

CHAPTER – 1

1.1 Introduction

Hostels provide students accommodations that are cheaper and suitable for almost all income groups. Hostels are normally an inexpensive mode of accommodation, where lodging is supervised by a responsible person or by some housekeeping staff. This type of accommodation is usually safe for its occupants as well as economic. A school, college or any educational institution, usually offers such type of accommodation to its students. But with development and growth taking place in the country, youths seeking higher education is increasing day by day, and thronging to the urban areas, like Guwahati to pursue higher education. The existing educational institutions are not capable of accommodating the large inflow of students from the rural or semi-urban areas, to pursue higher education in Guwahati City. The result is the growth of an independent hostel industry in this city, run by private individuals. These private hostels cater to the growing needs of the students, with fooding and lodging facilities. With the opening up of a wide vista of education, training and employment opportunities for women, many women from urban and rural areas are seeking the opportunities to take up jobs in big cities and small towns. But things are not working smooth for these female candidates.

In India the entry of women in the occupational world of man is a recent one. Many needy women needs to take up jobs in various offices or undertakings.

The change economic structure in India compelled more and more women to live out of their homes for pursuing education or for employment in big cities and urban and rural township. One of the main difficulties faced by such women is the talk of safe and suitable accommodation. It is necessary to provide women who are compelled to live away from their families for

education, training and employment, a safe and suitable accommodation at reasonable rates near their place of education, training or employment.

Economic empowerment of women is one of the most vital conditions for the upliftment of women's social status. Therefore one of the vital support services enabling enrollment of women in education, employment, work and technical training, commensurate with it is the provision of safe and inexpensive hostel accommodation.

Hence, this project is an attempt to make a comparative study of the Girls hostels of the Government College and Provincialised Government College and Girls' hostel run by private individuals, of greater Guwahati.

1.2 Objectives :

The study is based on the following three objectives-

1. To study the consumption pattern of the students residing in these hostels.
2. To study the infrastructural facilities available in these hostels.
3. To study the problems faced by the students.

1.3 Methodology :

Interview schedule was the principal tool used for data collection for the present study. This helped in collecting authentic information about the problems faced by the inmates in the hostels and the grievances if any, of the management and the staff.

The data collection was done by the students of TDC II year economics major students who were given necessary training before they were sent to the field. The inmates of the hostels were contacted personally and personal interview was conducted to get first hand data. The hostel inmates were interviewed with the help of structured interview schedule.

The study is based on primary data collected through structured questionnaires. The study is carried out in Greater Guwahati, Assam. The methodology would be to choose 4 girls' hostels run by Government

College and Provincialised Govt. College and 5 run by private individuals, and carry out a survey to obtain the required information. These hostels would be chosen purposively. On the basis of individual structured questionnaires, the students of economic department will carry out the survey taking 10% boarders from each selected hostel. The survey will be based on cross-section data. The data thus obtained from the hostels will be analysed and tabulated using simple statistical tools to find out the actual picture.

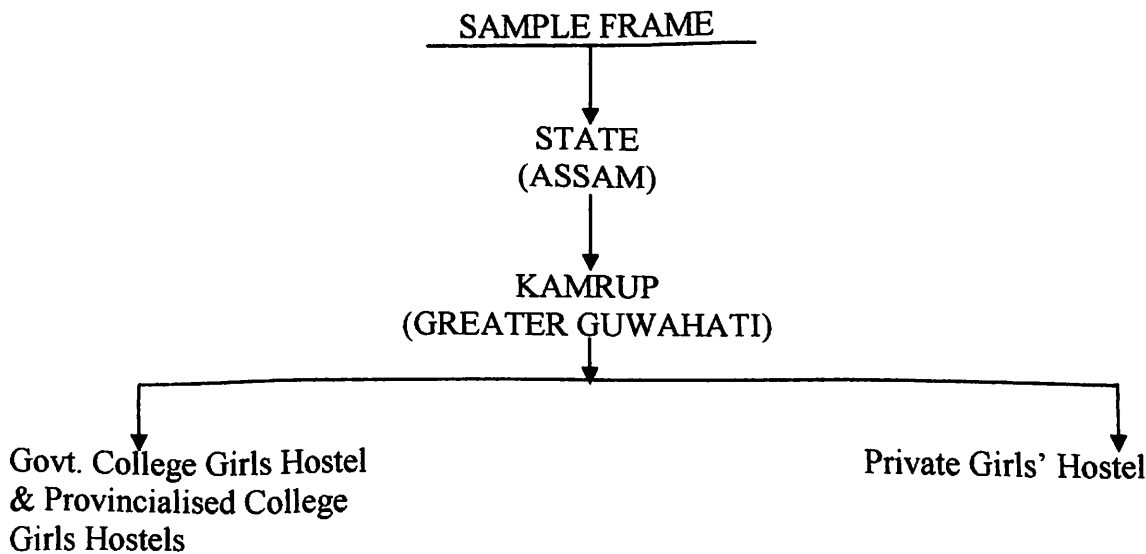
Qualitative Methods

Discussion were held among the inmates of the hostels and observations made by the students themselves will be taken to gather information while carrying out the survey as certain information may not be captured in the quantitative questionnaire.

Quantitative Methods

For collecting quantitative data, a structured questionnaire will be developed keeping in view of the basic objectives of the study. The primary field survey for collection of data will be carried out with the help of field researchers (Economics major students from both TDC 1st year and 2nd year)

Data processing, scrutiny, tabulation and other quantitative works will be carried out with standard statistical tools.



1.4 Design of the study:

- The study is divided into five chapters
- The first chapter contains introduction, objectives and the methodology of the study.
- The second chapter includes the review of literature.
- The third chapter contains the profile of the institutions surveyed
- The forth chapter includes the analysis of the field study
- The fifth chapter deals with participatory observations.
- The sixth chapter deals with the conclusion and recommendations.

2.3 Significance of the study :

The study on Girls' Hostel is an attempt to throw some light on the conditions of the hostels which actually comprises an important part in student's life. The hostel accommodation provided to a student must have proper facilities and a healthy environment as these factors have an impact on her performances as a student. A good hostel, well maintained, with proper food and good atmosphere improves the efficiency of a student who is indeed the future of a nation. As such a study in this context will bring to light the working and functioning of girls' hostels in Greater Guwahati. Besides, the study also makes an attempt to show if there are any difference in the college run hostels and hostels run by private individuals. This will help in taking up policy measures for standardization of facilities available in the hostels.