

NOFN Spot Study Report: Gautam Buddha Nagar

Year of publication: 2016

Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike CC BY-NC-SA



Written by: Raina Agarwal and Bijo P Abraham

Edited by: Rajat Kumar Designed by: Vimal Pawar

Published by: Digital Empowerment Foundation

House No. 44, 3rd Floor,

Kalu Sarai, New Delhi-110016

To read this publication online, visit www.defindia.org/publication-2 $\,$

INTRODUCTION

National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) is an ambitious initiative to initiate broadband connectivity in rural India. It was envisaged as non-discriminatory access to network which helps to access information through the creation of a robust middle-mile infrastructure for reaching broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats. It aims to connect all the 2,50,000 Gram Panchayat in the country with 100 Mbps connectivity. To achieve this, the existing fibres of PSUs (BSNL, Railtel and Power Grid) were utilised and incremental fibre was laid to connect to Gram Panchayats wherever necessary. Focussing on the vision of the project DEF has conducted a spot study in Dadri block of Uttar Pradesh.

NOFN spot study was done in Dadri of Gautam Buddha nagar District, UP. Dadri is divided into 25 wards for which elections are held every 5 years. The Dadri Nagar Palika Parishad has population of 91,189 of which 48,856 are males while 42,333 are females as per report released by Census India 2011. We have selected 6 villages from Dadri. They are Palla, Badhpura, Chithara, Datawali, Kathhera, Phoolpur. The area was selected from the BBNL website where they claimed that the optical fibre is laid and the villages are connected by the same. The prime aim of the study was to understand the real status of the NOFN in the villages. Ministry of Telecommunication in India once said that they are connecting 250000 gram panchayat through national optic fibre network. The Ministry once claimed that as on March 31, 2016 in less than 2 years, the government has laid 140000 of optical pipe and 180000 of optical fibreW.

PALLA

Background of the Study location

Palla is a large village located in Dadri of Gautam Buddha Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh with total 403 families residing. The Palla village has population of 2592 of which 1406 are males while 1186 are females as per Population Census 2011. Average Sex Ratio of Palla village is 844 which are lower than Uttar Pradesh state average of 912. Child Sex Ratio for the Palla as per census is 633, lower than Uttar Pradesh average of 902.

Palla village has higher literacy rate compared to Uttar Pradesh. In 2011, literacy rate of Palla village was 82.83 % compared to 67.68 % of Uttar Pradesh. In Palla Male literacy stands at 93.43 % while female literacy rate was 70.80 %. As per constitution of India and Panchyati Raaj Act, Palla village is administrated by Sarpanch (Head of Village) who is elected representative of village. In Palla village out of total population, 1375 were engaged in work activities. 45.09 % of workers describe their work as Main Work (Employment or Earning more than 6 Months) while 54.91 % were

involved in Marginal activity providing livelihood for less than 6 months. Of 1375 workers engaged in Main Work, 285 were cultivators (owner or co-owner) while 56 were Agricultural labourers. (Census of India 2011)



The discussion with the village Pradhan helped to understand the real condition of the NOFN in the village. He said that the NOFN cables embed in some part of the village before 18 months, but NOFN Wi-Fi tower and set up box are not installed yet. The panchayat Pradhan said that nobody has come for the survey in the village about the NOFN

- There is one government school in the village
- PHC is not found in the Village. So people go to Dadri for the treatment
- Panchayat office is not there in the village. All the panchayat level meetings are taking place in Pradhan's house or in school
- 80 percent of the youth use internet in the village
- · Airtel and idea are most used service provider in the village

DATAWALI

Background of the study location

Datawali is a large village located in Dadri of Gautam Buddha Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh with total 335 families residing. The Datawali village has population of 2014 of which 1046 are males while 968 are females as per Population Census 2011. Average Sex Ratio of Datawali village is 925 which are higher than Uttar Pradesh state average of 912. Child Sex Ratio for the Datawali as per census is 733, lower than Uttar Pradesh average of 902.

Datawali village has higher literacy rate compared to Uttar Pradesh. In 2011, literacy rate of Datawali village was 79.85 % compared to 67.68 % of Uttar Pradesh. In Datawali, male literacy stands at 92.38 % while female literacy rate was 66.87 %. In Datawali village out of total population, 837 were engaged in work activities. 75.87 % of workers describe their work as Main Work (Employment or Earning more than 6 Months) while 24.13 % were involved in Marginal activity providing livelihood for less than 6 months. Of 837 workers engaged in Main Work, 123 were cultivators (owner or co-owner) while 83 were Agricultural labourers. (Census of India 2011)



The major finding of the study reveals that the NOFN cables embed in some part of the village before 8 months but Wi-Fi tower is not installed in the village. The Pradhan said that no survey has been done on NOFN. There is a CSC started 1 week before. They provide services like Mobile recharge, DTH recharge, and Pan card application facility etc.

- There is one government school in the village
- PHC is not found in the Village. People go to Dadri for the treatment.
- Panchayat office is not there in the village. All the panchayat level meetings are taking place in an area which is sponsored by the Pradhan
- 80 percent of the youth use internet in the village.
- Airtel and idea are most used service provider in the village

KATHHERA

Background of the study location

Kathhera is a medium size village located in Dadri of Gautam Buddha Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh with total 265 families residing. The Kathhera village has population of 1667 of which 877 are males while 790 are females as per Population Census 2011. Average Sex Ratio of Kathhera village is 901 which are lower than Uttar Pradesh state average of 912. Child Sex Ratio for the Kathhera as per census is 811, lower than Uttar Pradesh average of 902.

Kathhera village has higher literacy rate compared to Uttar Pradesh. In 2011, literacy rate of Kathhera village was 79.77 % compared to 67.68 % of Uttar Pradesh. In Kathhera Male literacy stands at 92.04 % while female literacy rate was 66.42 %. In Kathhera village out of total population, 398 were engaged in work activities. 96.48 % of workers describe their work as Main Work (Employment or Earning more than 6 Months) while 3.52 % were involved in Marginal activity providing livelihood for less than 6 months. Of 398 workers engaged in Main Work, 143 were cultivators (owner or co-owner) while 6 were Agricultural labourers. (Census of India 2011)



The discussion with the officials in the village exposes the facts that NOFN cable is not set in the village. So Wi-Fi tower also is not installed in the village. Surveys and studies were not conducted in the village in this regard.

- There is no mobile tower of any service provider in the village
- dea and Airtel are the most used service provider in the village
- BSNL has less penetration in this regard
- There is one each government school and anganwadi in the village
- More than 70 percent of the population are using internet and mobile phones
- Panchayat office is not there in the village. All the panchayat level meetings are taking place in Pradhan's house or in school

BADHPURA

Background of the study location

Badhpura is a large village located in Dadri of Gautam Buddha Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh with total 635 families residing. The Badhpura village has population of 3979 of which 2135 are males while 1844 are females as per Population Census 2011. Average Sex Ratio of Badhpura village is 864 which are lower than Uttar Pradesh state average of 912. Child Sex Ratio for the Badhpura as per census is 692, lower than Uttar Pradesh average of 902.

Badhpura village has higher literacy rate compared to Uttar Pradesh. In 2011, literacy rate of Badhpura village was 76.45 % compared to 67.68 % of Uttar Pradesh. In Badhpura Male literacy stands at 86.92 % while female literacy rate was 64.79 % In Badhpura village out of total population, 1084 were engaged in work activities. 81.00 % of workers describe their work as Main Work (Employment or Earning more than 6 Months) while 19.00 % were involved in Marginal activity providing livelihood for less than 6 months. Of 1084 workers engaged in Main Work, 293 were cultivators (owner or co-owner) while 145 were Agricultural labourers. (Census of India 2011)



The interview with the Village officials tells that they have just heard about NOFN in the news but nobody came to the village regarding survey. NOFN cables also not embed in the village as well. Likewise the Wi-Fi tower also is not installed

- There are one each government school, anganwadi and PHC located in the village
- More than 80 percent of the population of the village are using mobile phones and internet
- BSNL is the widely use service provider in the area

CHITHARA

Background of the study location

Chithara is a large village located in Dadri of Gautam Buddha Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh with total 1168 families residing. The Chithara village has population of 7656 of which 4098 are males while 3558 are females as per Population Census 2011. Average Sex Ratio of Chithara village is 868 which are lower than Uttar Pradesh state

average of 912. Child Sex Ratio for the Chithara as per census is 851, lower than Uttar Pradesh average of 902.

Chithara village has higher literacy rate compared to Uttar Pradesh. In 2011, literacy rate of Chithara village was 78.12 % compared to 67.68 % of Uttar Pradesh. In Chithara Male literacy stands at 88.96 % while female literacy rate was 65.66 %. In Chithara village out of total population, 1921 were engaged in work activities. 75.90 % of workers describe their work as Main Work (Employment or Earning more than 6 Months) while 24.10 % were involved in Marginal activity providing livelihood for less than 6 months. Of 1921 workers engaged in Main Work, 383 were cultivators (owner or co-owner) while 109 were Agricultural labourers. (Census of India 2011)



The discussion with the officials in the village exposes the facts that NOFN cable is not set in the village. So Wi-Fi tower also is not installed there. No surveys were conducted in the village in this regard.

- There is one each government school and anganwadi in the village
- More than 70 percent of the population are using internet and mobile phones.
- Panchayat office is not there in the village. All the panchayat level meetings are taking place in Pradhan's house or in school.

PHOOLPUR

Background of the study location

Phoolpur is a medium size village located in Dadri of Gautam Buddha Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh with total 208 families residing. The Phoolpur village has population of 1344 of which 753 are males while 591 are females as per Population Census 2011. Average Sex Ratio of Phoolpur village is 785 which are lower than Uttar Pradesh state average of 912. Child Sex Ratio for the Phoolpur as per census is 454, lower than Uttar Pradesh average of 902.

Phoolpur village has higher literacy rate compared to Uttar Pradesh. In 2011, literacy rate of Phoolpur village was 83.64 % compared to 67.68 % of Uttar Pradesh. In Phoolpur Male literacy stands at 95.18 % while female literacy rate was 70.11 %. In Phoolpur village out of total population, 332 were engaged in work activities. 99.10 % of workers describe their work as Main Work (Employment or Earning more than 6 Months) while 0.90 % were involved in Marginal activity providing livelihood for less than 6 months. Of 332 workers engaged in Main Work, 196 were cultivators (owner or co-owner) while 15 were Agricultural labourers. (Census of India 2011)



The major finding of the study reveals that the NOFN cables laid in some part of the village i.e. till the government school before 2 months but Wi-Fi tower is not installed in the village. The Pradhan said that no survey has been done on NOFN.

- There is one government school in the village
- More than 80 percent of the population are using internet and mobile phones
- Panchayat office is not there in the village. All the panchayat level meetings are taking place in school

CONCLUSION

The study conducted in 6 villages in Gautam Buddha Nagar district reveals that optic fibre cable or pipe is not laid in most of the villages except for two villages. Wi-Fi tower, boxes and routers are not installed any of the villages. The researchers could find only one CSC out of six villages. So the villagers are not connected with optical fibre and unable to access Wi-Fi.

