

## **ECONOMIC GROWTH AND INDUSTRIALIZATION: A CASE STUDY OF BARJORA-GANGAJALGHATI PLANNING AREA OF BANKURA DISTRICT, WEST BENGAL**

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### **Abstract**

The pace of industrialization in Bankura district is very slow. Barjora and Gangajalghati planning area has been created for the economic development of this region. Presently there is a number of small and medium scale industries located in this region. After agriculture, industry is the main economy of this region. As the region is also rich in agriculture there is plenty of scope of development of agro based industries. The present paper emphasized on the present scenario of industrialization in the region and also highlighted the problems and future prospects of industrialization in this region.

**Key Words:** Economic Growth, Industrialization, Planning area, Bankura

### **Introduction**

The West Bengal Town & Country (Planning & Development) Act, 1979 has been operating within the whole state of West Bengal, except in the area comes under the Cantonment Act, 1924 since 1979, with an objective to promote planned development in both rural and urban areas. On 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 1992, the Development and Planning (Town and Country Planning) Department of Government of West Bengal had enacted this act in some parts of Barjora and Gangajalghati Police Stations under Sadar Subdivision of District Bankura vide the notification no. 2990/T&CP/1S-3/91. This area was declared as Planning Area under section 9 of the said Town Planning act vide notification no 2991/ T&CP/ 1S-3/91 on the same date. Subsequently Barjora Ganjalghati Planning Authority was also constituted on that day vide notification No 2991/ T&C P/1S-3/91 and the District Magistrate of Bankura was declared as the Planning Authority. With the technical consultation of the experts of the Town & Country Planning Branch, the district authority with the support of concerned blocks has able to prepare the Present Land Use Maps and Land Registers of the entire planning area under section 28 of WBT&CP Act, 1979 and in compliance of the directives in the section 29 of the said act finally notified (757/DPC) those documents in the official gazette on 31<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2003.

Barjora Gangajalghati Planning Area is located within close proximity of the Durgapur Asansol Industrial Region is separated by the river Damodar, flowing from East to West. Government had taken initiatives to develop Durgapur as a planned Industrial town that helped Durgapur to consolidate its place as one of the most promising Industrial Town of West Bengal during the second half of the last century. But in Bankura, one of the backward districts of the state, the scenario was totally different. The pace of industrialization in this district has been very slow. Except Mejia Thermal Power Station no other heavy industry has come up. Only at Barjora non municipal urban centre and its adjoining area a few medium size industries are in operation. In the last decade