	4	3	7	7	4
(ii) Non-Scheduled Tribe	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hindu	..	..	..	1	..	..
Christian	..	..	..	..	..	..

Note:—No Caste has been scheduled in relation to this Union Territory. There is only one Tribe in the whole of this Union Territory which has no specific name.

TABLE-15

Households classified by locality and per capita floor space

Locality	Households		Per capita floor space											
			1 or less sq, metre		2-3 sq. metres		4-5 sq .metres		6-9 sq. metres		10-15 sq. metres		16 and above sq. metres	
	Total number	Number of members	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers	No. of house-holds	No. of mem-bers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
All localities. .	250	1475	..	..	11	143	36	344	74	502	72	357	57	129
Locality-I . .	75	520	..	..	5	65	11	116	30	194	16	106	13	39
Locality-II . .	60	380	..	..	2	29	12	121	13	97	18	99	15	34
Locality-III . .	45	332	..	..	3	43	6	65	18	144	10	58	8	22
Locality-IV . .	70	243	..	..	1	6	7	42	13	67	28	94	21	34

TABLE-16

Availability of Amenities by Locality

Locality	Total No. of house-holds	Amenities and availability					
		Kitchen		Bath room		Lavatory	
		Availability	No. of households	Availability	No. of household	Availability	No. of households
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
All localities . . .	250	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	12 235 3	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	122 99 29	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	111 111 28
Locality-I . . .	75	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 73 2	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	42 30 3	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	35 37 3
Locality-II . . .	60	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	1 58 1	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	38 21 1	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	39 21 ..
Locality-III . . .	45	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 45 ..	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	37 8 ..	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	31 14 ..
Locality-IV . . .	70	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	11 59 ..	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	5 40 25	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	6 39 25

TABLE-16—*contd.*

Availability of Amenities by Locality

Locality	Source of drinking water		Water for washing		Electric current	
	Availability	No. of house-holds	Availability	No. of house-holds	Availability	No. of house-holds
1	9	10	11	12	13	14
All localities . . .	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 154 96	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 149 101	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	6 242 2
Locality-I . . .	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 64 11	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 64 11	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	1 74 ..
Locality-II . . .	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 45 15	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 41 19	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	1 57 2
Locality-III . . .	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 24 21	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 23 22	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	3 42 ..
Locality-IV . . .	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 21 49	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	.. 21 49	a) Not having b) Having separately c) Shares with other households	1 69 ..

TABLE-17

Presence of Luxury and Costly Goods by Educational Level of Head of Households

Educational level of head of household	Total number of households	Number of households possessing no luxury and costly goods	Number of households possessing				
			Wrist Watch	Table Clock	Radio	Television	Grama-phone
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total	250	19	214	95	134	3	1
Illiterate	68	12	46	22	28	..	..
Education without level	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Below primary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
primary	107	5	96	45	53	..	1
Matric	56	2	53	24	40	3	..
Diploma & Certificate	2	..	2	1	1	..	..
Degree and above	17	..	17	3	12	..	..

TABLE-17—*contd.*

Presence of Luxury and Costly Goods by Educational Level of Head of Household

Educational level of head of household	Number of households possessing									
	Others									
	Tape-recorder	Fridge	Mixie/ Grinder	Motorbike/ Luna/ Scooter	Video	Tele-phone	Fan	Cycle	Sewing machine	Outboard engine
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Total	86	10	16	8	2	7	11	8	4	1
Illiterate	25	..	..	..	1	2	5	2	..	..
Education without level	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Below primary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Primary	39	5	4	3	..	4	5	6	4	1
Matric	15	3	9	4	1	1	..	..	..	..
Diploma & Certificate	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Degree and above	5	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..

MGIPCBE—16 RGI/ND/88—S1—4-8-89—300.