CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 District Profile

Almora is a hill district in eastern part of Uttarakhand i.e. the Kumaon Division. This district is surrounded by Pithoragarh district to the East, Garhwal Division to the West, Bageshwar district to the North and Nainital district to the South. Almora district has a total area of 3139 sq.km.of which around 1309 sq.km is forest area. District Almora is known for its rich history, cultural and spiritual heritage, beautiful landscapes, handicrafts, and cuisine. It is an important centre for art and culture of Kumaon region. According to renowned historian E.T Atkinson, Almora city was established by the 43rd ruler of the Chand Dynasty, King *Bhishm Chand* in 1530AD. Under British rule several architectures like Cantonment, Churches, and Circuit House etc. were built. Formed in 1864 AD, Almora municipality is the oldest municipality in Uttarakhand. The district has snow and forest covered high mountains and fertile valleys. *Saryu, Ramganga, Kosi, Gagaas*, and *Suyal* are the main rivers flowing through the district. The district is also known for its scenic landscape, rich forests and wildlife.
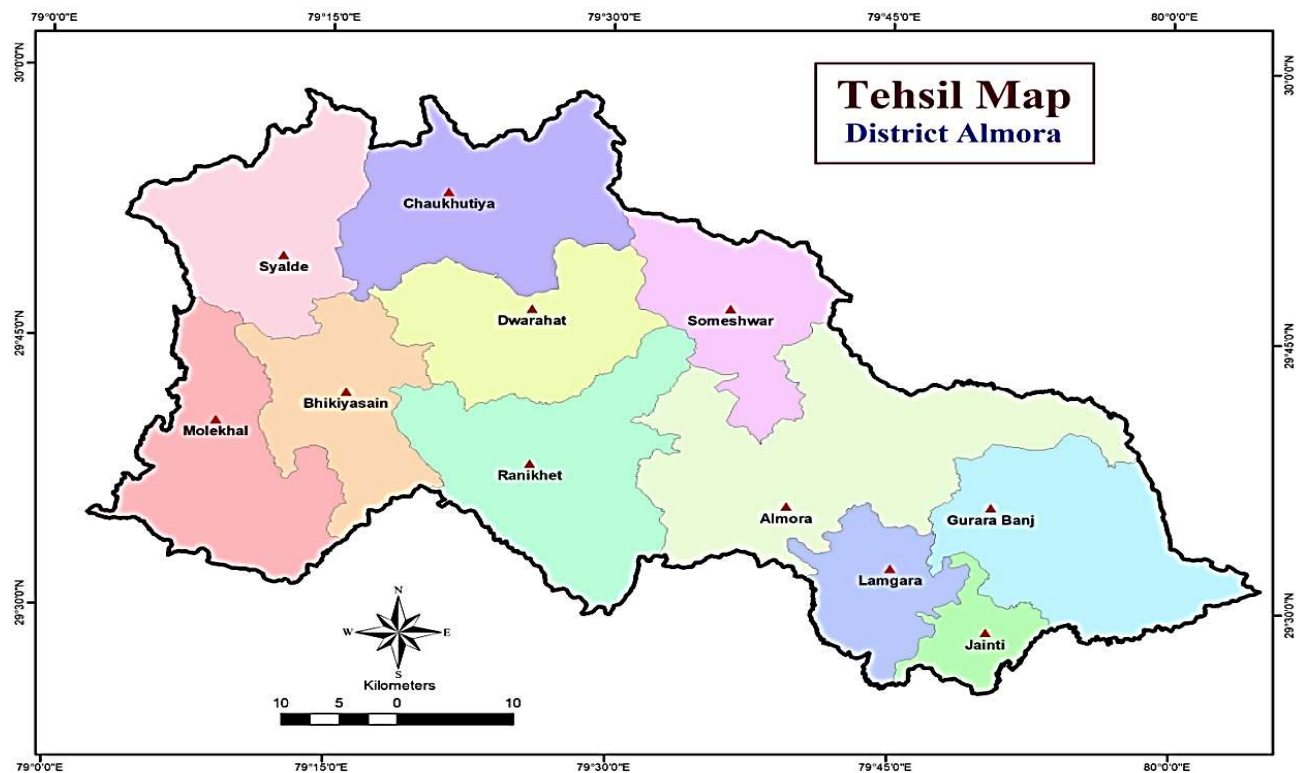

Figure 1: Image Source: https://almora.nic.in/

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1.2　Population

According to the census 2011 the district has a population of 6,22,506 with a population density of 198 persons per Sq.Km. The district has 89% of its population living in rural areas. The average birth rate and the death rate is 15.80% and 6% respectively for the year 2016-17. The district has 1,40,577 households accounting for 6.83% of the total households in the state. The decadal population growth for the district during 2001-2011 has been negative i.e. -1.64%.

There has been a continuous declining trend in population over the past censuses. From 1981 to 1991 the population growth percentage was 8.94%, which reduced to 3.67% for the census year 2001 and ultimately reached -1.64% in 2011. Further, in 1981 the number total households were 1,12,528; in 1991 it was 1,23,618; and for 2001 there were 1,31,525 households in the district.

1.3　Administrative Set-up

Almora district is divided into 6 Sub-Divisions viz. Almora, Jainti, Dwarahat, Ranikhet, Bhikiyasain and Sult. There are 12 tehsils, 2 sub-tehsils, and 11 Development Blocks. Further, there are 95 Nyay Panchayats, 1166 Gram Panchayats, and 2289 census villages.

District	Sub-Division	Tehsil	Development Blocks
Almora	Almora	Almora	Bhaisiachana
		Someshwar	Bhikiyasain
	Jainti	Jainti	Chaukhutiya
		Bhanoli	Dhauladevi
		Lamgara (Sub Tehsil)	Dwarahat
	Dwarahat	Dwarahat	Hawalbag
		Chaukhutiya	Lamgara
		Jalli	Sult
		Bagwalipokhar	Syalde
	Ranikhet	Ranikhet	Takula
	Bhikiyasain	Bhikiyasain	Tarikhet
		Syalde	
	Sult	Sult	
		Machhor (Sub Tehsil)	

Source: www.almora.nic.in

1.4   Topography

The topography of the district ranges from 750m to more than 2000m above the mean sea level. It has been classified into two regions viz. the Hill region and the Valley region. The Hill region constitutes the high mountains of *Dotiyal (Manila), Malikhaet (Syalde), Bhonkhal (Sult), Chaubatiya, Binsar* etc. These areas are densely covered with evergreen and deciduous forests of *Burans, Baanj, Chir, Devdar, Kafal* etc. On the other hand, the regionon the banks of rivers at the altitude between 600m to 1200m above mean sea level is the Valley region. This region is locally called *Sera* viz. *Basulisera, Rawalsera, Beratsera, Someshwarsera, Chaukhutiya, Masisera* etc. to name few. These Sera (valleys) are very fertile and has irrigation channels and micro canals.

1.5   Climate

The climatic conditions depends on the altitude of the region. This district experiences climatic conditions varying from sub-tropical to temperate. The annual temperature ranges from -2°C to 36°C. There occurs heavy rainfall from July to September, with the higher reaches experiencing snowfall in the winter season.

1.6   Urban centres

The district has two urban centres viz. Almora and Ranikhet and both the centres have cantonment area. Almora is the district headquarter and a great tourist destination. Visited and accolade by the legends like Rabindra Nath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi, Swami Vivekananda, Pandit Ravi Shanker etc. to name few, district Almora is a renowned Cultural and Spiritual destination.

Ranikhet is a cantonment area and the home of Kumaon Regiment. It is a beautiful city and famous for picturesque meadows. Ranikhet also attracts thousands of tourists every year.

1.7   Process and Methodology

This report examines the socio-economic parameters of the district in detail, particularly with reference to those which have a bearing on out migration from the rural areas. . The secondary information has been obtained from district offices of line departments and published and unpublished reports. Primary information has been collected on the basis of field visits by the team of the commission and interactions with Block Development Officers /Village Development Officers and other officials of line departments. The Data from every Block has been collected and analysed. The Data and the information is based on the primary survey done for the Commission and also on the basis of extensive interactions with field staff, local residents, NGOs, and CBOs. Consultations with state level officials has also been done for arriving at recommendations to improve the rural socio-economy and mitigate out-migration.

Recommendations for strengthening the rural socio-economy of the district have been presented. These recommendations will boost the rural socio-economy, particularly of those villages where there has been considerable out-migration, thus helping to mitigate the problem and reduce

migration. A scheme for about 20 villages/toks affected by out migration have been prepared where economic activity can be boosted for Socio-Economic development.

References

- https://almora.nic.in/

- Census 2011- Uttarakhand, Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India

- Department of Economics & Statistics, Uttarakhand

- Almora Statistical Magazines

CHAPTER II

BLOCK-WISE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA, ANALYSIS AND TRENDS

2.1. Demography

District Almora forms nearly 5.78% of the state's total geographical area. The district has a population of 6,22,506, as per the census 2011, of which the male population is 2,91,081 and the female population is 3,31,425. District's population forms nearly 6.15% of the state's population and more than 90% of the population resides in rural areas. Population density of the district for 2011 census is 198, which has increased from 170 in 2001, making it a fifth most densely populated district in the state. Almora has a Sex Ratio of 1139, higher than the State and National average. The district has an average birth rate of 15.80 per thousand population and an average death rate of 6.00, as on 2016-17. (Source: Statistical Magazine, Almora)
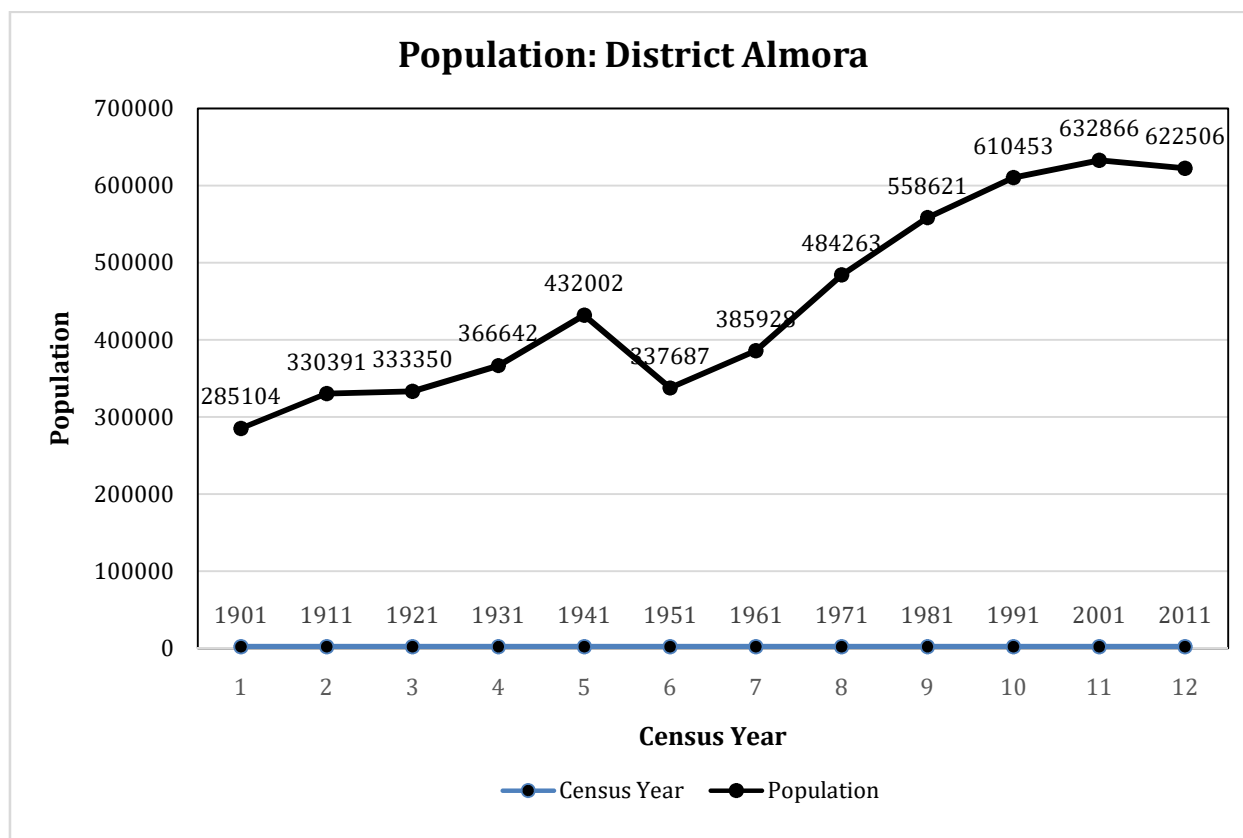
2.2. Population

Figure 2.1: Source: https://almora.nic.in/

% Change in Total Population per Decade

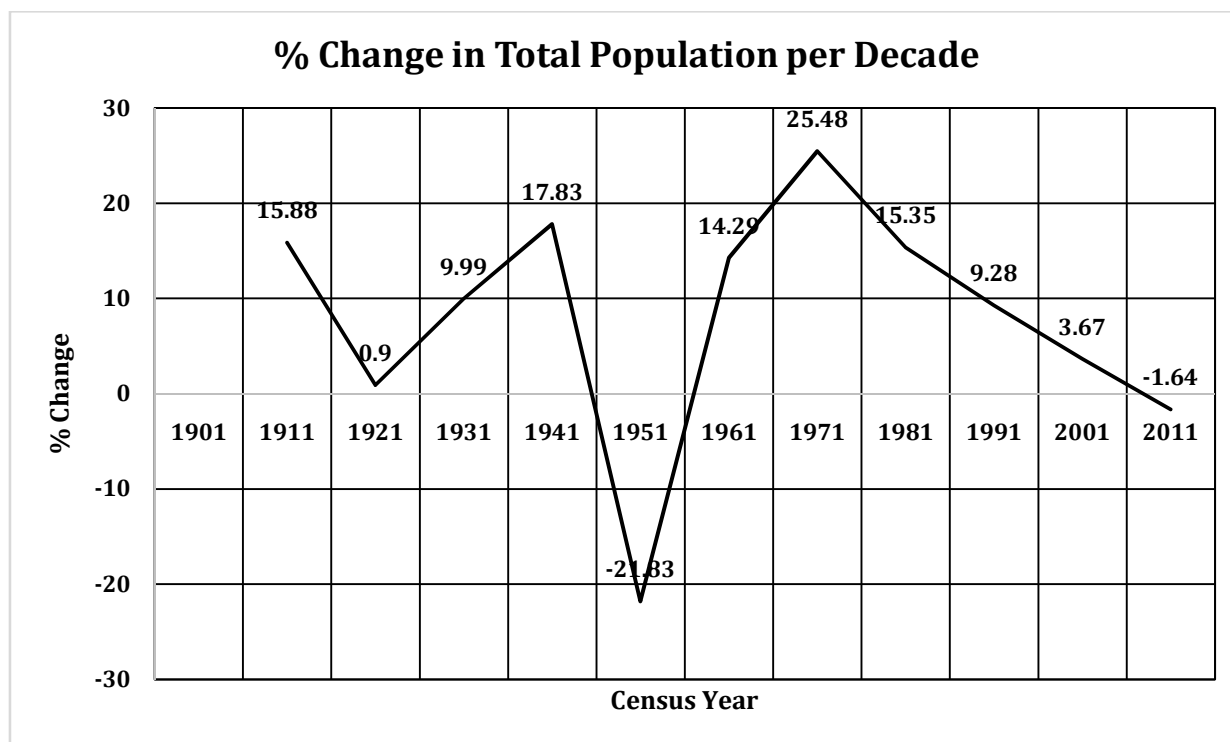| Census Year	% Change
1901	
1911	15.88
1921	0.9
1931	9.99
1941	17.83
1951	-21.83
1961	14.29
1971	25.48
1981	15.35
1991	9.28
2001	3.67
2011	-1.64

Figure 2.2: Source: Statistical Magazine, Almora

Figure 2.1 clearly suggest that there is a decline in the total population of the district. The district has experienced a negative decadal population growth of -1.64% for the census period of 2001-2011. For this period the population has declined from 6,30,567 in 2001 to 6,22,506 in 2011.The rural population constitute more than 90% of the total population and there has been an increase of 25.51% in the urban population during 2001-2011 census. The Sex Ratio for the rural region is 1177 and for urban regions it is 848 females per 1000 males. District Almora in one of the top districts with highest Sex Ratio in the country. The average birth rate and the death rate of the district is 15.80 and 6.00 per thousand population respectively for the year 2016-17.

Table 2.1 shows the block wise population distribution of the district. Out of 11 Development Blocks 7 have negative population growth. Although the district's decadal population growth is -1.63%, but for rural population it is -4.20% clearly indicating that the rural population is migrating towards the urban centres. The majority of the population i.e. 39.35% is engaged in Agriculture, followed by daily wage labour (34.13%). According to the Commission's report on State's Migration Status, around 42.22% of the migrants fall into the age group of 26-35 years. A detailed information is given in Chapter 3 of this report.

Table 2.1: District's Population Distribution						
Year/ Block	Area (Sq.km.)	Total Population	Rural Population	Urban Population	% Change in Rural Population	% Change in Urban Population
1991	**3697**	**610453**	**562718**	**47735**	**8.41%**	**NA**
2001	**3139**	**632866**	**578361**	**54505**	**2.78%**	**14.18%**
2011	**3139**	**622506**	**554096**	**68410**	**-4.20%**	**25.51%**
Block Wise (2011)						
Syalde	241.4	44747	44747	-	-9.17%	-
Chaukhutiya	192.1	46039	46039	-	-6.08%	-
Bhikiyasain	214.06	28962	28962	-	-21.78%	-
Tarikhet	241.32	64063	64063	-	-7.45%	-
Sult	302	56095	56095	-	-8.85%	-
Dwarahat	207.4	60066	60066	-	-2.42%	-
Takula	113.6	45883	45883	-	1.23%	-
Bhaisiyachana	96.4	26634	26634	-	0.85%	-
Hawalbagh	198.76	67447	67447	-	0.28%	-
Lamgada	214.2	52169	52169	-	10.18%	-
Dhauladevi	324.4	60620	60620	-	-3.54%	-
Total Block	2345.64	552725	552725	68967	-4.20%	-
Forest	751.2	814	814	-	-0.25%	-
Rural Area	**3096.84**	**553539**	**553539**	**68967**	**-4.20%**	-
Urban Area	**42.16**	**68967**	**0**	**-**	**-**	**25.51%**
Total District	**3139**	**622506**	**553539**	**68967**	**-4.20%**	

Source: DES, Almora

Age wise Population Distribution
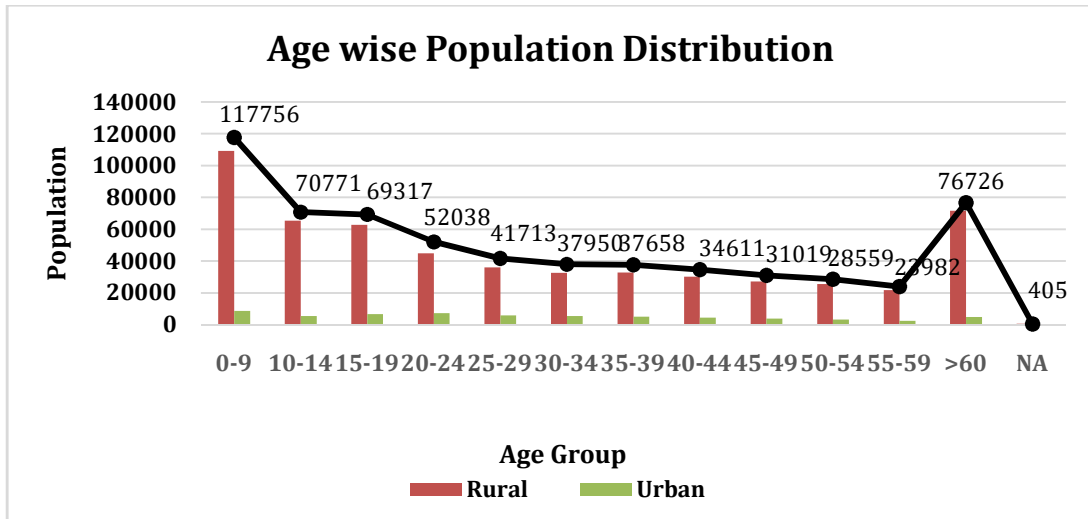
Figure 2.3: Source: Statistical Magazine, Almora

Further, if we see the age wise population data of the district, as in figure 2.3, the age group of 20-49 years constitute only 38% of the total population. This is the working population and has migrated to the urban centres of the state, country or abroad for better opportunities in livelihood, education, health etc. The population of the age group below 20 years is 41.42% of the total population and this portion of the population is the coming generation of the migrants from the district in the near future, if the present socio-economic conditions are not improved.

Figure 2.4: Source: Uttarakhand Migration Commission Report, 2018

2.3. Education and Literacy
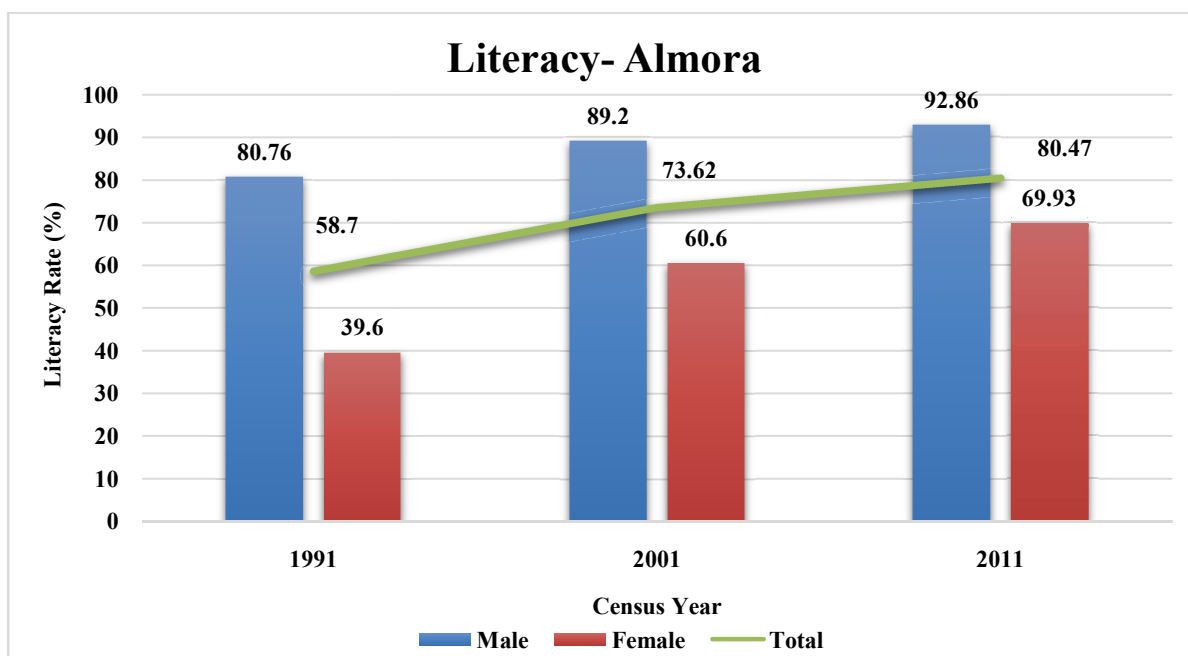
Figure 2.5: Data Source: Statistical Magazine, Almora

The district has a literacy rate of 80.47%, wherein the male and female literacy is 92.86% and 69.93% respectively. The decadal change in literacy rate is shown in figure 2.5 ab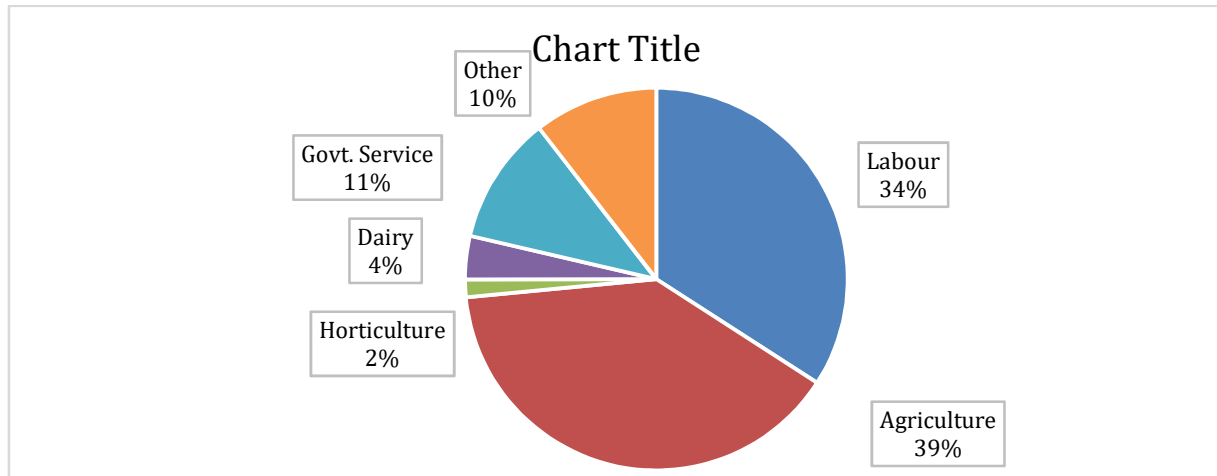ove. Within the district, Blocks Hawalbagh and Tarikhet have maximum literacy rate of 83.69% and 83.36% respectively. Table 2.2 below shows the block wise number of Educational Institutes, from Primary School to PG College, in the District.

Table 2.2: Block wise Educational Institutes in District Almora									
Year/Block	Junior Basic School	Senior Basic School		Higher Sec. School		Degree College		PG College	
		Total	Girls	Total	Girls	Total	Girls	Total	Girls
2014-15	1458	194	29	311	36	5	0	4	0
2015-16	1458	194	29	360	39	5	0	4	0
2016-17	1458	159	29	363	39	6	0	7	0
Block Wise 2016-17									
Syalde	131	12	2	36	3	0	0	1	0
Chaukhutiya	124	12	3	22	2	2	0	0	0
Bhikiyasain	107	13	3	47	3	1	0	0	0
Tarikhet	140	15	2	29	2	0	0	0	0
Sult	165	21	2	48	2	0	0	1	0
Dwarahat	115	20	1	27	4	0	0	1	0
Takula	92	5	2	30	4	0	0	1	0

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Bhaisiyachana	80	7	1	17	2	0	0	0	0
Hawalbagh	133	6	2	27	4	1	0	0	0
Lamgada	140	10	2	26	1	0	0	1	0
Dhauladevi	169	18	4	42	5	1	0	0	0
Total Rural	**1396**	**139**	**24**	**351**	**32**	**5**	**0**	**5**	**0**
Total Urban	62	20	5	12	7	1	0	2	0
Total District	**1458**	**159**	**29**	**363**	**39**	**6**	**0**	**7**	**0**

Source: DES, Almora

Table 2.3: Block wise Training Institutes in District Almora								
Year/Block	**Polytechnic Institutes**			**Industrial Training Institutes**			**Teacher Training Institutes**		
	No.	**No. of Seats**	**Intake**	**No.**	**No. of Seats**	**Intake**	**No.**	**No. of Seats**	**Intake**
2014-15	8	770	494	16	1202	751	1	50	43
2015-16	12	820	515	18	1460	805	1	50	41
2016-17	12	748	441	18	1764	856	1	50	39
Block Wise 2016-17									
Syalde	1	0	0	1	20	10	0	0	0
Chaukhutiya	1	0	0	1	52	27	0	0	0
Bhikiyasain	1	40	20	1	56	26	0	0	0
Tarikhet	0	0	0	2	152	60	0	0	0
Sult	1	80	39	3	200	69	0	0	0
Dwarahat	1	208	179	1	52	26	0	0	0
Takula	2	80	36	1	68	27	0	0	0
Bhaisiyachana	1	50	33	1	52	22	0	0	0
Hawalbagh	0	0	0	2	176	59	0	0	0
Lamgada	2	65	25	1	120	52	0	0	0
Dhauladevi	1	25	18	2	168	67	0	0	0
Total Rural	**11**	**548**	**350**	**16**	**1116**	**445**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Total Urban	**1**	**200**	**91**	**2**	**648**	**411**	**1**	**50**	**39**
Total District	**12**	**748**	**441**	**18**	**1764**	**856**	**1**	**50**	**39**

Source: DES, Almora

The Table 2.3 above shows the number of training institutes in the district. Block Tarikhet and Hawalbagh have no Polytechnic Institute, Block Syalde and Chaukhutiya do have Polytechnic Institutes but are non-functional as there is no student intake. In the entire district out of 748 polytechnic seats offered only 441 seats are occupied i.e. 58.95%. For ITIs also out of 1764 seats offered only 856 are occupied, i.e. 48.52%. These institutes are functioning far below their capacity and efficiency.

2.4.   Health

Table 2.4: Block wise Hospitals and Health Centres in District Almora						
Year/Block	Allopathic Hospital/ Dispensary (No.)	Primary Health Centre (No.)	Total No. of Beds	Total Staff		
				Doctor	Para-Medical	Others
2014-15	45	28	704	12	496	395
2015-16	43	24	704	132	496	395
2016-17	58	24	712	132	496	395
Block Wise 2016-17						
Syalde	4	1	28	3	35	12
Chaukhutiya	2	2	46	5	38	14
Bhikiyasain	5	3	58	9	42	21
Tarikhet	4	2	24	6	52	14
Sult	4	3	32	7	47	15
Dwarahat	8	2	62	15	54	21
Takula	4	2	24	4	40	13
Bhaisiyachana	2	2	16	4	25	12
Hawalbagh	2	4	20	6	46	17
Lamgada	3	0	30	7	43	14
Dhauladevi	4	3	32	8	48	18
Total Rural	**42**	**24**	**372**	**74**	**470**	**171**
Total Urban	**16**	**0**	**340**	**58**	**26**	**224**
Total District	**58**	**24**	**712**	**132**	**496**	**395**

Source: DES, Almora

Table 2.4 shows the allopathic health services in the district. This implies that there is 1 Doctor per 5000 of population or 22 Doctors per lakh population, the National average is 80 Doctors per lakh population for year 2016. As per year 2016-17, the district has 4 large Hospitals, 9

Community Health Centres, 1 TB Hospital, 6 Women Hospital, 1 Base Hospital, 1 Joint Hospital, and 2 aided Private Hospitals.

According to HDR 2018, the life expectancy at birth in 2017 in the district was 71.9 years as compared to the state average of 71.3 years. Life expectancy at birth for males was 69.2 years and that for females was 75 years.

2.5. Economy

Almora is a hill district, majority of the economy depends on traditional agriculture, horticulture, livestock, forest & logging, and mining & quarrying. The size of the economy i.e. GDDP at Current Prices is estimated Rs.4,28,018 lakh in year 2011-12, Rs.4,90,303 lakh in year 2012-13, Rs.5,63,108 lakh in year 2013-14, Rs.5,58,426 lakh in year 2014-15, Rs.5,98,345 lakh for year 2015-16 & Rs.6,60,378 lakh for the year 2016-17. In terms of percentage growth the size of the economy increase by 14.55% in year 2012-13, 14.85% in year 2013-14, -0.83% in year 2014- 15, 7.15% in year 2015-16RE & 10.37% in the year 2016-17 with respect to previous year respectively. Growth of the economy i.e. GDDP at Constant Prices is estimated Rs.4,28,018 lakh in year 2011- 12, Rs.4,58,385 lakh in year 2012-13, Rs.5,06,144 lakh in year 2013-14, Rs.4,88,369 lakh in year 2014-15, Rs.5,11,911 lakh for year 2015-16RE & is provisionally estimated Rs.5,45,139 lakh for the year 2016-17. In terms of percentage growth, GDDP at constant price i.e. economy registered growth of 7.09% in year 2012-13, 10.42% in year 2013- 14, -3.51% in year 2014-15, 4.82% in year 2015-16RE & 6.49% in the year 2016-17 with respect to previous year respectively as compared to the state average of 7.9 % in 2016-17.

It has been reported in the HDR 2018 that the district has 30.7% of the population below poverty line as against the state average of 15.6%.
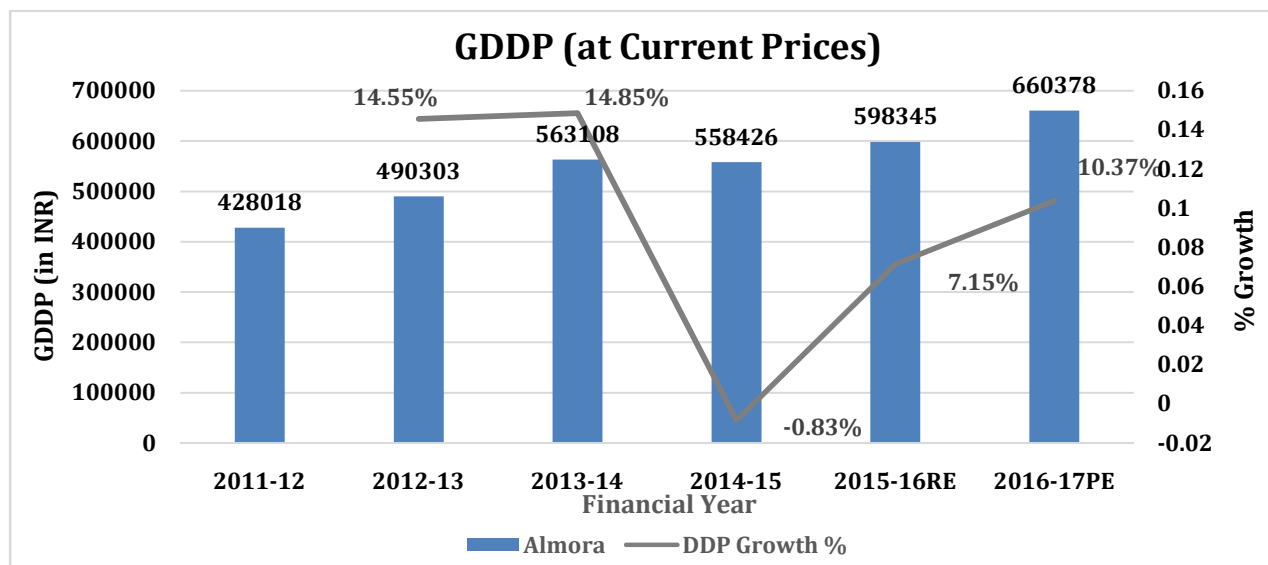
Source: DES, Almora

Per capita income is estimated Rs.60,550 in year 2011-12, Rs.70,056 in year 2012-13, Rs.79,866 in year 2013-14, Rs.80,512 in year 2014-15, Rs.86,961 for year 2015-16RE & is provisionally estimated Rs.96,786 for the year 2016-17. In terms of percentage growth, per capita NDDP at current price or per capita income increase by 15.70% in year 2012-13, 14.00% in year 2013-14, 0.81% in year 2014-15, 8.01% in year 2015-16 & 11.30% in the year 2016-17 with respect to previous year respectively. The per capita income of the district for 2016-17 is Rs.96,786, whereas for Hardwar it is Rs.2,54,050 i.e. more than 2.5 times that of District Almora. If we consider the income of the highest earning member of a rural family, nearly 73% of them earn less than Rs.5000 a month, this is the least income in the state after district Uttarkashi. (Source: DES, Almora). It has been estimated in HDR 2018 that the per capita income of males in the district is about double to that of females. (Rs.1,19,000 to Rs.51,900).

Table 2.5: Monthly Income of a Rural Family		
Almora	Less than Rs.5000	Rs.5000 to Rs.10,000	More than Rs.10,000
	73.30%	16.24%	10.46%

Source: Uttarakhand Economic Survey 2017

2.5.1. *Primary Sector- **Agriculture is the primary source of livelihood; however, both the interest of the farmers and the contribution of Primary Sector is decreasing. Agriculture's contribution to GSDP has declined from 31% in 2011-12 to 21% in 2016-17. Out of total geographical area of 3,139 sq km only 17.11% is the cultivable land. Major crops like Mandua, paddy, wheat, pulses, oilseeds etc. are cultivated in the district. The topography and climate of the district is appropriate for Horticulture activities but at present engages only 1.51% of the population. This sector must be explored and tapped.***

2.5.2. *Secondary Sector- **It has remained constant around 34% between 2011-12 and 2016-17 towards the GSDP contribution. The stagnant Secondary Sector has added the problem of low rural incomes. Due to the disinterest in non-productive agriculture and the unavailability of other livelihood options, the working age group youth is migrating to nearby cities or outside the state better opportunities. There is a need for focussing on micro, small and cottage industries in the district. Further, there are few textile and wooden work clusters in the district which can be promoted through Individual artisans and SHGs to reach economies of scale for a bigger market.***

2.5.3. *Tertiary Sector- **Contribution of the Tertiary Sector in the GDDP has increased from 36% in 2011-12 to 44% in 2016-17. This is largely due to availability of tourism and allied services and facilities. This sector includes Hotels & Restaurants, Homestays, transport services like bus/taxi etc. and due to a great tourist destination this sector contributes maximum to the GDDP. This service sector is a great employer and given focus on this local livelihoods can be generated.***

The district level Human Development Index (HDI) was amongst the lowest districts in the state between 0.715 and 0.662.

As per the *Aarthik Sarvekshan* report (Economic Survey 2018-19) published by the Government of Uttarakhand, there is a contrasting disparity amongst the hill and the plain districts of the state. The "Different Dimensions and Composite Index" has placed the District Almora at the 9th position, out of all 13 districts. District Almora has performed abysmal on the parameters like Economy, Basic Amenities, and Demographics. The other parameters on which the districts were evaluated are Agriculture, Health Services, and Education.

2.6. Agriculture

Although the share of agriculture in Gross District Domestic Product is declining, but still nearly 39% of the district's population is engaged in agriculture as its main occupation. The major crops in the district are cereals like Paddy, Wheat, barley, Maize, Mandua, Sawaan; Pulses like Urad, Lentil, Gram; Oilseeds like Mustard, Soybean, Sesame; Potato and Turmeric. Due to the hilly terrain large scale irrigation is not possible but still the valley parts of the districts are being irrigated by connecting rivers canals. A total of 5751.00 Hectare of area is under irrigation in the district. The Department of Agriculture has divided the agriculture land into two categories based on the availability of irrigation, viz. *Talau Bhumi* and *Upraru Bhumi.* The *Talau Bhumi* is an even area where irrigation facilities are present and the farmers can take Rabi, Kahrif and Zaid crops. *Upraru Bhumi* is an unirrigated area where only Kharif crop is taken but not Rabi.

The table 2.6 shows the land use pattern of the district. Nearly 51% of the total area is covered under forest and10% of the land is either cultivable wasteland or kept fallow. Due to hilly terrain and unavailability of irrigation facilities, majority of the agriculture is rainfed, therefore the gross sown area is more in Kharif season. Other than irrigation, the farmers are facing problems with wild animals like monkeys, wild boars etc. As a result of which there is a dismal interest in agriculture amongst the farmers of the district.

The table 2.7 shows the area under major crops in the district. Crops like Wheat and Mandua have the largest area under cultivation i.e. 33% and 31% respectively, followed by Paddy at 16%. In oilseeds, Soybean, Mustard, and Sesame are the crops. The highlighted box in each column are the top three blocks having maximum area under respective crops. The table suggests that the block Sult and Dwarahat have significantly larger area under different crops than that of other blocks.

District's Land Use *(Source: Statistical Magazine, DES Almora)*

	Table 2.6: Land Use *(Area in Hectares)*														
Year/ Block	Total Reported Area	Forest	Cultivable Wasteland	Current Fallow	Other Fallow	Usar & Land unsuitable for Agriculture	Land use other than Agriculture	Pasture Land	Area covered by Orchards, Gardens, Trees and shrubs	Net Sown Area	Area Sown More than Once	Gross Sown Area			
												Total	Rabi	Kharif	Zaid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
2013-14	**464942**	**236184**	**38140**	**2264**	**6110**	**24051**	**12299**	**29214**	**38590**	**78090**	**36742**	**114832**	**40743**	**74089**	**0**
2014-15	**464942**	**236184**	**38140**	**2340**	**6114**	**24051**	**12302**	**29214**	**38587**	**78005**	**39225**	**117230**	**43127**	**74103**	**0**
2015-16	**464942**	**236184**	**38149**	**2036**	**6137**	**24051**	**12308**	**29214**	**38585**	**78278**	**37518**	**115796**	**41183**	**74613**	**0**
Block Wise (2015-16)															
Syalde	38391	2411	10458	332	1380	6838	696	3239	2492	10545	2830	13398	3183	10215	
Chaukhutiya	18902	7727	2200	166	482	1672	299	52	1454	4850	4662	9489	5028	4461	
Bhikiyasain	25723	378	8655	293	1095	2029	675	1847	2302	8449	2408	10874	2709	8165	
Tarikhet	28952	3751	1608	145	354	3134	2810	2738	6262	8150	3652	11804	4013	7791	
Sult	47375	1997	10319	337	1272	3875	1182	11123	2505	14765	1906	16722	2272	14450	
Dwarahat	22282	7096	233	123	209	798	343	3518	3607	6355	5303	11636	5725	5911	
Takula	12315	2200	1306	142	336	1060	322	396	2452	4101	2970	7061	3237	3824	
Bhaisiyachana	11479	1346	1205	136	295	784	258	1289	1477	4689	2441	7128	2689	4439	
Hawalbagh	22011	5707	1149	133	297	1496	376	3849	3511	5493	4099	9577	4443	5134	

Lamgada	23439	5725	163	106	161	1321	314	908	8735	6006	2890	8896	3179	5717	
Dhauladevi	21031	9335	853	123	256	1044	502	255	3788	4875	4357	9211	4705	4506	
Total Rural	**271900**	**47673**	**38149**	**2036**	**6137**	**24051**	**7777**	**29214**	**38585**	**78278**	**37518**	**115796**	**41183**	**74613**	**0**
Forest Area	188511	188511	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Urban	4531	0	0	0	0	4531	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
District Total	**464942**	**236184**	**38149**	**2036**	**6137**	**24051**	**12308**	**29214**	**38585**	**78278**	**37518**	**115796**	**41183**	**74613**	**0**

Source: DES, Almora

Table 2.7: Area under major crops in Almora (Area in Hectares)										
Year/Block	**Paddy**	**Wheat**	**Barley**	**Maize**	**Mandua (Ragi)**	**Sawaan**	**Total Pulses**	**Soybean**	**Total Oilseeds**	**Potato**
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2013-14	**15597**	**34854**	**2490**	**1623**	**33882**	**14375**	**1756**	**389**	**1123**	**1325**
2014-15	**16897**	**35964**	**2692**	**1999**	**33569**	**12886**	**1975**	**386**	**1210**	**1163**
2015-16	**17526**	**35411**	**2790**	**1689**	**34518**	**12198**	**2075**	**545**	**1167**	**389**
Block Wise (2015-16)										
Syalde	2429	3793	363	152	3373	1090	248	47	100	22
Chaukhutiya	1903	3284	220	72	2517	895	185	55	116	37
Bhikiyasain	1243	3203	260	148	3239	1428	207	48	101	41

Tarikhet	1373	4014	252	162	3593	1045	132	46	99	40
Sult	2304	4579	319	164	5027	1729	197	51	109	15
Dwarahat	1811	4246	307	132	3165	1324	206	53	119	65
Takula	1416	1845	218	154	2049	774	135	49	99	30
Bhaisiyachana	1137	2084	182	152	1954	944	148	46	101	25
Hawalbagh	1244	2927	229	202	3222	1097	368	55	114	36
Lamgada	1438	2597	214	194	2944	903	127	54	107	38
Dhauladevi	1228	2839	226	157	3435	969	122	41	102	40
Total Rural	**17526**	**35411**	**2790**	**1689**	**34518**	**12198**	**2075**	**545**	**1167**	**389**
Urban	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total District	**17526**	**35411**	**2790**	**1689**	**34518**	**12198**	**2075**	**545**	**1167**	**389**

Source: DES, Almora

Looking at the production and productivity of major crops in table 2.8, the production of Paddy has marginally increased but the productivity has decreased. For Wheat crop, the total production, and productivity too, has declined by more than 50%.

Table 2.8: Production and Productivity of Major Crops					
Crops	**Production: metric ton**			**Productivity: Q/Ha**	
	2013-14	**2014-15**	**2015-16**	**2014-15**	**2016-17**
Paddy	18545	19776	19096	11.70	10.90
Wheat	45099	41250	17464	11.47	4.93
Mandua (Ragi)	39550	40898	41322	12.68	11.97
Maize	1962	2303	1120	11.52	6.63
Pulses	1331	1406	1751	7.12	8.44
Oilseeds	1030	694	820	5.69	7.03

Source: DES, Almora

2.7. Land holding pattern

The land-holding pattern in the District is shown in the table 2.9 below. More than 75% of the farmers are marginal farmers, having less than 1.00 Hectare and more than 95% of land-holdings are less than 2.00 Hectare.Further, the larger land-holdings i.e. more than 2.00 Hectare are decreasing and getting distributed into the smaller ones.

Table 2.9: No. of Land-Holdings in the District							
Year	**<0.5 Ha**	**0.5-1 Ha**	**1-2 Ha**	**2-4 Ha**	**4-10 Ha**	**>10 Ha**	**Total**
2000-01	59305	34968	21798	5734	501	16	**122322**
2005-06	48775	36130	23148	5449	427	11	**113940**
2010-11	43532	38511	22451	4570	201	3	**109268**

Source: DES, Almora

2.8. Horticulture

Table 2.10: Horticulture Infrastructure in Almora					
Year	**Total Orchards**	**Area under Horticulture crops (Ha)**	**No. of Horticulture Care Centres**	**No. of Fruit Processing Units**	**No. of Nurseries**
2014-15	2	24158	34	6	8
2015-16	2	24162	34	6	8
2016-17	3	24174	36	6	8

Source: DES, Almora

Almora is a hill district, having a pleasant climate for fruits and vegetables, nearly 24,174 Hectare area is under Horticulture. The major horticulture crops in fruits are: Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, Apricot, Walnut, Mango, and Citrus; whereas in vegetables: Pea, Beans, Cole crops, Okra, Tomato etc. are prominent crops.Out of three orchards, there is only one orchard in Dwarahat and the other two are in Dhauladevi. Other blocks do not have a single orchard. There are two fruit-processing units in Tarikhet and one each in block Bhikiyasain, Dwarahat, Takula, and Hawalbagh. The area under horticulture has remained more or less constant.

Table 2.11: Horticulture Clusters in Almora										
District	**Fruits**		**Vegetables**		**Spices**		**Flowers**		**Total**	
Almora	**Cluster**	**Villages**	**Cluster**	**Villages**	**Cluster**	**Villages**	**Cluster**	**Villages**	**Cluster**	**Villages**
	70	670	55	576	29	332	3	14	157	1592

Source: Department of Horticulture, Almora

The table 2.12 shows the area and production under major fruits in the district Almora. Mango and Citrus fruits have the maximum area under cultivation, while Pear has the maximum production followed Citrus fruits. There is only one cold storage in the district in Block Hawalbagh and that too is non-functional for many years due to some legal complications.

Block wise Area and Production of Major Fruits in Almora (Source: DES, Almora)

Year/ Block	Apple		Pear		Peach		Plum		Apricot		Walnut		Citrus		Mango		Litchi	
Table 2.12: Area and Production of Major Fruits in Almora *(Area in Ha and Production in metric ton)*																		
	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.
2014-15	1570	9448	3324	35100	1640	13674	2582	20347	2288	17898	2831	8476	4355	33779	4648	41642	279	72
2015-16	1577	14137	3322	35081	1642	20942	2625	20544	2291	17885	2811	8474	4345	33592	4642	23639	279	80
2016-17	1551	14073	3326	35082	1644	20490	2616	20544	2294	17885	2813	8476	4347	33591	4643	23640	279	82
Block Wise (2015-16)																		
Syalde	21	240	198	2602	42	331	274	2180	228	1883	253	765	320	2500	762	2622	58	17
Chaukhutiya	7	50	216	2680	51	416	175	1370	154	1201	229	650	251	2017	712	2033	43	11
Bhikiyasain	19	118	235	2687	53	420	182	1431	170	1344	238	720	313	2529	687	2811	73	19
Tarikhet	262	2561	375	3915	209	3685	308	2340	264	2072	266	854	602	4265	409	3117	30	10
Sult	60	364	237	2681	62	495	201	1530	174	1220	254	760	315	2549	518	2090	40	11
Dwarahat	180	1380	382	3711	206	3745	259	1799	224	1831	286	858	490	3919	400	1573	15	4
Takula	105	680	325	3325	103	824	222	1719	195	1360	272	816	421	3299	187	1802	0	0
Bhaisiyachana	110	959	220	2584	105	836	195	1550	174	1300	245	769	351	2799	429	2254	13	5
Hawalbagh	121	720	417	3926	105	837	223	2034	248	1982	202	620	434	3467	103	1006	0	0
Lamgada	365	4196	415	3806	405	4487	352	2801	260	1872	280	800	340	2423	103	1002	0	0
Dhauladevi	301	2805	306	3165	303	4414	225	1790	203	1820	288	864	510	3824	333	3310	7	5
Total District	1551	14073	3326	35082	1644	20490	2616	20544	2294	17885	2813	8476	4347	33591	4643	23620	279	82

Source: DES, Almora

2.9. Animal husbandry

Along with Agriculture, animal husbandry is one of the most important source of livelihood in the district. The rural population still rear drought animals for agricultural uses, milch animals, goats and sheep.The major livestock in the district is shown in the table below.

Table 2.13: Livestock Population in Almora (in numbers)							
Year/Block	Cow	Buffalo	Sheep	Goat	Horse/ Pony	Pig	Poultry
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9
2003	237743	109728	4890	171732	916	771	62579
2007	256164	117938	4721	186391	2124	454	83931
2012	197326	96662	3732	189184	2573	1035	106046
Block Wise (2015-16)							
Syalde	7089	6025	491	5732	91	0	3830
Chaukhutiya	18669	13268	20	5485	156	0	11868
Bhikiyasain	11416	9928	1147	11097	278	12	9641
Tarikhet	26180	9612	2	20406	335	0	8459
Sult	13456	12163	2056	22265	107	0	7053
Dwarahat	25283	6023	0	12180	70	0	5245
Takula	17011	3367	16	5854	150	0	6492
Bhaisiyachana	14066	4472	0	15905	175	0	5632
Hawalbagh	28156	10309	0	31607	532	16	26203
Lamgada	10578	7204	0	13513	357	0	3450
Dhauladevi	24284	14229	0	44588	319	0	14247
Urban	1138	62	0	552	3	1007	3926
District Total	**197326**	**96662**	**3732**	**189184**	**2573**	**1035**	**106046**

Source: DES, Almora

The district has 38 Veterinary Hospitals, 2-3 in each Block, 72 Artificial Insemination centres and 8 Sub-Fodder Banks. There is one Poultry unit, with 1000 birds' capacity in Hawalbagh block. Almora also has a Milk Union Federation having 20,000 litres collection per day. The federation has 240 milk societies with 15,832 milk producers.

2.10. Tourism

In the lap of Himalayas, surrounded by the snow peaked mountains and the panoramic landscapes, district Almora, also known as the cultural capital of Kumaon, is endowed with the natural beauty. Since time immemorial Almora has been a renowned spiritual, cultural and religious destination. Almora is known for its cuisine, cultural history, traditions, fairs and festivals. Following are the important tourist destination in Almora:

a. **Jageshwar Dham**–Situated nearly 36 km from the city Almora on the Almora-Pithoragarh Highway, it is a group of 124 temples dedicated to the Lord Shiva. A fascinating architectural masterpiece of pre-medieval era, dating back around 2500 years, is situated between picturesque deodar forests. There are other religious places in the vicinity of Jageshwar Dham, like Vridh Jageswar Temple and Jhankar Saim Temple, which have their own significance.

b. **Kasar Devi**- It is a temple situated just 5 Km from the main town. The temple has been visited by well-known persons like Swami Vivekananda, and several westerners. It was a prominent and popular destination during the Hippie Movement of 1960s and 70s. There are several homestays and tourists from across the globe come to this place. Situated at the top of the Almora town, it offers splendid view of Himalayas, local culture, cuisine, and traditions.

c. **Katarmal Sun Temple**-After Sun Temple at Konark, Odisha, it is the only Sun Temple dedicated to the Sun God. This 800 year old temple is only 17 km from the city Almora and is situated at an altitude of 2116m.

d. **Ranikhet-** Ranikhet is a cantonment area and is famous for its beautiful landscape. Tourist visit here for splendid view of Himalayas and beautiful meadows.

e. **Gairad Golu Dev Temple-** Situated just outside the city, this is one of the famous temples of the district and the locals have a great faith and devotion.

f. **Dwarahat**- Known as the Temple city of Uttarakhand, Dwdarahat is 70 km from Almora and is situated in the Ramganga river valley. Dwarahat was once the seat of Katyuri Dynasty and has great historical and archaeological importance.

g. **Manila-** Manila is a hill station and is 85 km from Ranikhet. The Manila Devi Temple situated amidst the forest and the view of Himalayas offers great experience.

h. **Binsar Mahadev-** 15 km from Ranikhet there is a great Binsar Temple. Binsar is also a wildlife sanctuary.

There are number of other tourist destinations in the district Almora like, Gananath Temple, Kasar Devi Temple, Nanada Devi Temple, Jhoola Devi Temple, Shitlakhet, Jalana, Vivekanand Ashram, G.B Pant Museum, and several others. Following are the famous fairs/festival organised in the district Almora:

Nanda Devi Festival- Organised in the month of September, it is a famous fair of the town. It is believed that 'Nanda' used to be the family Goddess of Chand Dynasty. The temple of 'Nanda' in Almora was built by Dyot Chanda in 17th Century, the then ruler of this place. Presently, this temple remains the core of the festival. The duration of the festival is five days and approximately twenty five thousand people come to attend this festival.

Dussehra Festival Almora- This festival celebrates the victory of Lord Rama over Ravana. Approximately five to six thousand tourists from the outskirts come to attend the festival in Almora town. The festival is generally celebrated in the month of October.

Jageshwer Monsoon Festival- The festival has a great religious and historical importance. Jageshwer Monsoon Festival is organized from 15 July to 15 August. The temple of Lord Jagnath is one among the twelve 'Jyotirlinga' of Lord Shiva in India. Having its archaeological importance the group of temples of Jageshwer consists of 124 small and big temples of ancient times. This festival is of great religious importance for Kumauni society. The daily inflow of the number of tourists in this month long festival remains one thousand approximately. Fairs like Somnath mela, Janmashtami mela, Mahashivratri mela, Masi mela, Doonagiri mela, Devidhura mela etc. are the local fairs with a significant social and economic importance.

Almora is well connected by roads, the nearest railway station is Kathgodam which is 80 Km and the nearest Airport is Pantnagar, 120Km. Almora is the adjacent district to Nainital, which received 10.70 lakh visitors in 2017, whereasonly 2.60 lakh tourists visited Almora. Almora is the centre for many tourist destinations. There is a great potential in developing cultural, religious and eco-tourism in the district. The following table gives information on tourism infrastructure and number of tourists visited the District Almora. Due to large inflow of tourists during March-June and October-December there are several Homestays in the district, particularly in Kasar Devi area in Hawalbagh Block. These tourists include both domestic and foreign, while the number of domestic tourists is more but the number of days spent in these Homestays by foreign tourists is more.

S.No.	Category	Urban Area			Rural Area		
		Units	Total Rooms	Total Beds	Units	Total Rooms	Total Beds
1.	**Gold**	0	0	0	3	8	16
2.	**Silver**	3	10	18	62	230	460
3.	**Bronze**	0	0	0	1	4	8
Total		**3**	**10**	**18**	**66**	**242**	**484**

Table 2.14: No. of Homestays in Almora

https://uttarakhandtourism.gov.in

	Table 2.15: No. of Tourists visited District Almora			
S.No.	**Name of Tourist Destination**	**Year 2017**		
		Domestic	**Foreign**	**Total**
1.	Almora	108178	4524	112702
2.	Ranikhet	145233	1514	146747

https://uttarakhandtourism.gov.in

S.No	Table 2.16: Tourism Facilities	
1	Major Tourist Destinations	4
2	Developed Tourist Destinations	7
3	Tourist Rest House	12
4	Night Shelters	2
5	No. of beds in Tourist Rest House	410
6	No. of beds in Night Shelters	20
7	Hotels & Paying Guest house	153
8	No. of Dharamshala	1

Source: DES, Almora

2.11. Industry

Majority of the population i.e. 39.35% is engaged in agriculture and 34.13% as daily wage labour as their main source of income. The presence of industry is limited to small and micro enterprises, that too in few numbers.

S.No.	Name of Agency	By Panchayat	By Industrial Co-operative Society	By Registered Agency	Individual Businessmen	Total
	Table 2.17: Industrial Units in Almora					
1	Khadi Udhyog	0	0	0	0	**0**
2	Promoted by Khadi Gram Udhyog	0	2	3	1569	**1574**
3	Small Scale Industries	0	0	0	0	**0**
3.1	Engineering	2	0	0	287	**289**

3.2	Chemical	0	0	0	56	**56**
3.3	Processing	0	0	0	0	**0**
3.4	Handloom	3	0	0	53	**56**
3.5	Silk	0	0	0	0	**0**
3.6	Coir	0	0	0	0	**0**
3.7	Handicraft	1	0	0	147	**148**
3.8	Others	0	0	0	1826	**1826**
4	**Total**	**6**	**2**	**3**	**3938**	**3949**
5	**Persons Employed in Small Scale Industries**	**25**	**167**	**27**	**10576**	**10795**

Source: DES, Almora

Table 2.18: Data on MSME, Almora				
	Industry Type	**2016-17**	**2017-18**	**2018-19**
Total Industries	Micro	143	162	121
	Small	15	18	16
	Medium	2	4	2
	Total	**160**	**184**	**139**
Total Investment (in lakh)	Micro	48.48	78.2	71.5
	Small	78.1	62.7	41.7
	Medium	72.6	146	41.3
	Total	**199.18**	**286.9**	**154.5**
Total Employment	Micro	390	450	389
	Small	105	87	112
	Medium	28	76	20
	Total	**523**	**613**	**521**

Source: DIC, Almora

Table 2.18 shows that the maximum employment is generated by the micro industries over the last 3 years. However, there is no specific trend in the growth of MSME industries in the district.

The Districts has an Industrial Estate under SIIDUL (State Infrastructure and Industrial Development Corporation of Uttarakhand Ltd.) at Marchula. Marchula is on the bank of river

Ramganga, near Corbett National Park, and offers land on lease to develop Wellness Hotels and Spa.

Table 2.19: Industrial Units in Almora						
Year/Block	Registered Industries		Small Industrial Units		Khadi Gramodhyog Units	
	Units	Persons Employed	Units	Persons Employed	Units	Persons Employed
2014-15	**11**	**114**	**2070**	**4103**	**1240**	**4943**
2015-16	**11**	**71**	**2215**	**4613**	**1461**	**5386**
2016-17	**11**	**114**	**2375**	**5135**	**1575**	**5660**
Block Wise (2015-16)						
Syalde	0	0	80	147	47	168
Chaukhutiya	0	0	130	263	61	348
Bhikiyasain	0	0	135	285	47	249
Tarikhet	4	30	245	613	121	337
Sult	1	16	84	266	29	118
Dwarahat	0	0	152	442	110	378
Takula	1	10	162	327	129	384
Bhaisiyachana	0	0	132	218	116	419
Hawalbagh	3	35	320	660	533	2013
Lamgada	0	0	106	193	129	390
Dhauladevi	0	0	158	346	253	856
Total Rural	**9**	**91**	**1704**	**3760**	**1575**	**5660**
Urban	**2**	**23**	**671**	**1375**	**0**	**0**
Total District	**11**	**114**	**2375**	**5135**	**1575**	**5660**

Source: DES, Almora

There is no Industrial cluster in the district but there are few artisanal cluster mainly in Textile domain. The district is well known for its Khadi and Handloom Products. The following table shows the details:

S.No.	**Cluster Name**	**Product Classification**	**Products**	**Details**
1	Almora	Textiles	Wool Weaving	Chutka (Quilts), Thumla, Dann (Mattress), Pankhi (Shawls)
2	Almora	Textiles	Wool Warp	Chutka (Quilts), Thumla, Dann (Mattress), Pankhi (Shawls)
3	Almora	Textiles	Throws	Chutka (Quilts), Thumla, Dann (Mattress), Pankhi (Shawls)
4	Almora	Textiles	Textile Handloom	Saree, Bed Sheet, Shawls, Blanket
5	Almora	Textiles	Durries	Durries
6	Almora	Textiles	Rugs by Hand	Rugs by Hand
7	Almora	Textiles	Knotted Pile Carpet	Wall Hangings, Carpets
8	Almora	Woodwork	Furniture	Furniture
9	Almora	Woodwork	Fixtures	Fixtures
10	Almora	Basketry, Mat, Weaving & Cane Articles	Straw Glass	Moshtha (Multi-purpose floor cleaning), Containers of various shapes and sizes, tray
11	Almora		Ringot	Utility Items

Table 2.20: Artisanal Clusters in Almora

Source: Ministry of MSME, GoI

District Almora also has a fair amount of mineral and other natural resource deposits of Slate, Limestone, Magnesite, Sulphur, Lignite, Graphite etc. Due to the earthquake prone area and harm to bio-diversity, these resources have not been tapped.

2.12. Employment and skill development

The population of the District has seen a declining trend over the past census years and in the 2011 census the district has a negative population growth. Following this trend, it is quite evident that there will be a drastic gap in demand and supply of the skilled manpower. As per the study done by NSDC (National Skill Development Corporation), in its report "District Skill Gap for

the State of Uttarakhand 2017-2022", there will be an incremental manpower supply of about 1.77 lakh by 2022.

Table 2.21: Estimated Workforce Distribution in Almora			
Year	**2012**	**2017**	**2022**
Total Population	6,20,844	6,15,455	6,10,112
Working Age Population	3,85,272	4,09,405	4,35,049
Labour Force	2,40,769	3,21,100	4,18,429
Work Force	2,34,108	3,08,621	4,06,852
Incremental Manpower Supply		80,331	1,77,689

Source: District Skill Gap for the State of Uttarakhand, NSDC

As per NSDC report, the incremental demand for human resource in 2022 for top five sectors would be in Agriculture (0.21 lakh), Education and Skill Development (0.18 lakh), Food Processing (0.15 lakh), Tourism, Travel, Hospitality & Trade (0.09 lakh), and Building, Construction & Real Estate Services (0.07 lakh). The demand for semi-skilled and skilled manpower by 2022 is expected be 0.07 lakh and 0.19 lakh respectively. The study also suggests that the youths are not interested towards working in Primary Sector, and migrate to other districts and states to get better opportunities. The youth also emphasised on providing frequent training programs for different sectors at the district level.

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CHAPTER III

STATUS OF MIGRATION

In this chapter, analysis of the data collected on the basis of the survey conducted by the commission in January 2018 in different gram panchayats of the district has been presented to bring out various aspects of migration in the district.

3.1. MAIN OCCUPATION

Analysis of the data shows that the main occupation of people living in different villages of the district is Agriculture, followed by Labor and Government service. The district and state average of the gram panchayat level data is presented in the tables below:

Table 3.1: Main occupation							
District Name	Main occupation (Almora) (%)						
	Labor	Agriculture	Horticulture	Dairy	Govt. service	Other	Total
Almora	34.13	39.35	1.51	3.66	10.86	10.50	100.00

Table 3.2: Main occupation (State)							
State Name	Main occupation (%)						
	Labor	Agriculture	Horticulture	Dairy	Govt. service	Other	Total
Uttarakhand	32.22	43.59	2.11	2.64	10.82	8.63	100.00

3.2. SEMI-PERMANENT AND PERMANENT MIGRANTS

In this section, the information on semi-permanent and permanent migrants has been analyzed. In the last 10 years, a total of 53,611 persons from 1022 gram panchayats have migrated on a semi-permanent basis, though they come to their homes in the villages from time to time and have not migrated permanently.

In the last 10 years, there are 16,207 permanent migrants from 646 gram panchayats. Data indicates that there are more semi-permanent migrants than permanent migrants in most gram panchayats of the district.

Table 3.3: Block wise migrants in last 10 years from gram panchayats					
District Name	Block Name	No. of GPs (with semi-permanent migration) / Short term migration for livelihood	No. of migrant over last 10 yrs (semi-permanent migration)/ Short term migration for livelihood	No. of GPs (with permanent migration/sold their lands, abandoned houses and seldom visit village)	No. of migrant over last 10 yrs (permanent migration/sold their lands, abandoned houses and seldom visit village)
Almora	Bhaisiyachana	51	3,493	37	1,215
Almora	Bhikiyasain	91	5,752	74	1,344
Almora	Chaukhutiya	91	5,657	35	1,148
Almora	Dhauladevi	93	4,948	39	1,013
Almora	Dwarahat	121	9,038	92	3,507
Almora	Hawalbagh	78	2,023	50	555
Almora	Lamgara	99	4,229	77	1,599
Almora	Sult	123	3,480	77	1,379
Almora	Syalde	88	4,723	47	1,098
Almora	Takula	82	6,498	61	2,056
Almora	Tadikhet	105	3,770	57	1,293
Total		**1022**	**53,611**	**646**	**16,207**

Table 3.4: State wise migrants in last 10 years from gram panchayats				
State Name	No. of GPs (with semi-permanent migration) / Short term migration for livelihood	No. of migrant over last 10 yrs (semi- permanent migration)/ Short term migration for livelihood	No. of GPs (with permanent migration / sold their lands, abandoned houses and seldom visit village)	No. of migrant over last 10 yrs (permanent migration/sold their lands, abandoned houses and seldom visit village)
Uttarakhand	6,338	383,726	3,946	118,981

3.3. MAIN REASONS FOR MIGRATION

The main reason for migration is the problem of livelihood/employment followed by dearth of education; health and infrastructure. The detailed data has been provided in the tables below.

Table 3.5: Block wise main reasons for migration from gram panchayats									Total
		Main reason for migration from Gram panchayats(%)							
District Name	Block Name	Lack or livelihood/ employment (%)	Lack of medical facilities (%)	Lack of Education facilities (%)	Lack of Infrastructure (Roads, Electricity, Water, etc.) (%)	Low Farm Production and Productivity (%)	Emulating family, Relative etc. for migration (%)	Loss of Farming caused by wild animals (%)	Any other reason (%)	
Almora	Bhaisiyachana	70.86	3.77	5.43	0.93	8.66	0.02	10.09	0.23	100.00
Almora	Bhikiyasain	48.45	8.01	13.32	3.37	10.53	3.15	11.39	1.77	100.00
Almora	Chaukhutiya	45.75	11.68	13.51	2.35	4.95	3.88	12.23	5.65	100.00
Almora	Dhauladevi	36.63	6.68	19.27	4.27	11.85	1.97	12.79	6.55	100.00
Almora	Dwarahat	38.58	8.61	13.52	3.01	10.34	5.74	13.97	6.23	100.00
Almora	Hawalbagh	41.15	10.15	11.85	4.44	8.44	1.11	8.96	13.89	100.00
Almora	Lamgara	34.84	12.48	12.43	8.65	13.94	2.68	11.77	3.22	100.00
Almora	Sult	48.45	11.00	8.72	3.69	6.19	0.88	16.39	4.70	100.00
Almora	Syalde	65.00	4.79	4.17	1.48	1.68	1.73	5.00	16.15	100.00
Almora	Takula	60.71	6.81	15.71	2.95	4.16	2.29	4.94	2.43	100.00
Almora	Tadikhet	46.70	7.87	8.47	4.56	9.18	3.26	9.67	10.30	100.00

Table 3.6: District wise main reasons for migration from gram panchayats									
	Main reason for migration from Gram panchayats (%)								
District Name	Lack or livelihood/ employment (%)	Lack of medical facilities (%)	Lack of Education facilities (%)	Lack of Infrastructure (Roads, Electricity, Water, etc.) (%)	Low Farm Production and Productivity (%)	Emulating family, Relative etc. for migration (%)	Loss of Farming caused by wild animals (%)	Any other reason (%)	Total
Almora	47.78	8.61	11.75	3.81	8.37	2.68	10.99	6.02	100.00

Table 3.7: State wise main reasons for migration from gram panchayats									
	Main reason for migration from Gram panchayats (%)								
State Name	Lack or livelihood/ employment (%)	Lack of medical facilities (%)	Lack of Education facilities (%)	Lack of Infrastructure (Roads, Electricity, Water, etc.) (%)	Low Farm Production and Productivity (%)	Emulating family, Relative etc. for migration (%)	Loss of Farming caused by wild animals (%)	Any other reason (%)	Total
Uttarakhand	50.16	8.83	15.21	3.74	5.44	2.52	5.61	8.48	100.00
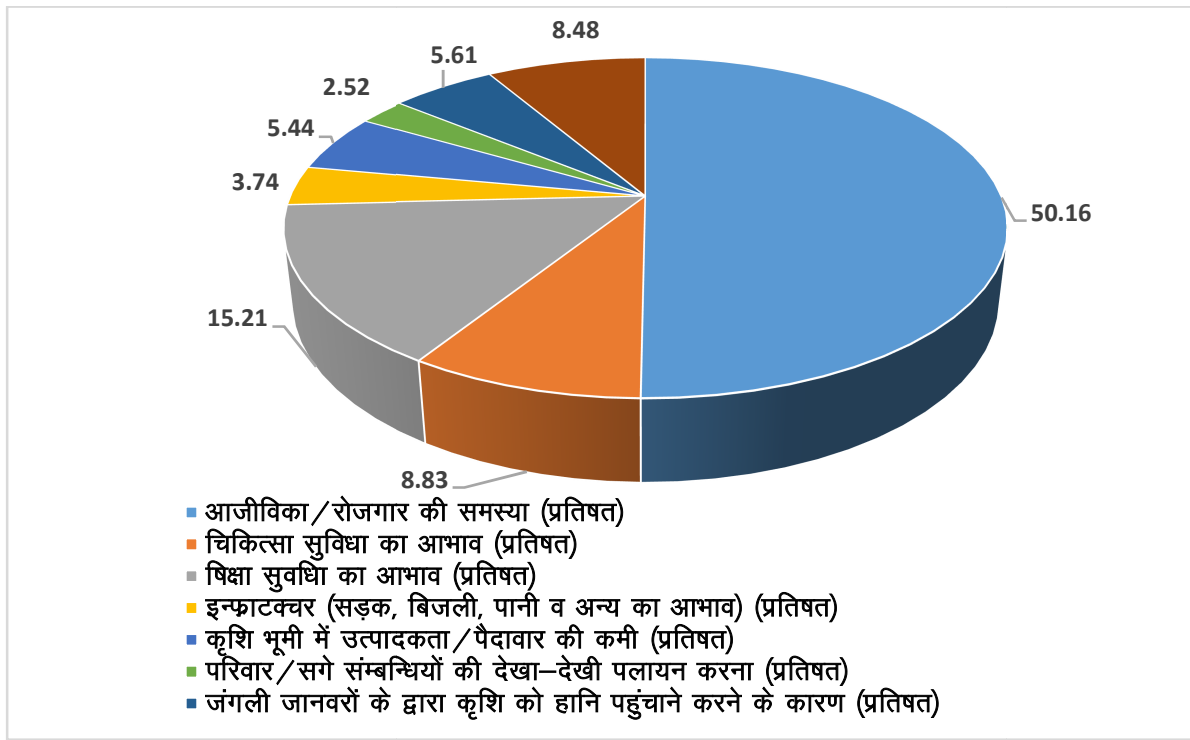
Figure 2: Source: Migration Commission Report, 2018

3.4. AGE OF MIGRANTS

This section analyses the age of the migrants from the gram panchayats. More than 42% of the migrants are between age of 26 to 35 years. Detailed information of different blocks is given in the tables below:

Table 3.8: Block wise age of migrants from gram panchayats					Total
District Name	Block wise age of migrants from gram panchayats (%)				
	Block Name	Age<25 years (at present)	Age 26-35 years (at present)	Age >35 (at present)	
Almora	Bhaisiyachana	10.17	72.13	17.70	100.00
Almora	Bhikiyasain	30.38	45.42	24.20	100.00
Almora	Chaukhutiya	27.04	45.24	27.72	100.00
Almora	Dhauladevi	23.50	37.61	38.89	100.00
Almora	Dwarahat	33.62	37.52	28.86	100.00
Almora	Hawalbagh	12.58	44.56	42.86	100.00
Almora	Lamgara	32.19	40.21	27.60	100.00
Almora	Sult	29.21	36.43	34.37	100.00
Almora	Syalde	44.92	39.13	15.94	100.00
Almora	Takula	26.60	45.50	27.90	100.00
Almora	Tadikhet	42.97	38.44	18.59	100.00

Table 3.9: District and Age wise Migration Status from gram panchayats				Total
District Name	Age wise Migration Status from gram panchayats (%)			
	Age<25 years (at present)	Age 26-35 years (at present)	Age >35 (at present)	
Almora	29.19	42.22	28.59	100.00

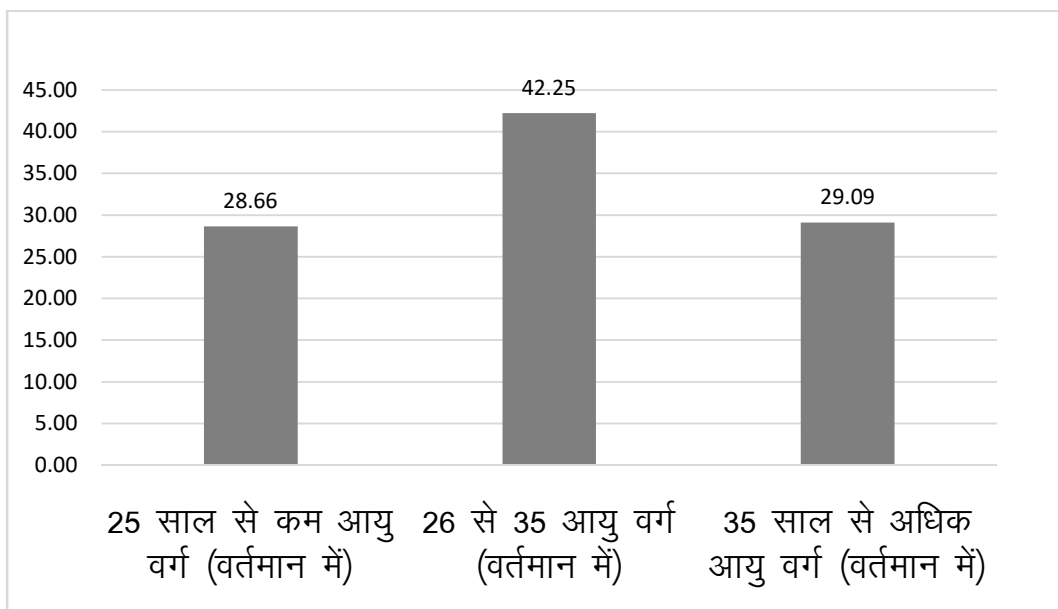| Table 3.10: State and Age wise Migration Status from gram panchayats				Total
State Name	Age wise Migration Status from gram panchayats (%)			
	Age<25 years (at present)	Age 26-35 years (at present)	Age >35 (at present)	
Uttarakhand	28.66	42.25	29.09	100.00

Figure 3: Source: Migration Commission Report, 2018

3.5. DESTINATION OF MIGRANTS

This section presents the results of the analysis of the destination of migrants from gram panchayats. About 35 % of migrants have gone to other districts of the state while 28% have migrated outside the state.

Table 3.11: Block wise destination of migrants from Gram Panchayats							Total
		Destination of migrants (%)					
District Name	**Block Name**	**Nearby Town**	**District Headquarter**	**Other Districts of the State**	**Outside the state**	**Outside the country**	
Almora	Bhaisiyachana	1.80	13.37	38.96	45.85	0.01	100.00
Almora	Bhikiyasain	5.38	9.98	23.67	60.65	0.33	100.00
Almora	Chaukhutiya	8.71	7.16	30.90	53.03	0.20	100.00
Almora	Dhauladevi	4.02	15.66	44.23	36.09	0.00	100.00
Almora	Dwarahat	13.52	11.29	31.37	42.52	1.29	100.00
Almora	Hawalbagh	6.25	12.50	35.00	46.25	0.00	100.00
Almora	Lamgara	13.94	25.91	40.23	19.52	0.40	100.00
Almora	Sult	10.38	11.69	27.46	50.15	0.31	100.00
Almora	Syalde	1.53	9.76	29.04	59.61	0.07	100.00
Almora	Takula	2.31	15.04	29.80	52.67	0.18	100.00
Almora	Tadikhet	8.60	9.97	32.65	47.76	1.01	100.00

Table 3.12: Destination of migrants from Gram Panchayats						Total
District Name	**Destination of migrants (%)**					**Total**
	Nearby Town	**District Headquarter**	**Other Districts of the State**	**Outside the state**	**Outside the country**	
Almora	7.13	13.00	32.37	47.08	0.43	100.00

Table 3.13: Destination of migrants from Gram Panchayats						Total
State Name	**Destination of migrants (%)**					
	Nearby Town	**District Headquarter**	**Other Districts of the State**	**Outside the state**	**Outside the country**	
Uttarakhand	19.46	15.18	35.69	28.72	0.96	100
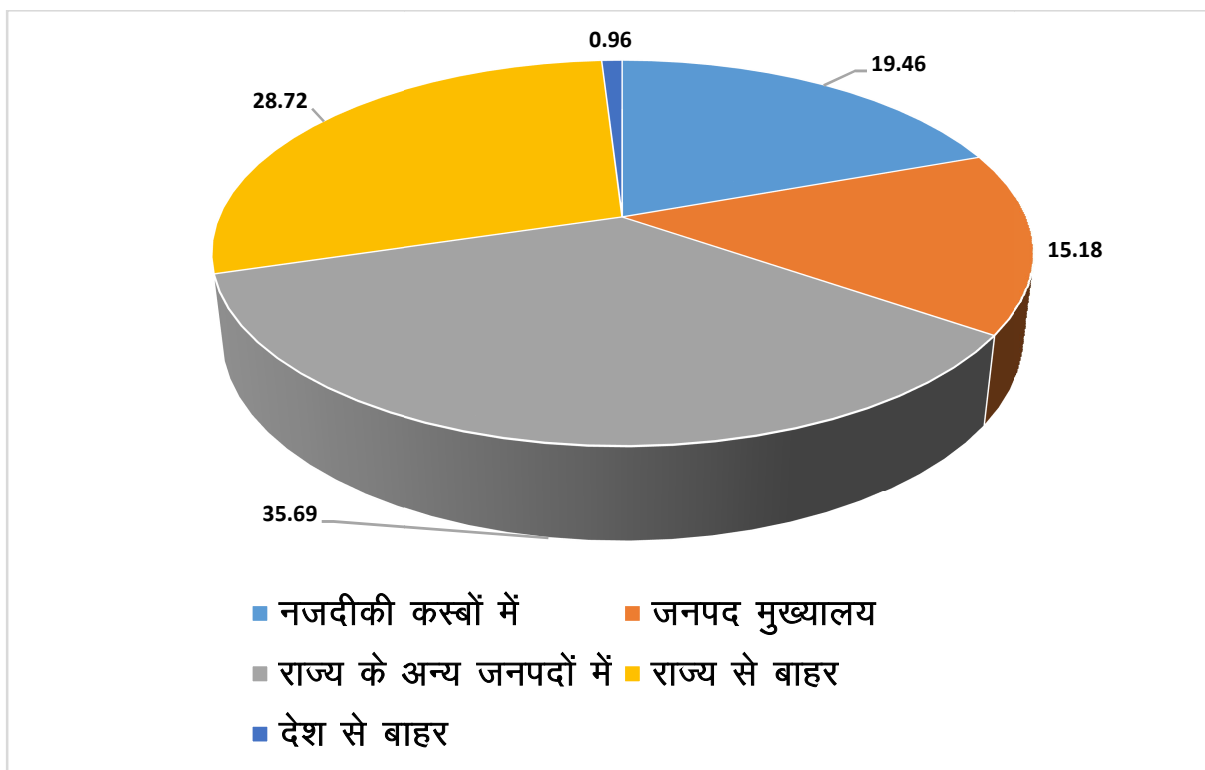
Figure 4: Source: Migration Commission Report, 2018

3.6. UNINHABITED VILLAGES DE-POPULATED AFTER 2011

This section presents details ofdistrict and block wise summary of number of revenue villages/ toks which have become de-populated after 2011; number not connected by roads; number of villages where electricity is not available; drinking water not within 1 km; PHC not available

Table 3.14: District and Block wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (De-populated After 2011)

District Name	Block Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	Bhikiyasain	6
Almora	Chaukhutiya	6
Almora	Dhauladevi	7
Almora	Dwarahat	4
Almora	Hawalbagh	4
Almora	Lamgara	4
Almora	Sult	20
Almora	Syalde	2
Almora	Takula	2
Almora	Tadikhet	2
	Total	**57**

Table 3.15: District wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (De-populated After 2011)

District Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra(at present)
Almora	57
Total (state)	**734**

Table 3.16: District and Block wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Not Connected by Road)

District Name	Block Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra(at present
Almora	Bhikiyasain	5
Almora	Chaukhutiya	3

Table 3.16: District and Block wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Not Connected by Road)		
District Name	Block Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra(at present
Almora	Dhauladevi	7
Almora	Dwarahat	1
Almora	Hawalbagh	2
Almora	Lamgara	3
Almora	Sult	15
Almora	Syalde	2
Almora	Takula	2
Almora	Tadikhet	2
Total		**42**
Uttarakhand		**482**

Table 3.17: District and Block wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Electricity not Available)		
District Name	Block Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra(at present
Almora	Bhikiyasain	1
Almora	Chaukhutiya	2
Almora	Dhauladevi	2
Almora	Dwarahat	1
Almora	Hawalbagh	2
Almora	Lamgara	4
Almora	Sult	5
Almora	Syalde	2
Almora	Tadikhet	2
	Total	**21**

Table 3.18: District wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Electricity not Available)

District Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	21
Total(state)	**358**

Table 3.19: District and Block wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Drinking water not within 1Km)

District Name	Block Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	Bhikiyasain	1
Almora	Chaukhutiya	2
Almora	Dhauladevi	2
Almora	Dwarahat	4
Almora	Hawalbagh	2
Almora	Lamgara	4
Almora	Sult	12
Almora	Syalde	2
Almora	Tadikhet	1
	Total	**30**

Table 3.20: District wise Number of revenue uninhabited villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Drinking water not within 1Km)

District Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	30
Total (State)	**399**

Table 3.21: District and Block wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (PHC not available)		
District Name	**Block Name**	**Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)**
Almora	Bhikiyasain	6
Almora	Chaukhutiya	6
Almora	Dhauladevi	7
Almora	Dwarahat	4
Almora	Hawalbagh	4
Almora	Lamgara	4
Almora	Sult	17
Almora	Syalde	2
Almora	Takula	2
Almora	Tadikhet	1
	Total	**53**

Table 3.22: District wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (PHC not available)	
District Name	**Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present**
Almora	53
Total (state)	**660**

3.7. VILLAGES WHERE PEOPLE HAVE MIGRATED TO DURING THE LAST 10 YEARS FROM OTHER VILLAGES/ TOWNS AND HAMLETS

This section presents details of block wise number of villages where people from other villages/ towns and hamlets have migrated and settled

Table 3.23: District and Block wise Number of villages where people have in-migrated and settled in last 10 years from other villages/ towns or small towns		
District Name	**Block Name**	**Number of villages where people have in-migrated and settled in last 10 years from other villages/ towns or small towns**
Almora	Bhaisiyachana	1
Almora	Bhikiyasain	8
Almora	Chaukhutiya	2

Almora	Dhauladevi	7
Almora	Dwarahat	12
Almora	Hawalbagh	NA
Almora	Lamgara	1
Almora	Sult	5
Almora	Syalde	1
Almora	Takula	1
Almora	Tadikhet	1
	Total	**39**

Table 3.24: District wise Number of villages where people have in-migrated and settled in last 10 years from other villages/ towns or small towns	
District Name	**Number of villages where people have in-migrated and settled in last 10 years from other villages/ towns or small towns**
Almora	39
Total (State)	**850**

3.8.   VILLAGES WHERE POPULATION HAS DECLINED BY 50% AFTER 2011

This section presents details of block wise summary of number of revenue villages/ toks whose population has reduced by 50% after 2011; number not connected by roads; number of villages where electricity is not available; drinking water not within 1 km; PHC not available and number within 5 km distance.

Table 3.25: Block wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011)		
District Name	**Block Name**	**Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)**
Almora	Bhikiyasain	18
Almora	Chaukhutiya	11
Almora	Dhauladevi	18
Almora	Dwarahat	5
Almora	Hawalbagh	2
Almora	Sult	23
Almora	Syalde	1
Almora	Tadikhet	2
	Total	**80**

Table 3.26: District wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011)	
District Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	80
Total (state)	**565**

Table 3.27: District and Block wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (Not Connected by Road)		
District Name	Block Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	Bhikiyasain	15
Almora	Chaukhutiya	4
Almora	Dhauladevi	15
Almora	Dwarahat	3
Almora	Hawalbagh	2
Almora	Sult	21
Almora	Syalde	1
Almora	Tadikhet	2
	Total	**63**

Table 3.28: District wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (Not Connected by Road)	
District Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	63
Total (State)	**367**

Table 3.29: District and Block wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (Electricity not Available) (2018)		
District Name	Block Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	Bhikiyasain	7
Almora	Chaukhutiya	2

Table 3.29: District and Block wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (Electricity not Available) (2018)

District Name	Block Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	Dhauladevi	1
Almora	Sult	1
	Total	**11**

Table 3.30: District wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (Electricity not Available) (2018)

District Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	11
Total (State)	**119**

Table 3.31: District and Block wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (Drinking water not within 1Km)

District Name	Block Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	Bhikiyasain	7
Almora	Chaukhutiya	6
Almora	Dhauladevi	3
Almora	Dwarahat	4
Almora	Sult	14
Total		**34**

Table 3.32: District wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Drinking water not within 1Km)

District Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	34
Total (State)	**203**

Table 3.33: District and Block wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (PHC not available)		
District Name	Block Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra(at present)
Almora	Bhikiyasain	17
Almora	Chaukhutiya	11
Almora	Dhauladevi	14
Almora	Dwarahat	4
Almora	Hawalbagh	2
Almora	Sult	20
Almora	Syalde	1
Almora	Tadikhet	2
	Total	**71**

Table 3.34: District wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (PHC not available)	
District Name	Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)
Almora	71
Total (State)	**510**

CHAPTER IV

CURRENT RURAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

This chapter presents a summary of the ongoing Socio-Economic Programmes currently undertaken by different government departments in Almora district.

4.1. Rural Development

The table 4.1 shows the different schemes and programmes undertaken by the Department of Rural Development.

S.No.	Name of Scheme	Amount Remaining as on 01.04.2016	Amount spent as compared to (3)	Budget for FY2016-17	Amount released in FY2016-17	Amount spent as compared to released	Total Amount available	Cumulative Expenditure	Target	Unit	Achieved
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	MGNREGA	6.90	0.00	2930.20	3950.18	3961.95	3968.44	3961.95	14	Lakh man days	13.99
2	Aajeevika	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sponsored	0
3	PMAY/IAY	0	0	234	92.20	92.20	92.20	92.20	180	No.	85
4	DUGAY	4.51	4.02	48.75	0.00	0.00	4.58	4.02	65	No.	17
5	CSS	0.53	0	24.50	0	0	0.53	0	245	No.	0
6	Bio-gas	2.42	2.32	2.42	0	0	2.42	2.32	25	No.	22
7	DPAP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ha	0
8	IWDP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ha	0
10	Vidhayak Nidhi	2764.01	1340.93	2250	2250	302.83	5014.01	1643.76	--	No.	--
11	Sansad Nidhi	456.61	327.47	500	0	0	456.61	327.47	--	--	--
12	Uttarakhand Border and Backward Area Development	80.96	9.23	0	0	0	80.96	9.23	--	--	--

Table 4.1: Rural Development Schemes in Almora District (Amount in lakh)

Data Source: Department of Rural Development, Uttarakhand

The table 4.2 shows the types and numbers of SHGs formed under NRLM in different blocks of Almora District.

S.No.	Block Name	Total No. of SHG	SHG Type				SHGs Social Category					PWD
			New	Revived	Pre-NRLM	Sub Total	SC SHG	ST SHG	Minority SHG	Others SHG	Sub Total	
1	Bhaisiachhana	45	0	40	5	45	8	0	0	37	45	0
2	Bhikiasain	44	0	37	7	44	7	0	0	37	44	18
3	Chaukhutia	50	0	48	2	50	7	0	0	43	50	8
4	Dhauladevi	149	91	51	7	149	41	0	0	107	148	9
5	Dwarahat	63	0	49	14	63	17	0	0	46	63	0
6	Hawalbag	79	1	56	22	79	30	0	0	49	79	73
7	Lamgara	142	75	57	10	142	29	0	0	112	141	19
8	Sult	27	0	26	1	27	3	0	0	24	27	0
9	Syaldey	36	3	31	2	36	3	0	1	32	36	1
10	Takula	287	258	21	8	287	106	0	1	180	287	43
11	Tarikhet	61	0	46	15	61	14	0	0	47	61	14
	Total	**983**	**428**	**462**	**93**	**983**	**265**	**0**	**2**	**714**	**981**	**185**

Table 4.2: SHGs Group Social Category Wise (Block Level)

Data Source: www.nrlm.gov.in

Blocks like Sult, Syaldey, and Bhikiyasain have less number of SHGs and there are no new SHG's in these blocks.

4.1.1. *Aajivika: Uttrakhand State Rural Livelihood Mission has an ongoing program called ILSP (Integrated Livelihood Support Program) in collaboration with IFAD (International Fund for Agriculture Development). This program is focused on the Food Security and Livelihood Enhancement, Watershed Development, Livelihood Financing, and Project Monitoring components thorough various activities like formation of Producers' groups, support in crop and livestock production, backword and forward linkages, collection centres, and training. Several resource centres and farm machinery banks have been set up under this program at the block level and operated and managed by the community. Under this program, to facilitate the mechanization in agriculture, multiple farm machinery banks are established at the block level. Local agencies, working in particular area/block, are roped in for providing technical expertise in different fields like agriculture, forest produce, skill building etc.*

ILSP has been functional in Bhikiyasain, Chaukhutiya, Hawalbagh, Sult, Syaldey, Tarikhet and Dwarahat blocks. The following table shows the coverage of this program in district Almora.

	Table 4.3: Household Coverage under ILSP Program in Almora				
S.No.	No. of Villages Supported	No. of Groups Supported	No. of HHs Supported under PG/VPG (1st)	No. of HHs Supported for Seed Capital (1st)	No. of LCs (Registered)
1	112	322	2916	328	6
2	115	316	3011	420	5
3	102	323	3163	621	6
4	88	308	3165	823	6
5	94	355	3339	324	5
6	121	367	3261	339	6
7	128	341	3007	196	6
Total	760	2332	21862	3051	40

Source: DPMU- ILSP, Almora

Haat Bazaar

To provide the market facility to members of the co-operative societies, the co-operatives have come up with the idea of "Haat Bazaar" i.e. local market. These open markets are organised weekly primarily near urban centres of the district, like Hawalbagh, Chaukhutiya, Bhikiyasain etc. With this kind of market availability members of the societies earning a regular income.

ILSP (Integrated Livelihood Support Program)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has supported the ILSP program and has formed several SHG Federations in Disrtict Almora. In Hawalbagh Block a total of 501 members of 46 Producers' Groups from 10 villages have taken up multiple economic activities like Dairy, Take Home Ration, Cattle feed, Rakhi making, etc.

Seed Production

Under Gramya scheme 17 FIGs (Farmers' Interest Groups) have been formed and registered as "Jagnath Krishi Beej Utpadak Sangh", Artola in the year 2015. This federation has licence to sell certified and foundation seeds from TDC (Tarai Seeds and Development Corporation). Uttarakhand State Seed Certification Agency, USSCA has trained the farmers in seed production and the seeds thus produced are collected by a mobile seed processing van provided by TDC. In 2017 Kharif season, breeder seeds of paddy, mandua, madira, ramdana, gahat and bhatt varieties were procured from VPKAS, TDC and State Govt. The federation was successful in producing 132 quintal of seeds.

Figure 5: Source: Samvad-Aajivika Magazine, October 2018

4.1.2. Table 4.4 shows the status of MGNREGA in the district Almora. Under this scheme the total expenditure for the entire district in the FY 2017-18 is Rs.3,935.25 lakh, which was Rs.3,545.74 lakh for the FY 2016-17 (inclusive of both labour and material part). This total expenditure has been increasing over the last 3 financial years.

Table 4.4: Status of MNREGA (as on 31.12.2018)			
Total No. of Blocks	11		
Total No. of GPs	1,168		
I. Job Cards			
Total No. of Job Cards issued [In Lakhs]	1		
Total No. of Workers [In Lakhs]	2.09		
Total No. of Active Job Cards [In Lakhs]	0.58		
Total No. of Active Workers [In Lakhs]	0.82		
(i) SC worker against active workers [%]	20.94		
(ii) ST worker against active workers[%]	0.08		
II. Progress	FY 2018-2019	FY 2017-2018	FY 2016-2017
Approved Labour Budget [In Lakhs]	13.08	14	10
Person-days Generated so far [In Lakhs]	10.04	14.14	11.77
% of Total LB	76.76	100.98	117.76
% as per Proportionate LB	91.47	--	--
SC person-days % as of total person-days	21.06	21.07	21.64
ST person-days % as of total person-days	0.13	0.08	0.09
Women Person-days out of Total (%)	58.33	57.61	56.28
Average days of employment provided per Household	34.44	38.03	32.73
Average Wage rate per day per person (Rs.)	175	174.98	173.98
Total No of HHs completed 100 Days of Wage Employment	606	1,124	1,427
Total Households Worked [In Lakhs]	0.29	0.37	0.36
Total Individuals Worked [In Lakhs]	0.38	0.5	0.46
Differently abled persons worked	46	42	13
III. Works			

Number of GPs with NIL exp.	106	38	16
Total No. of Works Taken up (New+Spill Over) [In Lakhs]	0.07	0.11	0.1
Number of Ongoing Works [In Lakhs]	0.03	0.04	0.06
Number of Completed Works	3,421	6,789	4,449
% of NRM Expenditure (Public + Individual)	64.74	58.61	46.62
% of Category B Works	37.84	24.82	14.2
% of Expenditure on Agriculture & Agriculture Allied Works	74.45	72.33	53.44
IV. Financial Progress			
Total Exp. (Rs. in Lakhs.)	2,600.64	3,935.25	3,545.74
Wages (Rs. In Lakhs)	1,815.57	2,544.02	2,626.57
Material and skilled Wages (Rs. In Lakhs)	693.99	1,175.12	783.96
Material (%)	27.65	31.6	22.99
Total Adm. Expenditure (Rs. in Lakhs.)	91.08	216.11	135.21
Admin Exp. (%)	3.5	5.49	3.81
Average Cost Per Day Per Person (In Rs.)	263.66	251.67	226.3
% of Total Expenditure through EFMS	99.79	99.99	99.97
% payments generated within 15 days	99.8	94.15	58.46

Source: http://mnregaweb4.nic.in/netnrega/all_lvl_details_dashboard_new.aspx

*4.1.3. GRAMYA: **This program is undertaken by the State Watershed Development Directorate. It works at the community level with Gram Panchayats, SHGs and Vulnerable Groups. Following table shows the funding pattern in Vulnerable Groups in the District Almora.***

Table 4.5: Funding of VGs under Gramya Scheme			
S.No.	**Activity**	**Number of Groups Funded**	**Amount Funded**
1	Knitting Work	1	10,000
2	Bakery	1	50,000
3	Catering	1	60,000
4	Collection/Grading/ Packaging	16	1,70,000
5	Masala Chakki (Grinding)	4	1,90,000

6	Disposable Plate/ Bowl Making		1	1,00,000
7	Packaging		1	1,00,000
8	Rope Making		1	30,000
9	Sound System		5	2,50,000
10	Chholiya Dance Group		5	2,90,000
11	Chaulai Laddu Making		1	25,000
12	Basket Making		6	2,20,000
13	Tent Making		19	13,70,000
14	Black smithy		1	50,000
	Total		**63**	**29,15,000**

Source: District Administration, Almora

Activities like collection/grading/ packaging and tent making are apparently preferred options under this scheme.

4.2. Small & Medium Industries-

4.2.1. KVIB, Almora

		2015-16			2016-17			2017-18			2018-19		
S.No.	**Block**	Units	Amount	Jobs	Units	Amount	Jobs	Units	Amount	Jobs	Units	Amount	Jobs
1	**Takula**	7	28	18	3	12.5	8	10	45.5	46	5	25	25
2	**Hawalbag**	12	39	25	13	85	57	22	37.5	38	17	86	86
3	**Bhaisiachhana**	3	15	10	2	10	6	3	11.5	12	4	18	18
4	**Dhauladevi**	7	30.5	19	5	29	20	6	17	17	6	28	28
5	**Lamgara**	5	15	10	2	15	10	6	21	21	4	16.65	17
6	**Dwarahat**	1	5	3	0	0	0	1	6.25	6	1	2.5	3
7	**Chaukhutiya**	1	8	5	1	10	6	1	4	4	0	0	0
8	**Tarikhet**	1	10	6	0	0	0	4	22	22	0	0	0
9	**Sult**	0	0	0	1	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	**Syaldey**	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	**Bhikiasain**	0	0	0	1	5	3	1	5	5	0	0	0
	Total	38	153.5	98	28	171.5	113	54	169.75	171	37	176.15	177

Table 4.6: Progress under PMEGP in Almora (Amount in INR Lakh)

Source: Khadi Gramodhyog, Almora

S.No.	Block	2015-16			2016-17			2017-18			2018-19		
		Units	Finance	Jobs	Units	Finance	Jobs	Units	Finance	Jobs	Units	Finance	Jobs
1	Takula	6	25	16	7	19.5	13	1	5	5	0	0	0
2	Hawalbag	32	81.5	50	34	101.5	67	4	13	13	0	0	0
3	Bhaisiachhana	3	14	10	6	20	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Dhauladevi	18	57.5	35	21	61.5	40	3	8	8	0	0	0
5	Lamgara	5	11.5	8	6	22	17	7	31	31	0	0	0
6	Dwarahat	4	14	9	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Chaukhutiya	4	15.5	10	0	0	0	1	5	5	0	0	0
8	Tarikhet	1	5	3	7	20	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Sult	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Syaldey	2	8	5	7	28.5	19	1	5	5	0	0	0
11	Bhikiasain	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	76	236	148	89	275	185	17	67	67	0	0	0

Table 4.7: Progress under Individual Interest Subsidy Scheme in Almora (Amount in INR Lakh)

Source: Khadi Gramodhyog, Almora

The above two tables show the data of two different schemes under District Khadi Development Board (KVIB). It is clearly evident that there is a disparity in the presence of these micro industrial units within the district. Nearly more than 50% of these units, in both the schemes, are being concentrated in 3 blocks i.e. Hawalbagh, Takula, and Dhauladevi; Hawalbagh having the maximum units, over the last three financial years. This may be because of the close vicinity of these blocks to the district headquarter Almora. Whereas, the remote blocks like Syaldey, Sult, Bhikiyasain, Chaukhutiya etc. have poor performance under this scheme. There is a need to focus in these blocks to support entrepreneurship and livelihood generation.

Under Entrepreneurship Development Training programs hundreds of youths have been trained in electrical work, food processing, apiculture, fruit preservation, sewing, bamboo handicrafts etc. by the District Industry Centre at the District level.

Khadi & Village Industries Board (KVIB) also operates a factory for producing woollens. The raw material i.e. wool is procured from Harshil (Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand) and high quality material from Australia and New Zealand. The processing, spinning, and weaving is done in this factory. The final products are then sent to different locations according to demand. They also have a shop in Almora market to showcase and sell the products. Several products like Shawls, Stoles, Blankets, Cap, Scarf, Jackets, Sweaters, etc. are manufactured in the factory. The table below shows the details.

S.No.	Year	Production (in Rs. Lakh)	Revenue (in Rs. Lakh)	Jobs	Wages (in Rs. Lakh)
for title					

	Table 4.8: Production Details of River View Factory, Almora				
S.No.	**Year**	**Production (in Rs. Lakh)**	**Revenue (in Rs. Lakh)**	**Jobs**	**Wages (in Rs. Lakh)**
1	2015-16	20.21	80.55	206	7.49
2	2016-17	27.11	96.35	195	3.19
3	2017-18	29.9	77.26	195	4.93
4	2018-19 (till Dec. 2018)	26.94	30.61	195	5.66

Source: River View Factory, KVIB Almora

This can readily be up scaled by addressing the problems and limitations of this activity. The number of direct jobs has remained static at around 200 and there is scope for increasing this number.

4.3. **Agriculture:** Agriculture department has several schemes currently running in the district.

4.3.1. Centrally Sponsored Schemes

a. **Rashtriya Khadya Shuraksha Mission (National Food Security Mission)-** The scheme launched in year October, 2007 by Government of India aims to increase the annual production of food grains. The funding pattern between Central to State is 90:10. Under this scheme crops like Rice, Wheat, coarse cereals (maize, barley), Nutri Cereals (Mandua, Jhangora, Ramdana etc.), Pulses (Urad, Gahat, Gram, Green Gram, Lentil etc.), Oilseeds (Soybean, Mustard, Rapeseed etc.) are being promoted.

b. **Rashtriya Samposhaniya Krishi Mission (National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture)-** National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) has been formulated for enhancing agricultural productivity especially in rainfed areas focusing on integrated farming, water use efficiency, soil health management and synergizing resource conservation. Under this scheme the following programmes are undertaken:

b.1. **Rainfed Agriculture Development Scheme-** Sponsored in ratio 90:10 between Centre and State. The programme aims to promote rainfed agriculture through Integrated Farming System, Water Use Efficiency, Soil Health Management and Natural Resource management. Within this Programme several farming systems are adopted like Horticulture based farming system, Livestock based faming system, Dairy based farming system, Fisheries based farming system, Silvi-pastoral based farming system/NTFP poplar, Agro forestry based farming system, and Value addition and resource conservation.

b.2. **Traditional Agriculture Development Scheme**

b.3. **Soil Health Management-** the establishment of soil testing labs and providing soil health cards free of cost to farmers.

c. **National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET)**

    c.1. **Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material**

    c.2. **Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization**

    c.3. **ATMA**

d. **National Oilseeds and Oil Palm Mission**

e. **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (Prime Minister Crop Insurance Scheme)-** Launched in February, 2016, the scheme provides comprehensive risk coverage from pre-sowing to post harvest losses due to non-preventable natural risks.

f. **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)-** RKVY is a Government of India scheme launched in 2007 to ensure a holistic development of agriculture and allied sector by allowing states to choose their own agriculture and allied sector development activities as per the district/state agriculture plan. RKVY guidelines have been revamped as RKVY- RAFTAAR- (Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied sector Rejuvenation) to enhance efficiency, efficacy and inclusiveness of the programme for the remaining period of the Fourteenth Finance Commission.

    f.1. **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)**

    f.2. **Integrated Multipurpose Water Conservation Program**

    f.3. **Organic farming Program**

    f.4. **Gherbaad Yojana (Fencing Scheme)-** Started in year 2014-15 to protect farm and crops from wild animals like monkeys, wild boars etc. This includes wall fencing, barbed wire fencing, solar fencing and bio-fencing (plants used as fencing for main crop).

    f.5. **Kisan Mela (Farmer Fair)**- In collaboration with several other departments like Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Horticulture, Silk etc. farmer fairs are organised at Nyay Panchayat level. These fairs showcase different schemes for farmers.

    f.6. **Farm Mechanization-** Under this programme several farm implements are being provided to farmers at subsidised rate.

    f.7. **Natural Calamity**

g. **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana-** This scheme aims to develop the irrigation structures, increase the area under irrigation, integration of water sources, judicious distribution and use of water, water conservation, and groundwater recharge.

    g.1. **More Crop Per Drop**

    g.2. **Integrated Watershed Management Program**

h. **Soil Testing Lab (Boron Analysis Program)**

4.3.2. State Sponsored Schemes

a. **Agriculture Development Programmes in SC/ST Villages-** This scheme aims to promote agriculture and allied activities in SC/ST populated villages. Several schemes like seed mini-kit distribution, distribution of farm implements, water conservation and harvesting, poultry, fisheries, poly-house and other extension services are provided to the farmers of these communities.

b. **Pump-set, Sprinkler, farm implement program**

4.3.3. District Schemes

a. **Plant Protection**- plant protection inputs like herbicides, pesticides, micro-nutrients, light and pheromone traps etc. are provided to the farmers.

b. **Seed Mini-kit Distribution-** high quality seeds of cereals, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables etc. are given to farmers.

c. **Irrigation Development program-** under this program water tanks and other irrigation structures are constructed to facilitate irrigation. Convergence with other programs like MNREGA is also done.

d. **Vermi-compost-** this program facilitates organic manure production through vermicomposting and its use in agriculture.

e. **Farm- Mechanization**- Agriculture implements like tractors, power tillers, thrashers, reapers etc. are provided at subsidised rate to the farmers. Community owned Custom Hiring centres and Farm Machinery Banks are also facilitated by the department under this program.

Agriculture Department has formed Clusters in selected Gram Panchayats (Block wise) in order to double the Farmers' income in the district.

Table 4.9: Clusters Selected under Doubling the Farmers' Income Scheme		
Block	**Cluster Name**	**Gram Panchayat**
Hawalbagh	Falseema	Maal, Sarso, Bakh, Jhasiatana, Dugalkhola, Chausali, Balta, Bhunara, Bintola

Tarikhet	Tipola	Tunakot, Bamsyu, Uprari, Bajol, Bajina, Bhadgaon, Chokuni, Mauna, Makudo, Gairad,
Lamgada	Motiapathar	Natadol, Bhagadevali, Mor Patyudi, Dhaura, Thaant, Baliya, Beganiya, Aanuli, Mergaon
Dwarahat	Dwarahat	Kotyuda, Matela, Dudholi, Nayal, Todra, Ratkhan, Manela, Rawalsera, Airadi
Dhauladevi	Arasalpad	Arasalpad, Gyoli, Kabhdi, Chitoli, Farakholi, Nelpad, Bahagartola, Papgaad, Chamuakhalsa
Bhaisiachana	Bhaisiachana	Kujbargal, Dungari, Dhamoli, Pethsal, Bajoli
Syaldey	Barangal	Kaliyalingud, Jaikhali, Barangal
	Saraikhet	Saraikhet, Unyal, Kafalgaon, Sakargaon, Buranshpani
Sult	Bhaunkhal	Ajoli Talli, Aasutley, Devayal, Badhar, Boda Malla, Badhet, Bhakrakot,
	Kudidhar	Kudidhar, Varkinda, Besar, Bagad, Bungidhar
Bhikiyasain	Sinoda	Sinoda, Pantgaon, Danpo, Lokot, Harnoli, Palitholi, Mohanari
Takula	Basoli	Hadoli, Basoli, Churadi, Bhaisodi, Bhakuna, Sunoli
	Amkholi	Dotiyal Gaon, Thapla, Panergaon, Amkholi, Beena, Kande
Chaukhutiya	Vetandhar	Vetandhar, Ganai, Bhatoli, Bhattkot, Reethachaura, Dhaun, Timta, Haat, Jalla
	Aadigram Fuloria	Aadigram Fuloria, Aadigram Kanodiya

Source: Agriculture Department, Almora

In these clusters economic activities like Traditional Agriculture, Horticulture, Fisheries, Agro-forestry, Dairy, Spices, etc. are to be promoted. Following table shows the seed production program in the selected clusters.

Table 4.10: Seed Production Program- Wheat Clusters in Almora			
S.No.	**Block**	**Cluster Name**	**Area Sown (Ha.)**
1	Syaldey	Kumaleshwar	10
		Udaipur/Kehadgaon	10
2	Chaukhutiya	Jhalahat	10
		Tadaktal	10
3	Takula	Sonkotli	10
		Chanoli/Nekana	10
4	Dhauladevi	Bamanswal	10
5	Bhaisiachana	Chaani	10
	Total		**80**

Source: Agriculture Department, Almora

S.No.	Selected Block	Cluster Name	(2017-18)			
			Agriculture	Horticulture	Livestock	Total
1	Hawalbagh	Falseema	0.085	0.07825	0.05688	**0.22013**
2	Takula	Basoli	0.1433	0.08025	0.1129	**0.33645**
		Amkholi	0.12175	0.08825	0.1035	**0.3135**
3	Tarikhet	Tipola	0.10531	0.0985	0.14262	**0.34643**
4	Syaldey	Barangal	0.0067	0.11175	0.11598	**0.23443**
		Saraikhet	0	0.117	0.1425	**0.2595**
5	Dhauladevi	Aarasalpad	0.08675	0.10625	0.16672	**0.35972**
6	Lamgada	Motiapathar	0.20025	0.1375	0.10504	**0.44279**
7	Bhaisiachana	Bhaisiachana	0.08183	0	0.13938	**0.22121**
8	Dwarahat	Dwarahat	0.14733	0.10325	0.16552	**0.4161**
9	Sult	Bhaunkhal	0	0.11425	0.15225	**0.2665**
		Kudidhar	0	0.10625	0.07036	**0.17661**
10	Chaukhutiya	Vetandhar	0.14	0.14	0.1361	**0.4161**
		Aadigram	0.15	0.09325	0.18785	**0.4311**
11	Bhikiyasain	Sinoda	0.02858	0.10375	0.23451	**0.36684**
	Total		**1.2968**	**1.4785**	**2.03211**	**4.80741**

Table 4.11: Per Farmer income (in thousand INR) based on activities undertaken

Source: Agriculture Department, Almora

Mobile Agri-Clinic Van

Launched in October 2018, this Agri-Clinic Van ensures door step delivery of inputs and related information from various government line departments like Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, etc. and to provide market accessibility to farm produce. This van also used as a medium for extension services like awareness of existing and new govt. schemes. This initiative has been a great step taken for the farmers and for rural masses as a whole.

The scheme has been proposed for 3 years, 2018-19 to 2021-22 and financially supported through NMAET, District Scheme, Department of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Department of Youth Welfare and PRD. There is a need of similar such initiatives to be taken in other hill districts of the state.

Horticulture

Table 4.12: Horticulture Mission for North-East and Himalayan States						
Block	**Financial Year (2015-16)**		**Financial Year (2016-17)**		**Financial Year (2017-18)**	
	Sanctioned Amt.	**Amt. Spent**	**Sanctioned Amt.**	**Amt. Spent**	**Sanctioned Amt.**	**Amt. Spent**
Hawalbagh	3.9065	3.9065	6.0502	6.0502	4.8891	4.8891
Dhauladevi	8.639	8.639	7.976	7.976	19.5802	19.5802
Bhaisiyachana	2.28707	2.28707	1.937	1.937	2.6793	2.6793
Dwarahat	5.6255	5.6255	4.1985	4.1985	2.4226	2.4226
Chaukhutiya	5.5665	5.5665	2.2056	2.2056	3.6331	3.6331
Bhikiyasain	3.2465	3.2465	3.214	3.214	1.9127	1.9127
Syaldey	3.7365	3.7365	11.0835	11.0835	4.6836	4.6836
Sult	7.27201	7.27201	12.716	12.716	11.4625	11.4625
Lamgada	4.539	4.539	3.4333	3.4333	3.6257	3.6257
Tarikhet	8.348	8.348	15.3309	15.3309	4.999	4.999
Takula	3.699	3.699	3.4125	3.4125	2.06498	2.06498
Total	**56.87**	**56.87**	**71.56**	**71.56**	**61.95**	**61.95**

Source: Horticulture Department, Almora

Table 4.13: Amount Spent on various Horticulture Schemes in Almora			
Block	**Year 2015-16**	**Year 2015-16**	**Year 2015-16**
	Amount Spent	**Amount Spent**	**Amount Spent**
Hawalbagh	6.62	4.842	7.989
Dhauladevi	4.052	1.917	5.705
Bhaisiyachana	2.065	1.464	2.973
Dwarahat	5.82	7.098	4.521
Chaukhutiya	3.202	4.406	3.968
Bhikiyasain	2.639	1.749	3.939
Syaldey	3.086	3.055	3.903
Sult	3.194	4.737	4.169
Lamgada	3.532	1.905	5.465
Tarikhet	9.11	6.527	8.15
Takula	2.585	3.3	2.148
Total	**45.905**	**41**	**52.93**

Source: Horticulture Department, Almora

S.No.	District Sector Scheme (2017-18)	Exp. (in lakh)	Unit	Figures
	Table 4.14: Horticulture Development Schemes in District Almora			
1	Horticulture Development in SC populated area	2.513	Ha	7
2	Constructing Poly-house (at 90% Subsidy) (30x11x9) ft.	24.183	No.	475
3	Distribution of Plastic crates (50% subsidy)	2.04	No.	1673
4	Training on Fruit and Vegetable Processing (Women)	0.401	No.	176
5	Insecticides Distribution (60% subsidy)	3.399	Ha.	1404
6	Kurmula pest control (75% subsidy)	2.725	Ha.	507
7	Horticulture Implements (50% subsidy)	4.905	No.	741
8	Freight Charges on Horticulture Investment (100% subsidy)	12.764	--	--

Source: Horticulture Department, Almora

S.No.	State Sector Schemes (2017-18)	Exp. (in lakh)	Unit	Figures
	Table 4.15: Horticulture Development Schemes in District Almora			
1	Fencing of Existing Orchards	2.75	Ha.	2.75
2	Change of Sheets in Poly-houses	1.401	No.	3733
3	Plantation of Fruit saplings	2.75	No.	11,835
4	Off-Season Vegetable Production	1.401	Ha.	10
5	Grants for Spices Farming	1.837	Quintal	94.67
6	Construction of Vermicomposting units	3	No.	38
7	Mission Apple	2.348	Ha.	0
8	Development of Walnut and other nut fruits	9.5	Ha.	3
9	Fruit Nursery Development	0	No.	0
10	Renovation of Orchards	0	Ha.	0

Source: Horticulture Department, Almora

4.4.1. Medicinal Plants Unit: This unit under the Horticulture Department in engaged in promoting aromatic and medicinal plants. The unit also imparts training programs, distribution and planting of medicinal plants, and extraction of essential oils. The table below shows the cluster of such plantations. This unit was earlier a part of Co-operative

Department until 2007, where they had village level collection and aggregation facilities through PACS and marketing of these produce through marketing co-operative societies. Now since this unit is merged with Horticulture Department, there is a fundamental problem of filed staffs and the problems trickle down to farmers.

Year	Block	Cluster Name	No. of Villages	Plantation
2014-15	**Lamgada**	Dhaili	3	Tezpaat
		Kaltani	3	Tezpaat
	Sult	Dhungamohan	1	Tezpaat
2015-16	**Sult**	Kothalgaon	1	Tezpaat
		Kotli talli	1	Tezpaat
		Jakh Kotli	1	Sarpgandha
	Bhaisiachana	Utiya	1	Badi Elaichi
	Hawalbagh	Thapliya	1	Tezpaat
2016-17	**Dhauladevi**	Dhyadi	5	Tezpaat
		Garudabaaj	4	Tezpaat
		Naini	1	Tezpaat
		Chelchina	3	Tezpaat
	Dwarahat	Eida	2	Tezpaat
	Lamgada	Futa	1	Tezpaat
2017-18	**Bhikiyasain**	Jeenapani	5	Tezpaat
	Dhauladevi	Dhaspad	2	Tezpaat
	Syaldey	Airadibisht	7	Tezpaat
	Bhaisiachana	Khakari	1	Tezpaat
		Palyo	1	Tezpaat
2018-19	**Takula**	Nirayi	1	Tezpaat
	Lamgada	Dol	1	Tezpaat
	Sult	Tolyon	1	Tezpaat
		Baud Malla	1	Tezpaat
	Bhaisiachana	Kunjbargal	1	Badi Elaichi
	Sult	Dhungamohan	1	Badi Elaichi
		Kothalgaon	1	Badi Elaichi
		Pinakot	1	Badi Elaichi
		Total	**52**	

Table 4.16: Plantation of Medicinal Plants in Almora

Source: Medicinal Plants Unit, Dept. of Horticulture, Almora

The plantation is done at the farmers' field and he/she is free to find the market. There is scope for expanding this activity in other villages and blocks.

4.5. Animal Husbandry: The Animal Husbandry department has a number of programs running in the district. The following shows the number of beneficiaries under different schemes.

	Table 4.17: Schemes under Department of Animal Husbandry Almora				
S.No.	Name of Program	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Milch Animal (Cow)	46	35	59	**28**
2.	Goat Rearing	18	9	20	**19**
3.	Ahilyabai Holkar Goat Rearing	9	12	18	--
4.	Goat Rearing (for women)	--	--	15	--
5.	Poultry	1720	1019	1158	**1000**

Source: Department of Animal Husbandry, Almora

4.5.1. Dairy: Livestock rearing is one of the most important source of livelihood along with the agriculture, but only 3.66% of the district's population is engaged in Dairy business as their main occupation. The following tables shows the status of Milk Unions in the district Almora.

	Table 4.18: Data on Milk Unions in District Almora				
S.No.	Particulars	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Society Federation	--	--	6	6
2	Functional Societies	226	236	238	242
3	Avg. daily Milk Production (lt.)	10208	18607	12643	13500
4	Cattle feed Sale (mt.)	297	840	871	890
5	Primary Veterinary Hospital (No.)	--	542	1068	1100
6	Veterinary Services	800	960	980	795
7	Pure Milk Production Seminar	--	--	25	13
8	Milk Pouring Members	4751	4431	5090	5640
9	Ganga-gaay	80	80	90	--

Source: Milk Producers' Co-operative Union Ltd., Almora

	Table 4.19: Block wise Milk Unions in District Almora			
S.No.	Block	Total Societies formed	Functional Societies	Non-functional Societies
1	Lamgara	71	27	44
2	Dhauladevi	81	48	33

3	Hawalbagh	51	24	27
4	Tarikhet	72	58	14
5	Bhikiyasain	31	18	13
6	Dwarahat	41	34	7
7	Chaukhutiya	25	19	6
8	Sult	52	23	29
9	Syaldey	2	0	2
10	Bhaisiachana	13	2	11
11	Takula	2	0	2
	Total	**441**	**253**	**188**

More focus needs to be given on Syaldey, Bhasiachina and Takula blocks.

4.6. **Fisheries-** The Department of Fisheries has currently three schemes running in the district viz.

- Coldwater Fisheries Development Scheme

- Fisheries sub-scheme for Scheduled Castes

- Construction of Fish Ponds Scheme for hill areas

Table 4.20: No. of Fish Ponds in Almora					
S.No.	**Block**	**No. of Fish Ponds**			
		2015-16	**2016-17**	**2017-18**	**2018-19**
1	Lamgada	11	3	3	0
2	Dhauladevi	8	6	2	2
3	Takula	12	2	2	8
4	Hawalbagh	5	6	3	5
5	Chaukhutiya	17	0	1	5
6	Dwarahat	10	13	5	7
7	Sult	7	3	0	0
8	Tarikhet	2	4	0	2
9	Bhikiyasain	4	2	1	1
	Total	**76**	**39**	**17**	**30**

4.7. **Tourism:** The department has developmental projects under District Scheme, State, and centrally sponsored. The two main schemes are Home-stay scheme and Veer Chandra Singh Garhwali Self-Employment Scheme. Running homestays by the villagers has given them an additional source of income. The maximum numbers of the Homestays are in Kasar Devi area of the Hawalbagh Block, 5 km from the Almora town. The majority of the Homestays were previously guest houses and are converted to homestays post the Homestay policy. The homestay activity is not the main source of income for the owners but is an additional source of income. The average monthly income generated by the owner is between Rs.7,000-10,000 and the average number of guests in a month is 4-5. The months of March-June are the peak months while December-February and the monsoon season is lean period. The owners are happy with additional income they are generating from homestay but have several concern with the government, which are elaborated in Chapter 5 under Homestay.

S.No.	Block	No. of Homestays	No. of Hotels
	Table 4.21: No. of Homestays in Almora		
1	Hawalbagh	58	56
2	Bhaisiachana	3	--
3	Chaukhutiya	1	3
4	Dhauladevi	11	18
5	Dwarahat	9	3
6	Sult	5	16
7	Takula	10	16
8	Tarikhet	10	29
9	Bhikiyasain	--	1
	Total	**107**	**142**

Source: Department of Tourism, Almora

There are very few or no homestays in Bhasiachina, Chaukhutia, Sult blocks.

4.8. **Regional Transport Office, Almora-**

Year	Freight Vehicle	Taxi	Maxi	Others	Total
	Table 4.22: Year wise Registered Vehicles in Almora				
2015-16	123	109	152	2595	2979
2016-17	106	133	134	1115	1488
2017-18	106	180	140	3422	3848
2018-19 (Dec-18)	101	138	86	2588	2913

Source: Regional Transport Office, Almora

The transport office has issued 209 road transport permits in the year 2017-18 and in this financial year it is 381.

4.9. **Tea Development Board, Almora-** Uttrakhand Tea Development Board has tea estates in 3 blocks of Almora viz. Dhauladevi, Takula, and Chaukhutiya

Table 4.23: Employment under Tea Development Board				
Year	Tea Estate Area	Total Expenditure	Employment	Families Benefited
2015-16	54	96.44	422	104
2016-17	66	96.96	343	141
2017-18	82	100.55	458	175
2018-19	104	81.09	454	214
Total	**306**	**375.04**	**1677**	**634**

Source: Uttarakhand Tea Development Board, Almora

There are other places identified by the Tea Board in the District Almora for Tea plantation viz. Bhaisiachana, Bhikiyasain, Hawalbagh, Lamgada, and Syaldey. As of now the total production is small and due to the unavailability of processing centre/plant in the district, the present production is being sent to Kausani (Bageshwar) factory for processing. In the coming years there is a proposal of setting up a Tea factory in Block Dhauladevi and thus encouraging Tea Tourism too.

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- River View Factory, Almora, Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand Tea Development Board, Almora, Uttarakhand
- Department of Animal Husbandry, Almora, Uttarakhand
- Department of Fisheries, Almora, Uttarakhand
- Home stay owners in District Almora

CHAPTER V

ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

District Almora forms nearly 5.78% of the state's total geographical area. The district has a population of 6,22,506as per the census 2011, of which the male population is 2,91,081 and the female population is 3,31,425. The population of this district forms nearly 6.15% of the state's population and more than 90% of this population resides in rural areas. Although the district's decadal population change is -1.63%, but for rural population it is -4.20% clearly indicating that the rural population is migrating towards the urban centers.

The rate of change in rural population is -21.78 % in Bhikyasen block followed by Syalde at -9.17%, Sult -8.85% and Chaukhutia -6.08% between 2001 and 2011. On the other hand the change of rural population in Lamgara block was 10.18% while the urban population of the district showed an increase by about 25 % during this period.

The age group of 20-49 years constitute about 38% of the total population. This is the working population and has migrated to the urban centers of the state, country or abroad for better opportunities in livelihood, education, health etc. The population of the age group below 20 years is 41.42% of the total population and this portion of the population is probably the coming generation of the migrants from the district in the near future, if the present socio-economic conditions are not improved.

Almora is an entirely mountainous district, where majority of the economy depends on traditional agriculture, horticulture and livestock. The size of the economy i.e. GDDP at Current Prices is estimated Rs.4,28,018 lakh in year 2011-12, Rs.4,90,303 lakh in year 2012-13, Rs.5,63,108 lakh in year 2013-14, Rs.5,58,426 lakh in year 2014-15, Rs.5,98,345 lakh for year 2015-16RE and is Rs.6,60,378 lakh for the year 2016-17. In terms of percentage growth the size of the economy increased by 14.55% in year 2012-13, 14.85% in year 2013-14, -0.83% in year 2014-15, 7.15% in year 2015-16RE and 10.37% in the year 2016-17 with respect to previous year respectively. Growth of the economy i.e. GDDP at Constant Prices is estimated Rs.4,28,018 lakh in year 2011-12, Rs.4,58,385 lakh in year 2012-13, Rs.5,06,144 lakh in year 2013-14, Rs.4,88,369 lakh in year 2014-15, Rs.5,11,911 lakh for year 2015-16RE and is provisionally estimated at about Rs.5,45,139 lakh for the year 2016-17. In terms of percentage growth, GDDP at constant price i.e. economy registered growth of 7.09% in year 2012-13, 10.42% in year 2013- 14, -3.51% in year 2014-15, 4.82% in year 2015-16RE and 6.49% in the year 2016-17 with respect to previous year respectively as compared to the state average of 7.9 % in 2016-17

It has been reported in the HDR 2018 that the district has 30.70% of the population below poverty line as against the state average of 15.60%.

Per capita income of Almora district is estimated Rs.60,550 in year 2011-12, Rs.70,056 in year 2012-13, Rs.79,866 in year 2013-14, Rs.80,512 in year 2014-15, Rs.86,961 for year 2015-16RE & is provisionally estimated Rs.96,786 for the year 2016-17PE. In terms of percentage growth, per capita NDDP at current price or per capita income increased by 15.70% in year 2012-13, 14.00% in year 2013-14, 0.81% in year 2014-15, 8.01% in year 2015-16RE and 11.30% in the year 2016-17 with respect to previous year respectively. The per capita income of the district for 2016-17 is Rs.96,786, whereas for Hardwar it is Rs.2,54,050 i.e. more than 2.5 times that of district Almora.

The district has a literacy rate of 80.47%, wherein the male and female literacy is 92.86% and 69.93% respectively. Within the district, Blocks Hawalbagh and Tarikhet have maximum literacy rate of 83.69% and 83.36% respectively. Block Tarikhet and Hawalbagh have no Polytechnic Institute, Block Syalde and Chaukhutiya do have Polytechnic Institutes but are non-functional as there is no student intake. In the entire district out of 748 polytechnic seats offered only 441 seats are filled i.e. 58.95%. For ITIs also out of 1764 seats offered only 856 are filled, i.e. 48.52%. These institutes are functioning far below their capacity and efficiency.

In the last 10 years, a total of 53,611 persons from1022 gram panchayats have migrated on a semi-permanent basis, though they come to their homes in the villages from time to time and have not migrated permanently. In the last 10 years, there are 16,207 permanent migrants from 646 gram panchayats. Data indicates that there are more semi-permanent migrants than permanent migrants in all districts of the state. More than 42% of the migrants are between age of 26 to 35 years.

5.1. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1.1 Improving the rural economy: It is felt that solution to the problem of out migration from the rural areas lies in improving the rural economy of the district, particularly the blocks and gram panchayats from where more people have migrated in the past years.

A vibrant economy at the level of villages or cluster of villages will act as a nucleus for socio-economic growth in the Gram Panchayat or group of Gram Panchayats. The unique strengths of each gram panchayats or group of gram panchayats needs to be built upon for boosting the rural income. In the district there are many locations where tourism can be promoted, particularly those near existing tourist and religious destinations.

Gram Panchayat or group of Gram Panchayats near urban centers like Almora and Ranikhet can reap the locational benefits and boost economic growth. For the next five to ten years the focus of line departments should be to boost the village or gram panchayat level economy in various parts of the district; particularly in gram panchayats from where out-migration has been more. The local communities residing in the villages also need to focus on boosting the local economy that would lead to creation of additional livelihoods, thus helping to reduce out migration.

5.1.2- Focusing on agriculture and non-agriculture income: An analysis of economic data of the district clearly indicates that there is a shift away from traditional agriculture. Focus

needs to be on boosting rural incomes in the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors, rather than only on agriculture and horticulture. Data suggests that the contribution of the tertiary sector to the economy of the district is increasing steadily over the years. This needs to be built upon in the years to come.

5.1.3- Village specific planning: Plans may be prepared for clusters of villages that have similar conditions with respect to land use; geography; level of out-migration and in-migration (if any); climatic conditions; accessibility; availability of water for drinking and irrigation etc. These need to be prepared by a team of different line departments under the supervision of experts. The government departments may support and hand hold interested persons in taking up economic activities while availing benefits of schemes about which they are often not aware.

Specific plans for groups of villages may be prepared and posed for funding to the state or central governments or taken up through external projects.

5.1.4: Basic facilities: There is a problem of lack of basic facilities in many gram panchayats. There include water, both for drinking and irrigation; health; roads; quality education and health care. These needs to be addressed by accessing funds from various schemes particularly in gram panchayats; from where out-migration has been more.

5.1.5 Linkages with climate change: Changing climatic conditions are expected to influence the rural economy in a big way, particularly in the sub-tropical parts of the district. This will lead to change in cropping patterns, though an increase in influx of tourists can also be expected. Development of rural socio-economy needs to take into account expected impacts of climate change. These have been brought out in the State Action Plan on Climate Change.

5.1.6 Skill development: Skill development programmes should focus on improving the skills that would suit the local economic needs. These could be on improved agricultural technologies; off-season cropping; food/fruit processing; dairying; milk products processing; hospitality etc. The hospitality sector has immense potential for boosting the rural socio-economy in the district. Skill development programmes need to take into account the local conditions rather than on generic skills

5.1.7 Convergence: All government run programmes and schemes need to focus on boosting the village level economy. They need to converge their programmes keeping in view this emergent need, which would lead to the reduction of out-migration from the rural areas.

5.1.8 Women centric planning: All rural areas of the hill districts on Uttarakhand have a higher population of women as compared to men. In many villages women head the households as their men folk work in the plains. Hence it is important to keep in mind that women can play a major role in providing a boost to the development of the socio-economy at the village and gram panchayat levels. The ownership of the land is with the males while the actual farmers are the females. The males migrate to cities for work while the females works on the farm as

laborers. There should be a policy offering land entitlement to female farmers too. This will ensure females to raise farm credit from institutional sources. There should be focus on involving women folk in socio-economic growth. This will also help in reducing their drudgery.

5.1.9 Growth centers: The Uttarakhand government has recently adopted a process for facilitating growth centers. Development of the socio-economy of the rural areas in the district needs to be dove tailed with the development of growth centers. In the likes of Farmer Producers' Company (FPOs), farmer interest groups must be promoted so as to produce marketable surplus and have access to extra income. The nearest Mandi and Railway Station is just 3 hrs away for the farmers to market off season vegetables, fruits and other farm produce.

5.1.10 District policy; strategy and approach for strengthening the rural economy: District Magistrate and Chief Development Officer need to play a leading role in planning and implementing strategies for boosting the rural economy of the district. The district should prepare a district policy and strategy for boosting the rural economy and implement it over the next 10 years.

5.2 SECTOR SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

5.2.1- Rural development

Many departments and schemes are involved in rural development in this district. Rural development is being taken up through a number of schemes/ programmes of the rural development department; watershed directorate and JICA funded project under the auspices of the state forest department. These include the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MANREGA); AJEEVIKA (Rural Livelihood); Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojna; Pradhan Mantri Avas Yojna; Integrated Watershed Development Project and JICA funded project.

A total of 983 SHG's have been set up in the district, of which 428 are new; 462 have been revived and 93 are pre-NRLM. However, the block wise distribution of SHG's is not uniform with Takula block having having 287; Lamgara 142 and on the other hand Sult, Syaldey and Bhkyasen have 44 SHG's which is too few. There are no new SHG's in Sult; Bhikyasen; Bhasiachana; Chaukhutia and Tarikhet. However, these are being covered under GRAMYA

During 2017-18 the number of person days generated under MANREGA was 14.14 lakhs as against 11.77 lakhs in 2016-17. This indicates a continuing dependence of rural labor on MANREGA. About 55% of the person days was accounted for by women.

Under the GRAMYA program undertaken by the Watershed Development Directorate, 63 Vulnerable Groups were funded out of which collection/grading/packaging and tent making were the most favored.

The following recommendations are made for strengthening rural development leading to enhanced socio-economic development in the rural areas of the district:

a- Those blocks where there is relatively less progress in schemes for rural development need to be identified and focused on. These include Sult; Syalde; Bhikyasain and Bhasiachana

b- The number of SHGs may be increased substantially to the level of Takula as this activity helps to boost the local socio-economy. It also focuses on women as MANREGA data shows that about 55% person days are accounted for by women.

c- Some SHGs of Lamgara block are preparing Take Home Rations and supplying to other blocks as well. This could be replicated across the district and if successful, in other parts of the state as well.

d- MANREGA needs to focus more on generating self-employment to the local labor.

e- Coverage of Vulnerable groups under GRAMYA also needs to be enhanced from the current level of 63, as this intervention is supporting the economically poor groups.

f- Plans based on generating livelihoods need to be drawn up for each block and sub plans for the panchayat level. Implementation of these plans could be done through existing schemes of the rural development and other departments.

g- There is a shortage of field staff in the rural development department and some of Village Development Officers are responsible for covering more than 25 gram panchayats many of which are remote and difficult to reach. This issue needs to be addressed immediately.

5.2.2- Agriculture

Agriculture is the main occupation of the people living in the rural areas of the district, though its contribution to GSDP has declined from 31% in 2011-12 to 21% in 2016-17. Out of total geographical area of 3,139 sq. km only 17.11% is the cultivable land. Major crops like Mandua, paddy, wheat, pulses, oilseeds etc. are cultivated in the district. Sera (valleys) of Dwarahat, Chaukhutiya, and Takula are very fertile and have good production and area under cultivation. The farmers of these blocks must be promoted for seed production, which has a better market value.

More than 75% of the farmers are marginal farmers, having less than 1.00 Hectare and more than 95% of land-holdings are less than 2.00 Hectare. Further, the larger land-holdings i.e. more than 2.00 Hectare are decreasing and getting distributed into the smaller ones.

Due to the hilly terrain large scale irrigation is not possible but still the valley parts of the districts are being irrigated by connecting rivers canals. Only about 5751.00 Hectare of area is under irrigation in the district. Bulk of the agriculture is dependent on rains. Other than water scarcity, the farmers are facing problems with wild animals like monkeys, wild boars etc. As a result of which there is a dismal interest in agriculture amongst the farmers of the district.

Crops like Wheat and Mandua have the largest area under cultivation i.e. 33% and 31% respectively, followed by Paddy at 16%. In oilseeds, Soybean, Mustard, and Sesame are the crops. Sult and Dwarahat have significantly larger area under different crops than that of other blocks.

The net sown area in the district has remained almost the same at around 78000 ha.in 2013-14; 2014-15 and 2015-16. The gross sown area has also remained more or less constant at about 111500 ha. during this period. During this period the area under paddy has increased from 15597 ha. to 17526 ha.; Barely from 2490 to 2790 ha. while it has remained constant for wheat and decreased for potato. However, the productivity for paddy and wheat has decreased.

Vegetables are being raised by farmers on a sufficiently large scale in blocks like Lamgarah and there is need for developing a market linkage. At present, most of the vegetable produced is being taken to mandis at Haldwani from where it is brought back to the consumption centers like Nainital and Almora at a much higher price. Thus, producers are not able to get sufficient remuneration for their produce.

The following recommendations are made for boosting growth in the agriculture sector in the district:

a-   Encouraging groups of farmers shift to growing vegetables including potatoes on a large scale in order to produce large volumes, as this will help in marketing their produce. Co-operative farming with adequate market linkages is the way forward.

b-   Agro-processing facilities are lacking in numbers and there is no processing facility for pulses. Processing units for pulses and agro-products need to be encouraged. The district agriculture department needs to carry out an extensive survey of the production of agriculture crops in all gram panchayats of the district and come up with authentic figures of production so that potential investors could know quantities of agro-products which are available.

c-   Processing units can be set up for potatoes in Takula/ Someshwar belt.

d-   Seed production clusters have been formed in 5 blocks of the district and this activity has also been taken up by Farmer Interest Groups under Gramya project. This activity has the potential for generating additional income and needs to be upscaled in all blocks of the district.

e-   Marketing patterns of each block need to be analysed in each block, particularly both in respect to traditional as well as cash crops and streamlining the marketing channel would help in strengthening the rural economy.

f-   The agriculture department of the district has launched mobile agri-clinic van for various extension services related to agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry. These should be for each block in the district and is successful can be replicated elsewhere.

g-   There is a shortage of field staff in the agriculture department in the state. This is apparently hampering the development of agriculture. Efforts need to be made to post staff against the existing vacancies.

5.2.3- Horticulture

Almora is a hill district, having a pleasant climate for fruits and vegetables, nearly 24,174 Hectare area is under Horticulture. The major horticulture crops in fruits are: Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, Apricot, Walnut, Mango, and Citrus; whereas in vegetables: Pea, Beans, Cole crops, Okra, Tomato etc. are prominent crops. Out of three orchards, there is only one orchard in Dwarahat and the other two are in Dhauladevi. Other blocks do not have a single orchard. There are two fruit-processing units in Tarikhet and one each in block Bhikiyasain, Dwarahat, Takula, and Hawalbagh. The area under horticulture has remained more or less constant.

Data shows that Mango and Citrus fruits have the maximum area under cultivation, while Pear has the maximum production followed Citrus fruits. There is only one cold storage in the district in Block Hawalbagh **which is not functional.**

The following recommendations are made for strengthening the horticulture sector in Almora district:

a- The area under horticulture and the production of main fruits like apple, pear, peach, plum, apricot, walnut, citrus and mango have remained more or less constant in 2014-15; 2015-16 and 2016-17. The area under fruit crops needs to be increased as there are large patches of cultivable lands available in many blocks like Syalde, Bhikyasen and Sult.

b- The number of fruit nurseries in the district is only 8,(2016-17) which clearly shows that fruit planting material is coming from outside the district. Local entrepreneurs may be encouraged for establishing private nurseries for the production of quality planting material, as this will help to generate livelihoods.

c- The number of fruit processing units is only 6(2016-17) and this has remained constant over the last three years since 2014-15. Private entrepreneurs can be encouraged to set up processing units based on the availability of fruits in different seasons.

d- Small poly-houses for vegetables are popular and their numbers needs to be increased.

e- The horticulture department needs to prepare a Horticulture development plan for the district taking into account the existing fruit production; quality (including variety); marketing and point out the gaps. Integrated horticulture development at each block should be the focus which takes into all aspects from quality planting material for the right variety/ species to suitable package of practices to processing and marketing.

5.2.4- Medicinal and Aromatic plants

Medicinal and Aromatic (MAP) are being promoted through the horticulture department, involving plantations in clusters; extraction of essential oils and training programmes. These clusters cover 52 villages in about 6 blocks and the activity has been underway in the district since 2000.

The following recommendations are being made for strengthening this sector which can contribute in enhancing the rural socio-economy, thereby mitigating out-migration:

a-   The variety of MAP species can easily be increased as at present the focus is only on tezpaat; sarpgandha and badielaichi. Diversity in species, increase in area and number of villages / clusters covered needs to be substantially increased for generating additional income for rural families.

b-   Promotion of MAP should be the focus in all the blocks as at present it is underway in some pockets of 6 blocks. This activity would also contribute to the wellness of the community by generating raw materials for the Ayurveda industry.

c-   This activity is better done through a separate agency like the State Medicinal Plants Board rather than being with the horticulture department, where it loses focus due to the many other programmes being implemented by the department.

5.2.5- Dairying and animal husbandry

Animal husbandry is a major source of supplementary income for the people living in the rural areas of the district. Between 2003 and 2012, the number of cows and buffaloes and sheep has decreased while the number of goats, horse/pony, pigs and poultry has increased. The number of goats and poultry is more in blocks like Tarikhet, Sult, Hwalbagh, Dhauladevi and Bhasiyachana. This indicates that there is more consumption of meat and eggs in these blocks and in the nearby urban areas.

There is one Poultry unit, with 1000 birds' capacity in Hawalbagh block. Almora also has a Milk Union Federation having 20,000 litres collection per day. The federation has 240 milk societies with 15,832 milk producers. They earn supplementary income by selling milk. There are also dairies which produce milk and sell to the nearest towns like Ranikhet and Almora.

The recommendations for enhancing dairying and animal husbandry in the district are:

a-   Milk production is a supplementary source of income for most families, though for it to become the main source of income for as many families as possible the quality of livestock needs to be improved. More AI centers can be opened in all the blocks.

b-   Milk producers can be given training in processing of their produce into cottage cheese and ghee for better returns.

c-   Goat rearing and poultry rearing is being practiced in many gram panchayats and this can be up scaled for generating additional livelihoods. The breed of goats needs to be improved across the district as this activity has the potential to substantially enhance incomes.

d-   This department too is facing a shortage of staff which needs to be augmented for strengthening the sector.

5.2.6 Tea

There are tea estates of the Uttarakhand Tea Board in 3 blocks of the district- Dhaula Devi; Takula and Chaukhutia covering a total area of 306 hectares and providing employment to about 1677 persons. There are other places identified by the Tea Board in the District Almora for Tea plantation viz. Bhaisiachana, Bhikiyasain, Hawalbagh, Lamgada, and Syaldey. As of now the total production is small and due to the unavailability of processing centre/plant in the district, the present production is being sent to Kausani (Bageshwar) factory for processing. In the coming years there is a proposal of setting up a Tea factory in Block Dhauladevi and thus encouraging Tea Tourism too.

Tea gardens are established on lands taken on lease from local farmers, with lease rent payable after 7 to 8 years

The recommendations of strengthening this sector are:

a- The area under tea gardens needs to be increased.

b- Lease rents be paid when it is due even if there is no profit in the initial years.

c- There is a severe shortage of staff which needs to be rectified.

5.2.7 Tourism

Although there are many places of scenic and religious interest in the district, the number of tourists is only about 20% of the number of tourists visiting the neighboring district of Nainital. There are about 107 homestays in the district, most of them being in the rural areas. However, Hwalbagh accounts for about 58, followed by Dhauladevi 11. There are only 3 homestays in Bhasiachana, 5 in Sult and none in Bhikyasain.

The following recommendations are made for strengthening rural tourism in the district:

a- There is an immense potential for development of nature based tourism (eco-tourism). Specific destination and circuit based sub-plans for eco-tourism may be developed, with focus on participation of local communities in eco-tourism so that the benefits may flow to them.

b- A district tourism development plan may be formulated which would identify different destinations at the block level, adding up to a broad plan for the entire district. This should also identify livelihood opportunities and converge with the capacity building programmes under different schemes.

c- Recently the state government has launched an ambitious plan for promoting home stays. Data suggests that the existing hose stays in the district are too less and concentrated in only Hawalbagh. These can easily be extended to other parts of the district. The homestays need support in the form of capacity building and also IT for website development and management.

d-   Local festivals like Almora Ramlila can be publicized and used for attracting more number of tourists.

e-   The tourism department is functioning with a skeleton staff and needs urgent augmentation.

Homestay has come up with a great source of alternate income to the villagers. Homestays located in the villages are attracting not only foreign tourists but also gathered a pace in domestic tourists in the recent past.

i.   Tourists generally don't prefer to walk/climb a mile to stay in Homestays, there is need of connecting villages with motorable roads for the convenience of the incoming tourists.

ii.   There is a drinking water problem in the Almora town. Homestay owners have to, many a times, re-direct tourists to some other homestays.

iii.   Homestay is a non-commercial activity, but the owners have to pay commercial rates for electricity, water, and house tax.

iv.   There is a need of providing training to the homestays owners in terms of hospitality.

v.   Due to the shortage of staff in Tourism Department, there is a substantial delay in homestay registration and other services.

vi.   Where there are several homestays in an area, there should be forest trails, trekking routes, and other facilities must be developed.

5.2.8   Micro, Small and Medium industries

There are 3949 industrial units in the district, employing about 10795 persons (2017-18). The number of MME's was 164 in 2016-17 which increased to 184 in 2017-18 employing 523 and 613 persons respectively. These are more in Hawalbagh and Tarikhet blocks while being too few in Syalde and Sult blocks. The district has an Industrial Estate under SIIDUL (State Infrastructure and Industrial Development Corporation of Uttarakhand Ltd.) at Marchula which is yet to take off.

There are a number of artisan clusters, mainly in the textile sector engaged in wool weaving; wool wrap; carpets and utility items.

The recommendations for strengthening the MSME sector in the district are:

a-   The MSME sector has a high potential for transforming the socio-economy of the rural areas of the district. The types of micro, small and artisan units which have come up in relatively large numbers include agro-based readymade garments/ embroidery; wood/wood based furniture and repairing and servicing units. However, their distribution is not uniform across all the blocks of the district. The potential for such units in each blocks can be examined and they may be promoted as this would boost the block/ gram panchayat level socio-economy.

b- The authorities responsible for promoting the growth of this sector need to prepare a block wise plan for the development of micro, small and artisan units considering the local conditions.

c- Data shows that development of MSMEs is lacking or almost negligible in some blocks of the district. Special attention needs to be paid for expanding micro and small enterprises and artisan units in all blocks.

d- Capacity building programmes in the district should also be in tune with the requirements of this plan for development of micro, small and artisan units in the district.

e- There is shortage of field staff engaged in promotion of micro, small and artisan units in the district. This issue needs to be addressed on urgent basis. The KVIB is functioning with only 3 persons, even though this sector has immense potential for growth.

f- There is a local wool processing factory at Almora where staff and marketing is a huge problem. This needs to be rectified.

g- Entrepreneurship development programmes may be conducted and handholding of entrepreneurs done particularly in gram panchayats where such units are lacking.

5.2.9 Commercial vehicles

Data shows that the number of registered vehicles in the district is increasing. These are helping to generate livelihoods. However, during discussions with stakeholders it has been borne out that many of them are facing problems with repayment and underutilization of capacity.

This sector has the potential for generate additional livelihoods and an action plan needs to be prepared for supporting it. The RTO may lead this initiative.