

# Drinking Behaviour And Pattern In Dungarpur District

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## Abstract

In Tribal society drinking is very common and it is a symbol of hospitality. Tribals love liquor and enjoy the life with liquor. Dungarpur district has 70.8% tribal population. The excise department of Rajasthan earns maximum revenue from the district. The growth of IMFL has increased from 11% to 39% in last three years. It is very typical scenario that tribal people have very low earning and major part of population is depends on agriculture and they buy Indian made foreign liquor extremely. In this paper it is try to find out the behavior of household members, who are drinkers or non drinkers and their drinking attitude. It is also classified the drinkers in caste wise.

**Key words:** IMFL, Household

## Introduction

The use of liquor is considered reprehensible in society. The problem of drinking, drunkenness and more so alcoholism has always been viewed, described and depicted in our folk songs, proverb and literature as a dreaded devil. In our society women always stand against the alcohol. In various communities drinking is not as common as in tribe. Tribes have their own recipes to brew the beverages. In tribals not only the adult male and female drink but also their children drink on various occasions.

K.D. Eraskine described a Bhil as “votary of liquor, who is prepared to steal anything for a dram of liquor. It will tempt him to do things he would not do for money.” G. Morris Carstairs who undertook field investigation in Udaipur division, observed about the tribals; “that their idea of luxury is a feed of gur and a drink of daru, the spirit locally distilled from Mahua flowers” further “Bhil women travel with their men to fairs, where they also drink and dance. They enjoy their present without worrying their future.” Drinking is very common and is a part of social life in tribals. It is a symbol of hospitality.

It is very unfortunate that the government is not taking serious action against drinking. Government follow the excise policy as was formulated during British colonial rule in India. It although officially advocated containment of liquor consumption through maximum imposition of excise duty, however, in reality due to commercialization of drinking habit through involvement of contractors in the vending of liquor in the country. The introduction of distilled liquor in tribal areas has led to exploitation and impoverishment of tribals. Now a days state excise department statistics show that government got big revenue form this venture. There are lot of studies have been done on social, economical, religioius and political life of tribals. In this study it is try to find out the drinking behavior and pattern in Dungarpur district.

It is very interesting that Dungarpur has more than 70% population is tribal and liquor consumption is very high. Excise department of Rajasthan shows that India Made Foreign Liqour (IMFL) has highest growth rate in the district. In 2016 IMFL sale has been 5.83 lakh liter and sale of country liquor has been 4.61 lakh liter. The sale in district has witnesses an increase of 11.92%.

In this paper it is try to find out the drinking behavior of the household and their consumption of liquor.

## Study Area

Dungarpur district is situated in southern part of Rajasthan between 23°00' and 24°01' north latitude and 73°22' and 74°24' east longitude. The total area of the district is 3770 square kilometer. According to the census 2011 district has 976 villages and 93.6% population is rural. In the district 70.8% population is scheduled tribe and economy largely depends on agricultural activity.

## Methodology

The whole study is based on survey method. Primary data are collected from the respondents and secondary data are collected from department of excise. For the study 750 household were selected from the different category.

## Drinking Attitude and Frequency

Out of the 750 respondents 16.27% adult male approved whereas 39.73% male adult disapproved and 44% indifferent. Less than 1% male child and adult female approved drinking. Most of them view the act of drinking is not only economically, socially and physically harmful but also immoral. They knew it will be a disaster but social structure provides opportunities on many occasions.

None of the daily, fairly regular or monthly drinker seems to disapprove drinking, although a sizable number of other types of drinkers, either disapproved of felt indifferent.

#### Drinkers and Non- Drinkers Among Household Members

Out of the 4877 household members belonging to the 750 household as were selected for study, only 674 (13.82%) indulged in drinking liquor. Among the 674 drinkers, the adult male drinkers numbered 643, the adult female drinkers were 27, child male drinker 3 and only one female child drinker, which emphatically reveals that whereas drinking among adult females and children was extremely insignificant even more than 55% of the adult male population in the universe was found to be of non-drinker. Total 750 respondents were selected for the study. All were male, mostly head of the households and aged above 20 years. Among them 418 indulged in drinking.

Table reveals that people belonging to Jain, Goldsmith, Patidar, Muslims are strange enough even the Khatik who are traditional meat seller and in general are drinkers, completely abstained from drinking liquor. Rajputs, Kalals and Patels are largely involved in making and drinking liquor. Out of 3983 tribal population in the universe of 4877 persons only 549 were drinkers and formed 13.78% of the total tribal population.

#### Frequency of Drinking

Out of 674 drinking household members 18.4% are weekly drinkers, 9.79% are daily drinker and 6.63% are fairly regular drinker and 55.04% are occasionally drinkers. Thus apprx. 35% of total drinking population is problem drinker and rest of the population is pleasure drinkers. There are less than 1% house hold member who drinks monthly for entertainment of their guests. The quantity of liquor consumed by household member in a month is very limited. Mostly household member drinks in their drinking groups. Habitual drinking is mostly absent.

#### Economic Activity

In last two decade education played a big role in this area to change the economic activity scenario. Due to the education approximate one person in each tribal family is government employee. The study shows that the household member who are largely associated to the traditional occupations such as agricultural, labour, mining, livestock and cultivation; uses small amount of cheap quality liquor or illicit liquor but they drinks daily. In this area the Kalal prepares liquor from "Mahua" flowers. Which is collected by the family members from the nearby forest area. Because the raw material is collected from the local area, so the mahua made liquor remain cheap and it is still in demand. On the other side the person who are government employee, self employee and working in regular service drink heavily on occasions and on guests gathering. These household member are licit liquor drinker.

#### Findings and Conclusion

The study shows that Dungarpur district has high liquor consumption capacity. In present scenario each community is drinking. We can not say that only the tribals are drunker. Due to impact of education tribals are not drinking on regular basis. Last decade the tribal people got the government job opportunity and now they drink only on special occasions or family gathering. There is also a notable thing that district has 13.88 laks population and the average house hold size is 4.9. Excise department data shows that 10.4 lakh litre liquor is consumed each year. These data are contradictory and we can say that Dungarpur is liquor hub. Not only the district people are drinking but also the large amount of liquor is selling out side the district illegally. Unemployed youth is working as a liquor delivery boy and earns as much as needed.

Tribal people have their own beverage recipes. The brewing method is quiet simple and environment friendly. Due to the prohibition the brewing form "Mahua" method is going to lost. Now the Mahua tree has no reputation and people are cutting largely. If the policy give little freedom to brew not only the Mahua tree will survive but also people will get some extra earning from it and it will be a big change in economy in tribal people.

Table 1 - Respodents Attitude Towards Drinking

Attitude	Adult Male		Adult Female		Male Child		Female Child	
Disapproved	298	39.73%	622	82.93%	610	81.33%	691	92.13%
Indifferent	330	44.00%	121	16.13%	112	14.93%	30	4.00%
Approved	122	16.27%	2	0.27%	3	0.40%	0	0.00%
N.R.	0	0.00%	5	0.67%	25	3.33%	29	3.87%
Total	750	100.00%	750	100.00%	750	100.00%	750	100.00%

Table 2 - Frequency of Drinking

Frequency	Disapproved		Indifferent		Approved		Total	
Daily	0	0	25	46.30%	29	53.70%	54	100%
Fairly Regular	0	0	25	67.57%	12	32.43%	37	100%
Weekly	4	4.26%	55	58.51%	35	37.23%	94	100%
Fortnightly	2	4.17%	37	77.08%	9	18.75%	48	100%
Monthly	0	0	1	50.00%	1	50.00%	2	100%
Occasionally	8	4.37%	139	75.96%	36	19.67%	183	100%
Non Drinker	283	85.24%	48	14.46%	1	0.30%	332	100%
Total	297	39.60%	330	44.00%	123	16.40%	750	100%

Table 3 - Caste-Wise Drinker- Non Drinker Classification Among Respondent and Household Members

Caste	No. of Respodents						No. of Household Members					
	Drinker		Non-Drinker		Total		Drinker		Non-Drinker		Total	
S.T.	330	55.56%	264	44.44%	594	100%	549	13.78%	3434	86.22%	3983	100%
S.C.	13	56.52%	10	43.48%	23	100%	18	14.17%	109	85.83%	127	100%
Brahamin	1	16.67%	5	83.33%	6	100%	1	2.63%	37	97.37%	38	100%
Rajput	49	75.38%	16	24.62%	65	100%	74	20.85%	281	79.15%	355	100%
Nai	3	100.00%	0	0.00%	3	100%	4	28.57%	10	71.43%	14	100%
Kumhar	4	50.00%	4	50.00%	8	100%	5	9.26%	49	90.74%	54	100%
Kalal	8	88.89%	1	11.11%	9	100%	9	18.37%	40	81.63%	49	100%
Teli	4	40.00%	6	60.00%	10	100%	3	5.17%	55	94.83%	58	100%
Jain	-	-	13	100.00%	13	100%	0	0.00%	79	100.00%	79	100%
Luhar	2	33.33%	4	66.67%	6	100%	3	8.57%	32	91.43%	35	100%
Muslim	-	-	3	100.00%	3	100%	3	11.11%	24	88.89%	27	100%
Labana	2	40.00%	3	60.00%	5	100%	3	10.34%	26	89.66%	29	100%
Patel	2	100.00%	0	0.00%	2	100%	2	22.22%	7	77.78%	9	100%
Khatik	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	100.00%	8	100%
Gold Smith	0	0.00%	2	100.00%	2	100%	-	-	4	100.00%	4	100%
Kalbeliya	0	0.00%	1	100.00%	1	100%	-	-	8	100.00%	8	100%
Total	418	55.73%	332	44.27%	750	100%	674	16.04%	4203	86.18%	4877	100%

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