

BARGARH DISTRICT

Bargarh is a district on the Western border of Orissa. Prior to 1992, it was a subdivision of Sambalpur district. Bargarh has been named after the headquarters town Bargarh situated on the left bank of the Jira river. The town is on the National Highway No.6 and located at 59 km to the west of Sambalpur district. It is also served by the D.B.K railway running from Jharsuguda to Titlagarh. The railway station is about 3 kms off the town. A meter gauge railway line connects Bargarh with the limestone quarry at Dunguri. The main Hirakud canal passes through the town and is known as the Bargarh canal.

The District of Bargarh lies between 20° 45' N to 21° 45'N latitude and 82° 40'E to 83° 50'E longitude. It is bounded on the North by the districts of Sambalpur and Jharsuguda, on the South by the district Nuapada, on the west by the districts of Raighar and Raipur of Chhattisgarh state and on the East by the districts of Sonapur and Balangir. The district has an area 5837 sq km. According to the Census of India-2001, the population of the district is 1,346,336 comprising of 681,500 males and 664,836 females. As regards the size of population and area of the district it occupies 10th and 12th ranks respectively among all the districts of Orissa.

The district of Bargarh is one of the newly created districts carved out of the old Sambalpur district. It has a population of 13.5 lakh of which 50.62 percent are males and 49.38 percent females. The area of the district is 5837 sq. Km and thus density is 231 per sq.km. The population growth is 1.15 annually averaged over the decade of 1991-2001. Urban population of the district constitute 7.69 percent of total population. The Scheduled Caste population is 19.37 percent of total population and major caste group are Ganda (54.82), Dewar (17.08) and Dhoba etc. (6.43) percent) among the Scheduled Castes. Similarly the Scheduled Tribe population is **19.36** percent of total and major Tribes groups of the total Tribes are Saora etc. (37.49 percent), Binjhal (27.47 percent) and Gond etc.(12.34 percent) of the total tribal population. Hindu population constitute **98.65** percent of total, Christians (**0.75** percent) and Muslim (0.50 percent) are very insignificant groups. The main towns of the district are Bargarh (M) (63,678), Barpali (NAC) (19,157) and Padmapur (NAC) (15,442).

The sex ratio for the population as a whole is **976** females per **1000** males and that of 0-6 years **957** females per 1000 males. The age

 distribution reflects **0-4** year's age group constitute 8.86 percent and the old age group (60+ and ANS) is 9.94 percent. The working age population (15-59 years) constitute 59.65 percent of total population. Total workers constitute 44.8 percent of the total population. Of the workers 64.82 percent are main workers and 35.18 percent marginal workers. The total literacy rate is 63.99 percent, that of male is 77.42 percent and female literacy rate is 50.26. Looking at education levels attained, of the literates 12.02 percent are without any level of education. Below primary levels constitute 32.69, Primary 33.27 percent and Middle group 12.46 percent. Those having Matric/Higher Secondary/Diploma are 15.79 percent and Graduate and above group 3**.77** percent.

The district has **2.96** lakh of households and the average household size is **5** persons per household. Permanent houses are occupied by only **24.7** percent of households, **28** percent houses occupied are Temporary and **47.3** Semipermanent houses.

Total numbers of village of the district are **1207** of which **1180** villages are inhabited. The numbers of towns are **4** including **1** census town. All the villages have safe drinking water facilities. Electricity is available in 97.8 percent of villages. Of the villages 64.41 percent use it for domestic

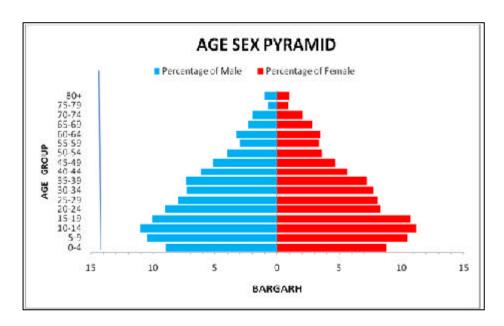
purposes and **11.44** percent put it for agricultural use. Primary Schools are available in 96.10 villages but only 39.09 have Middle School and 24.32 percent have a Secondary/Senior Secondary School, colleges are available only in 2.37 percent of villages. Communication facilities like post, telegraph etc. are available in 69.92 percent of villages. Medical facility is available in 19.41 percent of villages. Bus services are available in 31.19 percent of villages but 45 percent villages have paved approach road and 90.42 percent mud approach road.

The district has developed in many respects particularly in agricultural sector. Infrastructure like electricity etc are also developed. But education and road facilities need substantial improvement.

The sex ratio is a major demographic concern for the district. The age structure indicates signs of ageing population suggesting increase in old age dependency. Population growth rate is lower than state average which may be due to decline in fertility and out migration during the period of counting as the district has some major areas visited by drought. The backward population are almost of same percentage one fifth each and their development needs special strategy.

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2.Barapali (NAC) 19,157 Primary schools	1,134
3.Padmapur (NAC) 15,442 Middle schools	461
Secondary/Sr Secondary schools	287
Colleges	28
House Type Medical facility	229
Primary Health Centre	52
Primary Health Sub-Centre	201
Type of house (% of households occupying) Post, telegraph and telephone facility	825
Permanent 24.7 Bus services	368
Semi-permanent 47.3 Paved approach road	531
Temporary 28 Mud approach road	1,067



District Highlights

- Bargarh is the 12th largest district in terms of size and 10 largest in population in the State.
- Bargarh is one of the least urbanized district in the state having 7.69% of its population in urban areas whereas 14.99 % of State's population lives in urban area.
- In terms of population per sq km. Bargarh is the 13th densely populated district in the State.
- Bargarh has 16th rank in terms of sex-ratio in the State.
- There are only 27 uninhabited villages in the district whereas 14 villages are having a population more than 5,000.
- Tora (Bargarh P.S) is the most populated village (13,707).
- The economy of the district is mainly dependent on cultivation. Out of 100 workers in the district 75 are engaged in agricultural sector.
- Bijepur police station is having the highest number of villages (110) in the district and Burden police station is having the lowest number of villages (56) in the district.

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