

MURSHIDABAD

Overall scenario of the district

Murshidabad district is situated in the northern point of south Bengal. It is surrounded by Malda, Birbhum, Burdwan and Nadia district. It also shares state boundary with Jharkhand and international boundary with Bangladesh.

Majority of the population depends on agriculture for their livelihood. There are some silk farms and weaving machines, but they are losing out fast against the modern industries. Murshidabad is known for quality and diversity of mango produced. Also the district is famous for production of high quality silk.

The district constitutes of [as per district statistical handbook, 2009]

- ✓ Municipalities -7
- ✓ Blocks - 26

The district ranks 4th in terms of sex ratio among all other districts of West Bengal.

Being situated on the left bank of the river Ganges, the eastern portion of the district is a fertile, low-lying alluvial tract. The district is drained by the Bhagirathi and Jalangi rivers and their tributaries.

District Profile:

Population:

According to Census Data (2011), the Total Population of the district is 71,02,430 out of which there are 36,29,595 males (51.10%) & 34,72,835 females (48.90%). Out of a total 640 districts in India, Murshidabad is ranked 9th in terms of population. The population density in the district is 1334 persons per sq km.

Some of the major areas in terms of density of population (according to 2001 census) are:

- Berhampore(M) (9891 persons per sq. km),
- Jangipur(M) (9473 persons per sq. km),
- Dhuliyani(M) (7093 persons per sq. km),
- Beldanga(M) (6372 persons per sq. km),
- Jiaganj-Azimganj(M) (4049 persons per sq. km)

Other major settlements in the district (in terms of total number of population) are Kandi, Murshidabad, Aurangabad.

Consumer profile:

Distribution of population over different age group (Census, 2001):

Age group	% of total population
0-4	11.9
05-24	45.79
25-59	36.53
60 and above	5.64

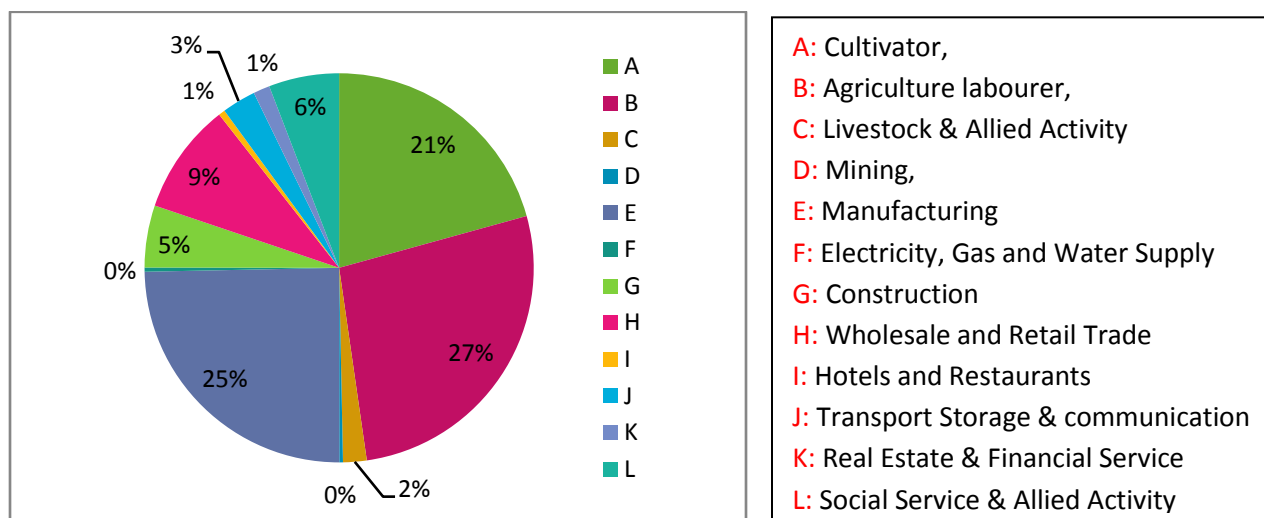
Source: Census, 2001

Around 0.5% total population, 58,66,569 (2001) living in the district are from outside of West Bengal, among them, notable states are:

- ✓ Bihar,
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh,
- ✓ Jharkhand
- ✓ Assam

Around 0.5% total population, 58,66,569 (2001) living in the district are from Bangladesh.

Work force constitutes 29% of total population and the distribution of the same is as follows:



Source: Census Data, 2001

48% of the total working population works at agriculture allied sector.

The per capita income in the district was found out to be Rs 17486/- during the year 2003-04.

Infrastructure:

Surface transport (road and rail) is the most important way of transport. Even though a major river runs through the district (Bhagirathi), water transport is not very common, even though small boats ferry people across rivers where no bridge is available.

The district is well networked with other parts of the states through:

Road ways:

- National Highway: NH 34 & NH 80
 - ❖ NH 34
 - Main link of the district with state capital as well as North Bengal and North East.
 - Length of NH within the district: 134 KM
 - This NH establish direct link with Siliguri, a trading town and a nodal point for all the north eastern states of India.
 - Connected other districts: Nadia, North 24 Parganas, Malda, Uttar Dinajpur.
 - Major blocks on the NH: Berhampore, Beldanga, Sagardighi, Farakka,.
 - ❖ NH 80
 - Intermediate lane road.
 - Length of NH within the district: 15 KM
 - Connected other state: Bihar & Jharkhand
 - Meets NH 34 at Farakka
 - Major blocks on the NH: Farakka
- State Highway (SH):
 - 2 main SHs
 - SH-7 connects the district with Malda & Paschim Medinipore.
 - SH-11 connects the district with Birbhum
 - SH 11A connects Lalgola, Bhagobangola, Murshidabad and Lalbag to SH11

Source: West Bengal Public Works' Department

Railway:

There are two major rail routes. The major line runs north-south and connects the district to Kolkata and North Bengal. There is another line that branches out from this line at Azimgunj and connects the Sahebgunj loop at Nalhati (Birbhum.) Baharampur is well connected with Kolkata by fast passenger trains

Water ways:

Even though a major river Bhagirathi runs through the district, water transport is not very common. Small boats ferry people across rivers where no bridge is available.

Other social infrastructure:

- Technical Education:
 - Engineering College: 03
 - Polytechnics: 03
 - ITI: 01
- Health:
 - Standard health network like district hospital, block hospitals and Private nursing home/clinics are observed
- Entertainment:
 - Murshidabad has numbers of places to visit as it is one of important historic places of India.
Source: District Statistical Handbook, 2009
- Banking Infrastructure:
 - Lead Bank - UBI Bank and following are the other banks found in the district

Name of Bank	No. of Branches
United Bank Of India	59
State Bank Of India	49
Allahabad Bank	18
Bank Of India	18
Bank Of Baroda	15
Syndicate Bank	8
Uco Bank	5
Union Bank Of India	5
Oriental Bank Of Commerce	5
Canara Bank	5
Punjab National Bank	5
Indian Overseas Bank	4
Central Bank Of India	4
Hdfc Bank Ltd	2
Icici Bank Ltd	2
Idbi Bank Ltd	2
Corporation Bank	2
Dena Bank	2
Axis Bank	2

Sources: Individual bank's website

Power Infrastructure:**Power Generation station:**

There are two thermal power generation stations in the district. Details of both are given below.

Power station	National Thermal Power Corporation
Location	Nabarun, Murshidabad
Approved capacity	2100 MW
Installed Capacity	2100 MW

Power station	Sagardighi Thermal Power Station
Location	Sagardighi.
Installed Capacity	600 MW
Additional capacity to be installed	2 new units of 660 MW capacity each.

Supply Stations (SS) are:

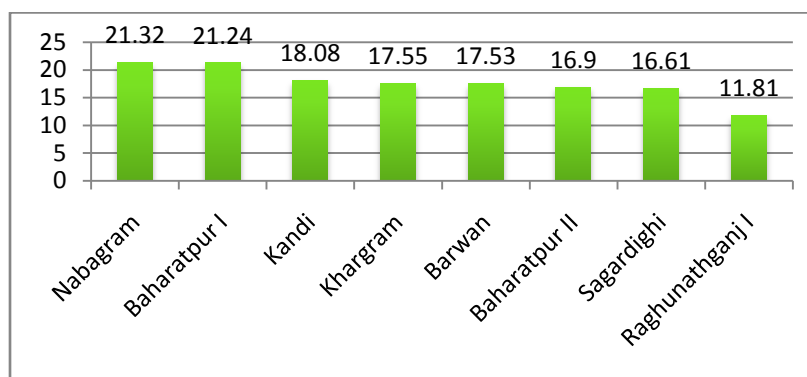
Sl. No	SS name	Capacity (KVA)
1	Gokarna	220
2	Amtala	132
3	Berhampore	132
4	Dhulian	132
5	Lalgola	132
6	Raghunathgunj	132

Source: West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited

Ground water:

It has been observed that one of the major sources of water for food processing units in West Bengal is ground water.

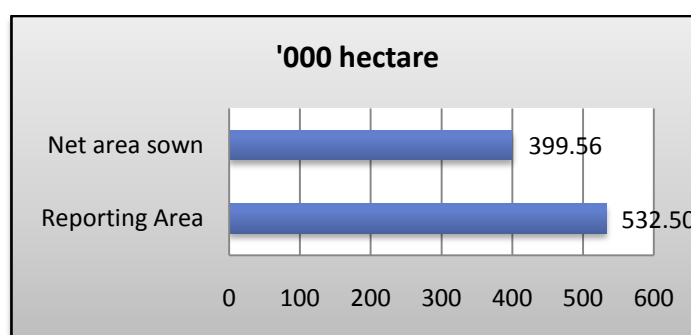
Blocks with average depth of ground water more than 15 meters during April, 2011 are:



Source: State Water Investigation Directorate

Agriculture & Horticulture:

Reporting area in the district is 532500 hectare. Net sown area is 75% of total reporting area. Hence the district is rich in agricultural production. All the blocks of the district are linked with major irrigation facilities.



Source: District Statistical Handbook, 2009

Agriculture, Horticulture and Livestock production:

Position of the district in terms of State's production:

Murshidabad	Crops/ Veg/ Fruits/ livestock	Rank in the state	Production, 000' MT	% to states' production
Agricultural produce	Sugarcane	1st	335.12	33.49
	Rapeseed & Mustard	1st	111.04	25.07
	Pulses	1st	39.61	24.53
	Cereals	1st	303.83	24.29
	Paddy	3rd	1560.61	07.25
	Til	4th	16.88	11.03
Vegetables	Cabbage	1st	311.30	14.91
	Cauliflower	1st	293.09	16.49

Murshidabad	Crops/ Veg/ Fruits/ livestock	Rank in the state	Production, 000' MT	% to states' production
	Brinjal	1st	304.81	10.62
	Watermelon	3rd	21.26	9.11
	Onion	4th	29.70	9.97
	Sweet Potato	4th	15.30	6.49
	Elephants foot	4th	18.64	10.37
	Aurum	4th	26.91	9.05
	Beans	5th	3.04	7.90
Fruits	Litchi	1st	33.26	39.07
	Mango	2nd	135.00	21.77
	Jackfruit	3rd	20.40	10.63
	Banana	4th	57.52	5.69
	papaya	4th	27.54	8.49
Live stock product	Goat	1st	1997149 no.	13.25
	Poultry (Fowl & Duck)	4th	5158814 no.	8.06
	Cattle	5th	1331152	6.94
	Bovine Milk	2nd	536.74	12.00
	Egg (Fowl & Duck)	1st	5920.46 lakh	15.00
	Meat	5th	38.08	6.60
	Fish	5th	70.38	8.42

Source: Evaluation wing, Directorate Agriculture GoWB 2009-10, Bureau of Applied Economics & Statistics, Livestock population Handbook 2009, FPI & H Dept, GoWB

Other than the above items following fruits and vegetables are also available in significant quantity in the district:

VEGETABLES

Peas
Tomato

FRUITS

Guava

Major agricultural/ horticultural markets:

Regulated market:

- Jangipur Regulated Market,
- Kandi Regulated Market
- Lalbag Regulated Market
- Cossimbazar Regulated Market

Storage facilities:

- Potato storage:
 - 6 cold storage having total capacity 529630 quintal
- Multipurpose cold storage:

Block	No.	Total capacity (qt)
Berhampore	1	19,724
Beldanga	1	1,00,000
Kandi RMC	1	870
Lalbagh RMC	1	870
Cossimbazar RMC	1	870

Source: Directorate of Agri Marketing, West Bengal State Marketing Board

Mega Food Park: Jangipur Mega Food Park

- Total land to be developed: 85.5 acre
- Location wise advantage: Adjacent to NH-34
- Work done till date: Land filling & Boundary wall
- Proposed common facilities in the park: Roads, Drainage & sewerage system, Electrical network, Cold storage, Ware house
- No. of plots: 29

Chilling plants/ Bulk Milk Cooler:

There are 3 chilling plants/ Bulk Milk Cooler (BMC) in the district. Capacity of the units is given below:

Name of Chilling plant	Number	Capacity (TLPD)
Domkol	1	10.0
Domkol (BMC)	2	10.0

Source: Animal Recourses Development Dept, GoWB, 2010-11

Food Processing Industries:

Till 2006-07, number of food processing units in the district was 657. New units registered since 2007 is as given below. According to definition of MSME act 2006, the distribution of the units is as follows:

Units	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
Micro	130	77	59	43	27	336
Small	0	6	4	1	0	11

Total	130	83	63	44	27	347
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Sources: I-WIN Analysis & DIC

Sector wise and year wise distribution of the units is as follows:

Sector	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
Cereals & Pulses Processing	17	17	9	10	8	61
Confectionery/Biscuit	3	1	1	3	1	9
Diary & Milk	8	2	7	1	1	19
Fruits & vegetable processing	1	0	0	1	2	4
Oil	34	27	12	8	6	87
Others	8	9	5	2	0	24
Packaged Drinking Water	2	0	2	0	1	5
Paddy Processing	47	22	21	12	4	106
Poultry, Meat Processing	0	1	0	0	0	1
Snacks/Pasta	7	3	3	6	3	22
Spices	3	1	3	1	1	9
Total	130	83	63	44	27	347

Sources: I-WIN Analysis & DIC

Employment scenario in the food processing industry of the district is shown in the table below:

Sector	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Cereals & Pulses Processing	58	1	71	6	23	2	30	3	29	0	211	12
Confectionery/Biscuit	59	0	7	0	15	0	23	0	34	0	138	0
Diary & Milk	40	1	5	2	32	0	3	0	5	0	85	3
Fruits & vegetable processing	0	4	0	0	0	0	7	10	0	22	7	36
Oil	172	9	128	7	76	1	42	0	29	1	447	18
Others	61	1	160	0	28	1	20	0	0	0	269	2
Packaged Drinking Water	12	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	4	0	53	0
Paddy Processing	193	6	308	23	96	11	74	2	77	0	748	42
Poultry, Meat Processing	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0
Snacks/Pasta	58	24	25	0	19	0	47	1	20	1	169	26
Spices	15	1	2	0	10	0	5	0	3	0	35	1
Total	668	47	715	38	336	15	251	16	201	24	2171	140

Sources: I-WIN Analysis & DIC

Hence a total of 2311 people are directly involved in the food processing industry for their livelihoods. Out of which 6.06% is female worker.

Food Processing units under FSSAI (erstwhile FPO licensed) in the district:

No. of units in the district which acquired FPO license under different food category is given below:

Group Name	No. of Units
Jam Group, Squash Group, Tomato sauce, Vegetable Sauce, Non Fruit-Vinegar, Pickles, Chutney ,Non Fruit Jelly,Sauces(Other than Tomato & Soya)	3

Source: Food Safety and Standard Authority of India, Eastern Region

Some of the big players having manufacturing unit in the district are:

Name of the company	Product
Lara Agro Products Pvt Ltd	Rice

Sources: I-WIN Analysis & Dept. of C & I, GoWB

Investment opportunities:

- The district is largest producer of Lychee, Sugarcane, Rape seed & Mustard, Cabbage, Cauliflower and Brinjal, second largest producer of Mango, Milk 3rd largest producer of Jackfruits.
- The only Mega Food Park of West Bengal is coming up in the district and the park is expected to be operational within next two years.
- Hence there are ample opportunities for semi processing units who would supply their output to the anchor units in the Mega Food Park. Hence units can be set up for sorting, grading of vegetables.
- The district is one of the major suppliers of the Goat for slaughter purpose as the district is highest in number of Goat population in the state. Moreover Bangladesh has a huge demand for bovine meat which can be targeted as presently numbers of live bovine are transported to Bangladesh through board areas in the district. Hence it may be ideal place for setting up of a modern slaughter house for both bovine and goat.
- It is also observed that a large number of bakeries in unorganized sector are prevalent in every corner of the district. These bakery units can be encouraged to modernize their plants and machineries so that the district can come up as bakery hub of the state.
- A goat milk processing center in small scale can also be set up for more value addition to the total goat milk production to the tune of 16.76 thousand MT.