

Baseline Survey of Minority Concentrated Districts

District Report

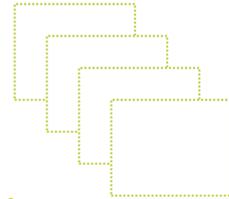
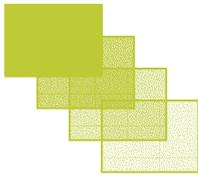
CHANDEL

Study Commissioned by
Ministry of Minority Affairs
Government of India

Study Conducted by



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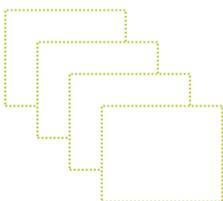


Commissioned by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, this Baseline Survey was planned for 90 minority concentrated districts (MCDs) identified by the Government of India across the country, and the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi coordinates the entire survey.

Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati has been assigned to carry out the Survey for four states of the Northeast, namely Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Manipur.

This report contains the results of the survey for Chandel district of Manipur.

The help and support received at various stages from the villagers, government officials and all other individuals are most gratefully acknowledged. ■



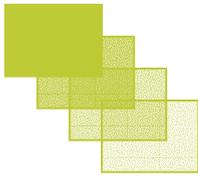
Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development is an autonomous research institute of the ICSSR, New delhi and Government of Assam.





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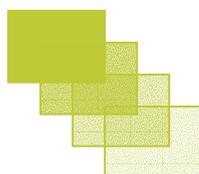
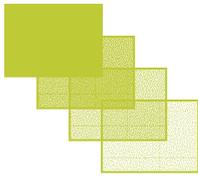


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BACKGROUND

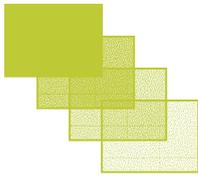
Issues relating to disparities across socio-religious communities have attracted much attention of the government of India of late. There is a growing realization about the relative backwardness of the religious minorities more particularly the Muslim as a religious community in India. The Sachar Committee, which was instituted specifically to look into the relative deprivations of Muslims vis-à-vis other socio religious categories in various dimensions of development, in its report on “Social Economic and Educational Status of the Muslim Community of India”, exhibited deficits and deprivations of Muslims in all dimensions of development. Assam is among the four states with large Muslim population where according to the Committee the situation is grave. Therefore, there is a need to generate data to evaluate and address issues of Muslim backwardness in the state.

In order to ensure that the benefits of schemes and programmes of government reach the relatively disadvantaged segments of society districts having a substantial minority population on the basis of backwardness parameters were identified. Based on 2001 Census, using two backwardness parameters, viz., (1) religion specific socio-economic indicators at the district level in terms of literacy rate; female literacy rate; work participation rate; and female work participation rate and (2) basic amenities indicators at the district level in terms of percentage of households with pucca walls, safe drinking water, electricity and w/c latrines, the Ministry of Minority Affairs identified 90 Minority Concentration Districts throughout the country which are falling behind the national average in these parameters. Of these 90 districts, 53 districts have both socio-economic and basic amenities below national average, 21 districts have socio-economic parameters below national average and 16 have basic amenities below national average. The basic idea is to formulate a multi-sectoral programme for the 90 MCDs, which envisage for providing beneficiary oriented schemes to minorities and infrastructure development for the entire community in the districts.

Against this backdrop the baseline survey in MCDs was conceived to

- (a) Identify how existing programmes are currently targeting these districts and on the basis of the assessment to develop special programmes to provide these facilities and ensure accessibility to them in the most backward areas in a faster way; and
- (b) Create socio-economic profiles of the targeted districts, and receive inputs that would help improve literacy rate, especially female literacy rate, and overall work participation rate, especially female work participation rate that have a significant impact on economic development.

The survey would more specifically try to identify the gaps in (1) availability of infrastructure like schools, health centers, ICDE centers and drinking water supply (2) housing and sanitation (3) critical linkages like rural road, ITIs, banking facilities, markets etc. and also (4) identification of artisanal income generating activities in which villagers have comparative advantage.



METHODOLOGY

The present survey has been confined to rural areas. Considering the availability of data Tehsil level information has been used for stratification purpose.

Villages are taken as the first stage units (FSU) for the survey. However, before selection of sample villages, each district under the coverage was stratified first. All tehsils in a district were grouped into three strata in terms of minority population after arranging them in descending order of minority population. The grouping/stratification has been done in such a way so that the first stratum constitutes top 20% of tehsils, the second stratum constitutes middle 50% and the third/last stratum constitutes bottom 30% of tehsils in the arranged frame. The ranges vary in accordance with degree of concentration of minority population in respective districts.

Depending upon the size of the district, 25 or 30 villages were selected from each district. 25 villages were chosen if the rural population of the district is below 5 lacs; otherwise 30 villages were chosen.

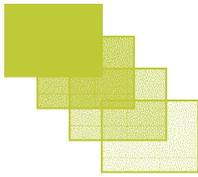
The number of villages surveyed in each stratum was directly proportional to the share of each stratum/group of tehsils (according to population) to the district population, subject to a minimum allocation of 6 villages to each stratum.

Required number of sample villages from each stratum have been selected as per the probability proportion to size (PPS) with replacement, size being total population of the village as per Census 2001.

In case of household selection, complete listing of all households (by door to door visit) has been done in case of sample villages with less than 1200 population. However, in case of those villages with population 1200 or more, three or more hamlet-groups (hg's) were formed in the village as per the practice followed by NSSO¹. From among them, a sample of 2 hg's was selected for listing of households. The hg having maximum concentration of minority population was selected with probability 1. From among the remaining hg's, one more hg were selected at random. The listing and sampling of households were independent for each selected hg.

In each selected hg, the listed households were grouped into strata as per the minority status of the household. In other words, all Muslim households formed one second-stage stratum (SSS), all Christian households another SSS, and so on.

About 30 households were selected in all from each sample village for detailed enquiry. These 30 households were allocated over 2 selected hg's (if hg's formed) and among the respective SSS in proportion to total number of households listed in the respective frames. A minimum of 2 households were allocated to an ultimate SSS. The required number of sample households from each SSS were selected by systematic random sampling without replacement (SRSWOR). In case of village having less than 30 households all the households were surveyed.



The rule followed by NSSO for forming hamlet-groups is

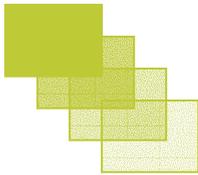
Approximate present population of the village	no. of hamlet- group to be formed
1200 to 1799	3
1800 to 2399	4
2400 to 2999	5
3000 to 3599	6
..... and so on	

Following the above methodology, total 25 villages of the district Chandel, Manipur were identified, and 30 households from each village were selected for the sample survey. The present report is based on the data gathered from about 750 sample households of the district.

TOOLS USED

Relevant data were collected with the help of (1) Rural Household Schedule and (2) Village Schedule. The rural household schedule tries to capture different dimensions of socio-economic and situational variables like employment, migration and occupation details, land and other assets, ownership of productive and other assets, livestock details, housing status, rural indebtedness, family income and expenditure, current educational status and skill training, aspiration of parents of current students, awareness and participation, local conflicts and loss of life and property, access to media and communication and general aspirations of the people.

The village schedule tries to garner authentic data regarding the village. Information such as basic population data, facilities, village organizations, land use and land transfers, credit facilities, commuting and migration data, job and wage related information, information on individual beneficiary oriented programmes, data on education including physical facilities, health, different development programmes, common property resources, and the public distribution system prevailing in the rural areas. ■



BRIEF PROFILE OF CHANDEL DISTRICT

2.1 Area and Location

Chandel district with a total geographical area of 3,313 square km lies in between 23.49 degree and 24.28 degree north latitude and 94.09 degree to 94.31 degree east longitude in the south- eastern part of the state of Manipur. This border district of the state neighbours Myanmar on the south, Ukhrol district on the east, Churachandpur district on the south and west, and Thoubal on the north. It is about 64 km from Imphal, the state capital.

Chandel district (formerly known as Tengenoupal district) came into existence on 13th May 1974. The district is inhabited by several communities with about 20 tribes, and is sparsely populated. Anal, Lamkang, Kukis, Moyon, Monsang, Chothe, Thadou, Paite and Maring are the prominent tribes scattered all over the district. There are also other religious communities such as Meiteis and Muslims in small numbers as compared to these tribes. Non- Manipuri communities like Tamils, Bengalis, Punjabis, and Biharis are also settled in the district.

2.2 Administrative Division

Chandel an administrative district of the state with its headquarters located at Chandel town is under the charge of Deputy Commissioner, supported by Sub- Divisional Officers. Deputy Commissioner also acts as the District Magistrate.

Chandel district under Tengenoupal District Council has four sub-divisions namely, (a) Machi, (b) Tengenoupal, (c) Chandel and (d) Chakpikarong.

2.3 Resource Base

2.3.1 Population

As per the census of 2001 Chandel district had a population of 118000 lakh comprising 5.1 percent of the total state population. It is one of the thinly populated districts of the state with density of population of just 36 persons per sq.km. On the other hand the population density in the state is 97. Schedule tribe and schedule caste population constitute 92 percent and 0.18 percent of the total population of the district respectively. Religion wise distribution of population of the district is shown in Table 2.1 below.

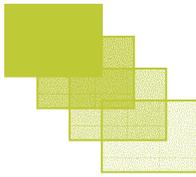


Table 2.1: Total population of Chandel district

Residence	Persons	Hindu	Muslim	Christians
Total	118327	5701 (4.81)	2318 (1.96)	109128 (92.22)
Rural	103365	972 (0.94)	445 (0.43)	101686 (98.37)
Urban	14962	4729 (31.60)	1873 (12.51)	7442 (49.74)

Source: census of India, 2001.

Christians are the mostly populated religious group in Chandel district. The proportion of Christian population has increased in 2001 to 92 percent from 86 percent in 1991. Apart from the three major religious communities i.e. the Christians, the Hindu and the Muslims, people from other religious groups constitute a negligible proportion in the district, more particularly in rural areas. Census data reflect that the district in recent times shows higher variations in growth of population than the state average. This is contrary to the trend that the district, except the period 1971-81, witnessed a lower rate of growth than the state average. The growth rate of population in the district vis-à-vis the state has been shown in the table below.

Table 2.2: Decadal variation in growth of population in Chandel and Manipur

District/State	1951-61	1961-71	1971-81	1981-91	1991-2001
Chandel	15.09	12.38	49.01	17.99	35.96
Manipur	35.04	37.53	32.46	29.29	30.02

Source: Provisional Population Total, Manipur, 2002.

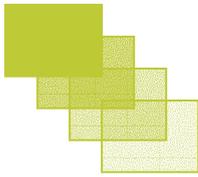
2.3.2 Sex- Ratio

As per the census report 2001, Chandel had sex ratio of 981 female per thousand male, which is the highest in comparison to the other hill districts of the state of Manipur. The sex- ratio is a good indicator of the status of women and the sex ratio of the district is also higher than the state average of 974.

Table 2.3: Sex- ratio by religion for rural and total population in Chandel district

All religion	Total	981
All religion	Rural	983
Hindus	Total	861
Hindus	Rural	790
Muslims	Total	913
Muslims	Rural	878
Christians	Total	989
Christians	Rural	986

Source: census of India, 2001.



The lower proportion of sex ratio among the Hindus and Muslims, especially of the rural areas, compared to that of the Christians is undoubtedly an important aspect of the district. This can be largely attributed to male centric in migration of people from these religious backgrounds.

2.3.3 Literacy Rate

Chandel has the lowest literacy rate in the state. As per the census of 2001, only 56 percent of total population is literate of which 64 percent are male literates and 48 percent are female literates. Literacy rates on the state of Manipur are 80.3 percent for male and 60.5 percent for women.

Table 2.4: Literacy rate by sex and area in Chandel district (2001)

Total			Rural			Urban		
Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
56.22	64.34	47.97	55.65	63.37	47.81	60.33	71.18	49.17

Source: census of India, 2001.

Among the religious groups Hindus have the highest literacy rate of 62 percent followed by Christians (56 percent) and Muslims (52 percent). Though literacy rate is found to be higher among Muslims (56 percent) in rural areas, it is the lowest compared to Hindus (64 percent) and Christians (60 percent) in the urban area with just 51 percent.

Table 2.5: Literacy rate by religious groups and place of residence in Chandel district

Religion	Residence	Literacy Rate		
		Person	Male	Female
Hindus	Rural	50	55.53	43.61
Hindus	Urban	64	73.62	53.10
Muslims	Rural	56	63.33	47.82
Muslims	Urban	51	66.83	34.19
Christians	Rural	56	63.55	47.93
Christians	Urban	60	70.49	49.90

Source: census of India, 2001

2.3.4 Distribution of work force in Chandel district

Work participation rate in Chandel is 48 percent in rural areas and 35 percent in urban areas and the overall for the district is 46 percent. Agriculture is the main occupation of 67 percent of the total workers. A very large portion of population is still without any work. Religion wise workforce configuration of the district has been shown in Table 2.6.

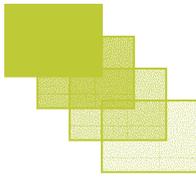


Table 2.6: Distribution of different groups of workers by religious groups in the total rural workers

Religion	Total worker	Cultivators	Agricultural workers	Household industrial workers	Other workers	Non workers
All groups rural total	49317	33339 (67.6 percent)	3878 (7.9)	3384 (6.9)	8716 (17.7)	54048
Rural percentage	47.7	67.6	7.9	6.9	17.7	52.3
Rural Hindus	54.1	34.4	14.8	14.4	36.3	45.9
Rural Muslims	54.8	31.6	7.4	10.2	27.9	45.2
Rural Christians	47.6	68.0	7.9	6.8	17.4	52.4
other religion	73.2	69.2	0.6	8.3	21.8	26.8
Rural religion not stated	38.8	79.0	0	0	0	61.2

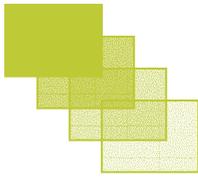
Source: census India, 2001

Comparatively, the Hindus and the Muslims have higher work force participation rate than that of the Christians, the dominant population group in the district. This could be because of the fact that the smaller number of population of the Hindu and the Muslim community is constituted largely by the working population migrated to the district. This has also been corroborated by the size of other workers constituted by the Hindus as well as the Muslims. As the table reveals, the category of *other workers* is constituted by a larger proportion of workers from Hindu and Muslim communities. For the same reason, the proportion of workers engaged in cultivation found to be lower among the Hindus (34.4 percent) and the Muslims (31.6 percent) than that of the Christian community (68 percent).

2.4 Education and Health

This poorly literate district of the state of Manipur is also a poor performer in the level of educational attainment. As per census report of 2001, among the literate people, 3 percent were without any educational level, 18 percent were below primary level, 25 percent had educational attainment up to the primary level, 23 percent had attained middle level school education, 25 percent had passed high school examination and only 6 percent had attained educational attainment of graduation or more.

An important indicator of health status is the sex ratio, especially of the children in the age group of 0-6 years. As per the estimate of 2001 census, Chandel district had child sex-ratio of 961, which was higher than the state average of 957. The sex ratio of the



Christian population was found to be much higher than the other two communities in both urban and rural areas.

Table 2.7: Child sex- ratio in Chandel district by religious group

Religion	Total	Rural	Urban
All religion	961	969	920
Hindus	763	841	746
Muslims	839	889	832
Christians	977	972	1046

Source: Census of India, 2001.

Another good indicator of health is the life expectancy of the population. In 1991, life expectancy of Chandel district was 55 years. For males it was 53 years and for female it was 59 years. In rural area, it was 52 years for male and 58 years for female. So, the life expectancy of female, both in rural and urban area, surpasses that of the males. This can largely be attributed to the disappearance and control of diseases such as small pox and cholera. But, the Chandel district has recorded the highest seropositive rates among the hill districts of the state, which share international border.

2.5 Natural Resource Base

2.5.1 Land, its quality and used

Chandel district has lateral sandy loam, reddish in color and slightly acidic type of soil. The mean monthly maximum temperature range from 24.2 degree Celsius in January to 36 degree Celsius in May and the minimum range from 5 degree Celsius in January to 23.1 degree Celsius in August. The district is mostly covered by forest and only small percentage of total geographical area was under agricultural use (1.87 percent) and settlement (0.35 percent).

Table 2.8: Major land use/ cover categories in Chandel district (1989-90)

Category	Area(ha)	% to total district area
Settlement	1160.9	0.35
Agricultural land	6192.13	1.87
Forest cover	152804.13	46.12
Land with/ without scrub	167166.22	50.46
Others	3975.83	1.2

Source: www.manenvis.nic.in

Reportedly, shifting cultivation is the most widely practiced form of agriculture in this district. However, settled cultivation has also been practiced in this district alongside shifting cultivation. It is worth noting that the tribal community of Machi Block in the district has adopted improved methods of shifting cultivation to minimize the environmental degradation.

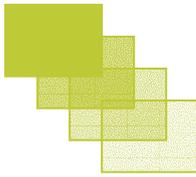


Table 2.9: District area under permanent and shifting cultivation in Chandel district

Type of cultivation	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Permanent	1.99	4.05	2.53
Shifting	3.52	3.22	4.46
Total	5.51	7.27	6.99

Source: www.ncap.res.in

2.5.2 Forestry

Chandel district comes under Tengnoupal Forest Division of the state. It has about 81 percent forest cover of the total geographical area. The dense forest on Myanmar border has valuable teak tree in abundance. Forest provides firewood, charcoal, wood and many other forest resources. As per the state Forest Report of 1991 and 2001, 756 sq.km areas were under dense forest in 1991, which had increased to 812 sq. km in 2001; open forest area in 1991 was 1998 sq.km and in 2001 it was 1906 sq. km., area of scrubs increased in 2001 from 20 sq. km in 1991 to 49 sq. km in 2001. Nevertheless, total forest area in the district has gone down in recent years due to excessive practice of shifting cultivation. Chandel is one of the districts severely affected by the practice of shifting or jhum cultivation with a reducing jhum cycle.

Table 2.10: Collection of forest revenue in Chandel district (lakh)

Year	Forest Product		
	Major	Minor	Total
1994-95	74.96	2.18	77.14
1995-96	105.68	3.80	109.48
1996-97	104.84	0.76	105.60
1997-98	10.96	0.77	11.73
1998-99	19.26	0.52	19.78

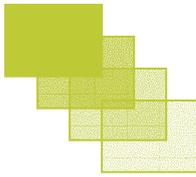
Source: www.manipur.nic.in

Forest is one of the most important constituents of the resource base of the district. But from 1997-98, revenue generated by forest has gone down. This may be due to Supreme Court's ban on the fell of timber. Chandel has the highest timber production among the districts. It has also large area of forest under bamboo covering 478.38 hectares.

Table 2.11: Average Annual stocks of Forest Products in Tengnoupal Forest Division of Chandel over the period 1993-2000

Division	Timber(CUM)	Fuel wood(stack CUM)	Bamboo('000nos)	Cane(100bundels)
Tengnoupal	2657.00	9990.43	4.71	146.00

Source: investinmanipur.nic.in



2.5.3 Water and Mineral

The district receives average annual rainfall of 1245mm. However, this district has no water bodies. Thus, fishery as an economic activity has not taken off well in the district as compared to other valley districts in the state of Manipur. The total fish production of Chandel in 1999-2000 was 460 tonnes. It has only two government fish farms each at Komlathabi and Khambathel and only one fish farmer's development agency.

Table 2.12: Ground Water Resource of Chandel district and its Potential (in MCM)

Ground water resource dynamic	Utilization of ground water for irrigation	Utilization for drinking and allied
522.12	443.80	78.32

Source: www.manipur.nic.in

The district is also rich in mineral resources, most of which are yet to be explored. Chromites deposits containing partly metallurgical grade ore have been located at Kwatha and Khudengthabi in the district. Minor occurrences of asbestos has been reported in Moreh area, Khwatha, Nepali basti in the district. Nickel, copper and cobalt are available in Nampesh and Kwatha in Chandel. So, hill areas are abundance in mineral resources, which remain unexploited mainly due to negligence and poor infrastructure.

2.6 Economy

Agriculture is the main occupation of the people in Chandel. Rice is the main crop grown. Both jhum and terrace cultivation is done in the hill slopes of the district. Though it is not an entirely rural economy like districts of Senapati, Tamenglong and Churachandpur, urbanization has been a very slow process. Only 12.6 percent people of the district live in urban areas. Moreh, Tegnoupal, Chandel and Chakpikarong towns are the developing urban areas. Moreh, which is 110 km away from Imphal, has emerged as an international trade centre with the inauguration of Indo-Myanmar Border Trade 1995. It is believe to be the prospective economic bridge between India and the other industrially developing South East Asian countries. Based on the district level per capita income for 2000-2001, Chandel ranked the 5th in the state of Manipur. This may be the outcome of low population density in the district, and overall it does not reflect the realities of development.

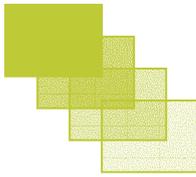


Table 2.13: Number of Industrial Units Registered in Chandel from 1994-95 to 1997-98

Type of units	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Wood Works	4	4	4	3
Iron & Steel works	1	Nil	Nil	1
Ready made Garments	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Handloom	1	Nil	1	1
Rice mill	4	1	2	Nil
Saw mill	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Oil mill	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Masala spices	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Flooring tiles	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Brick field	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Flour mill	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Source: <http://chandel.nic.in>

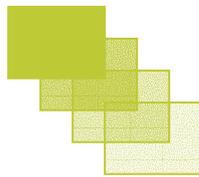
2.6.1 Handloom and Handicraft

Handloom and handicraft has been an indispensable part of the socio-economic life of the people in the state of Manipur. It is a very important and the largest cottage industry, which is labour intensive. As per the Handloom and Power loom Census conducted during the year 1996-97, Chandel has total of 13554 number of weavers, 11639 number of loom, the consumption of yarn per month was 26,204.70 kg and the production of cloth per month was 71,615 meters. The main handloom products are Acrylic / woolen cloth such as shawl, ladies garments, wall hanging and coverings, upholstery, hanging bags, curtains, home furnishing etc. Handicraft products of cane and bamboo are also unique. Baskets made of cane and bamboo, such as Likhai, Sangbai, Meruk, Morah etc. are popularly used for domestic purpose. People of Maring tribe in Chandel are the main manufacturer of these types of baskets. Fishing equipments like Longup, Tungbol etc. made of cane and bamboo are also famous.

Despite having the required potential, the district has been lagging behind in terms of industrial advancement. As per the report of Economic Survey of Manipur, 2007-08, Chandel has the lowest number of registered industrial units in the state.

2.6.2 Livestock and Poultry

As per the Economic Survey of Manipur 2007-08 (based on the Livestock Census report 2003) Chandel had 23,044 cattle, 6154 buffalo, 70,753 pig, 7,530 mithun, 16,179 dog, 802 goat and 22 sheep. Pig, dog, cattle etc. are reared mainly for meat. So, livestock rearing is one of the important occupations of the people because of their food habit. Based on the Statistical Abstract of Manipur 2005, there were six veterinary dispensaries and six veterinary aid centre and one veterinary hospital at district level.



2.7 Infrastructure

2.7.1 Transport and Telecommunication

Road is the main mode of transport in Chandel district which is connected by National Highway No. 39 reaching up to Moreh. Several bus services from Imphal to Chandel ply daily. The State Highway No. 10 diverts from National Highway No.39 at Pallel and connects the district head quarters. The inter-district road density in 2002 for Chandel was 19.32 km per 100 square km, which is much lower than the state average of 51.2 km per 100 square km. Altogether 46 percent villages in the district are connected by all weather roads. Pathetic road condition in the hill districts of the state has always been detrimental for their development. It also determines the interaction among the people. In many villages inter village road are not surfaced. Same is the condition of other district roads.

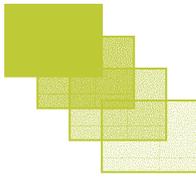
Table 2.14: Road mileage of Chandel district

Classification of road	Length in km as on 31 st March.			
	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
National Highway	64.40	64.40	64.40	64.00
State Highway	30.06	30.06	30.06	30.00
Major District road	48.47	48.47	48.47	48.47
Other district road	-	100.76	100.76	100.76
Inter village roads	-	260.165	260.165	257.67
District total	-	503.855	503.855	500.90

Source: www.google.co.in

Though the main objective of the 10th Plan was to develop the road infrastructure in North East Region, the status of road in the district, both in terms of quality and density, still lags far behind.

Telecommunication plays an important role in facilitating connectivity. Total number of connection in the district in 1991-92 was 148, which had increased to 731 in 2001-02. Thus, the teledensity in the district was just 2.2 percent in 1991-92 and 15 percent in 2001-02. As per the Economic Survey of Manipur 2007-08, Chandel has four telephone exchanges, six combined offices and 1386 numbers of telephone connections. It has total 38 public call offices with 3 local and 35 STD connections. There is no telegraph office in the district. Pathetic transport facility coupled with poor communication has checked the development of the region and interaction with other regions, which is reportedly one of the factors for the socio-economic and political unrest in the state.



2.7.2 Power and Energy

Based on the report of Economic Survey of Manipur 2007-08, altogether 82 percent villages are electrified in the state. However, the problem of load shed is main concern of the people in these electrified villages. It is more frequent during nighttime and in the winter season. The pattern of electricity consumption in the district reveals that domestic consumption accounts for 68 percent of the total electricity consumption in the district in 2000-01. This was followed by 21 percent consumption for commercial purposes and two percent for public lighting. Consumption of electricity for industrial uses is almost negligible (.07 percent) and it is nil for irrigation and agriculture purposes.

2.7.3 Banking

Statistical Abstract of Manipur, 2005 shows that as on 31-03-2004, there were only five of banks branches operating in the district. These bank branches have altogether benefited 912 numbers of scheduled tribes and castes population and 461 number of minority population. The credit deposit ratio (61 percent) of the district has been recorded highest among the hill districts of the state.

Table 2.15: Number of banks and density in Chandel district, 2000

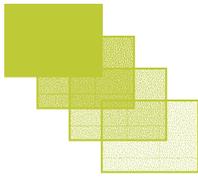
District/State	Public Sector Banks		Regional Rural Banks		All scheduled commercial banks	
	No. of office	Area per one bank(sq.km)	No. of office	Area per one bank(sq.km)	No. of office	Area per one bank(sq.km)
Chandel	4	828.25	1	3313	5	662.6
Manipur	57	391.7	29	769.8	86	259.61

Source: www.google.co.in

The spread and distribution of bank is not adequate. The banks hesitate to open branches in the remote areas resulting in inefficient functioning of the banks. This half hearted efforts coupled with security problem in the hills has led to the deprivation of modern banking facilities to the people.

2.7.4 Health and Educational Establishment

In the year 2004-05, there were 2 government hospitals, 4 Community and public health centres, and 26 dispensaries and public health sub centers in the district. Total number of hospital beds available in the district was 124, to serve 954 persons by each bed as compared to the same ratio of 905 for the state as a whole. There were 16 doctors and the number of total patients treated was 30185, of which 27419 were treated out-door. The infrastructure facilities in the district are far from satisfactory. The medical professionals do not like to serve in remote areas where they had to face harsh hilly life style with no security assurance. The district has also been recorded with 2nd highest seropositive rate (34.51 percent after Ukhru (43.86 percent). This may be attributed to the close proximity to the Golden Triangle where 20 percent of world's heroin is produced.



This poorly literate district has poor educational infrastructure facilities. In 2001-02, the district had 207 pre-primary and primary schools, 52 middle schools, 23 High/Higher secondary schools, 7 professional & other educational schools and 3 colleges for general education. Professional institutions, IT infrastructure etc. are also the areas, which need serious attention of the government.

2.8 Overall Amenities in the district

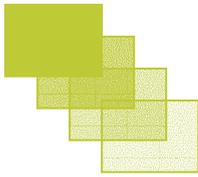
As per the records of census of India 2001, of the 20,908 households in the district 1.6 percent were permanent type of houses, 37.8 percent were semi-permanent (semi-pucca) and 60.5 percent were temporary households (*Katcha*). The average size of the household in the district is six.

Table 2.16: Distribution of amenities in inhabited villages of Chandel district

Amenities	Numbers
Total inhabited villages	350
Total households	20,908
Drinking water facilities	323
Safe drinking water facilities	125
Electricity(power supply)	190
Electricity(domestic)	190
Electricity(agriculture)	-
Primary school	214
Middle school	50
Secondary/Sr. secondary school	16
Colleges	2
Medical facilities	25
Primary health centre	6
Primary health sub- centre	15
Post, telegraph & telephone facilities	53
Bus services	76
Paved approach road	126
Mud approach road	209

Source: census of India, 2001.

Overall it is revealed that access to safe drinking water facilities (lacks in more than 64 percent villages), power supply (not available in more than 45 percent villages), primary schools (only 61 percent villages have it), medical facilities (93 percent villages have no access within the villages) and road communications are the major arenas of development deficits in the districts. All requires critical interventions for ushering growth process in the state. ■



PROFILE OF THE SAMPLE VILLAGES

3.1 Demographic profile

The district of Chandel has a little over 118 thousand population and the villages are thinly populated with few households. In our sample of 25 villages, there are seven villages with less than 30 households and six villages are with more than 100 households (Table 3.1). The average size of households in the sample villages is six. The households are mainly of scheduled tribe communities belonging to Christian faith. The analysis in this minority concentrated district hence will primarily be concerned with the people belonging to the Christian community.

3.2 Sex Ratio

Sex ratio in the sample villages overall is 1025. However, the figure varies across the villages. The high sex ratio to certain extent could be explained by out migration of male members in the sample villages. However, as mentioned in section I, this district of Manipur has the most favourable sex ratio and the status of women explains a large proportion of variation to this.

3.3. Literacy Rate

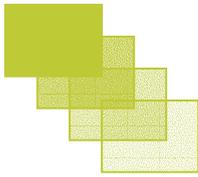
Literacy rate in the sample villages found to be less than the district average. The estimated literacy rate in the sample villages for male is 35.1 percent and for female is 27.6 percent, which are much lower than the average of the district and the state of Manipur. Comparison of these figures during the decade 1991 to 2001 reveals that the literacy level has not increased overall, though there is some sign in improvement in female literacy.

3.4 Facilities

A definitive way to measure the quality of life in a state, region or dwelling place, whether rural or urban, is to ascertain the presence, accessibility and utility of the social and physical infrastructure by the residents of these spaces. Lack of access can emerge either due to the absence of social and/or physical infrastructure, or through inaccessibility to such facilities even when they are present.

3.4.1 Electricity

Proportion of households using electricity for domestic lighting in rural areas is indicative of economic status of the households. As per the information of State Electricity Board 81.8 percent of the villages in Chandel district have power supply. The figures of the sample village survey corroborate the MSEB data where 84 percent of the sample villages are found with power supply. Of the 25 sample villages, power supply is not available in four villages. The village survey data show that about 61.2 percent households in the sample villages has electricity connection (Table 3.3). Most of the



connections in the villages are domestic connections. However, one village in the sample has electricity connections used for agricultural purpose and two villages with some numbers of commercial connections (Table 3.3). The first electrification among the sample villages was made during 1978. Subsequently, 12 villages were given connections during 1980s, five during 1990s, and three during 2000s. No villages found to be de-electrified in the past.

3.4.2 Drinking water

Availability and access to safe drinking water has been the most crucial factor involving serious health concerns in rural areas. The survey revealed that altogether 16 sample villages have common sources of drinking water supply. Tank and River are the common sources in 14 villages, public well in six villages, public hand pump in four villages and private wells and tap water found to be sources in one village each (Table 3.4).

3.4.3 Toilet facility

The sanitation status of the sample villages shows that in six villages there is presence of sanitary toilets and the rest have insanitary toilets (Table 3.5). The common practice in all the villages is to dig a soak pit.

3.4.4 Education

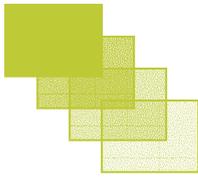
The low female literacy rate in the sample villages is attributable to the poor availability of schooling and educational facilities for females. The survey reveals that there are only few schools exclusively for the girls. However, 23 out of 25 samples have at least one primary school within the villages (Table 3.6). Most of the schools are found to be approachable through katcha roads (Table 3.7). Out of the 59 schools accessed by students of the sample villages, 29 were within the distance of 2 km, 10 within the distance of 2 to 5 km and 20 in a distance of more than 5 km (Table 3.8).

Distribution of total educational facilities available in sample villages

Schools	Primary		Middle		High/H Sec.		Tech.	Religi-ous school	Non - formal	Ot her	Tota l
	Com mon	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls					
Total	21	2	12	4	17	3	-	-	-	-	59

3.4.5 Health Facilities

Information on the sample villages reveals that all the sample villages have access to primary health centers. Altogether 24 villages have access to medicine shops; three have access to community health centers and three to family planning clinics (Table 3.9). However, two thirds of the health centers are accessible only on foot (Table 3.10) and majorities of them (three fourths) are located at a distance of more than 5 km (Table 3.11). Overall, it is reflected that access to health facilities is not easy in most of this



villages located in hilly and non-motorable terrain. Whatever the health facilities accessible to the sample villages, it is found that ANM is available in all PHCs and Doctors in 17 PHCs. On the other hand regular check up facilities, facilities for pathological check up and hospital beds are available only in one PHC (Table 3.12).

3.4.6 Other facilities

The availability of facilities in the villages of the district reveal that, block head quarter, the nearest town and facilities of bus stops, regular market, post office, banks in most cases are located at a distance of more than 5 km. Out of the 167 villages of the district, only 11 have access to some facilities within a distance of 2 km and another 19 have access within 5 km (Table 3.14).

3.5 Village organizations

The organizational activity within the village is an important determinant of overall socio-economic development. Information reveal that among the sample villages there exists number of organisations - voluntary organizations in 15 villages, religious, women and youth organisation in all sample villages, political organisation in eight villages and cultural organisation in 16 villages (Table 3.15). This is revealed that there exists no organisation of farmers, credit, production, marketing etc. in the sample villages of Chandel. Among the existent organisation religious, youth and women organizations are reportedly active in the sample villages (Table 3.16).

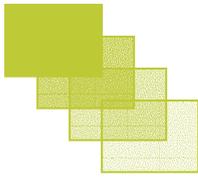
3.6 Artisan and Handicraft Activities

Fairly good numbers of households (more than 55 percent) in the sample villages are involved in artisan and handicraft activities. However, it was reflected that most of the productions are for domestic consumption and less than 2 percent of the households are producing for markets. As reported there are problems in procuring raw materials and placing the products at right markets (Table 3.17).

3.7 Crop productivity status

The economy of Chandel is agrarian with paddy as the major crop. The survey results of the sample villages indicate that paddy is the major crop produced in all the villages. However, productivity is very low mainly due to the practice of shifting cultivation. Reported average production in the sample villages in no cases is more than 480 kg per acre, the lowest reported being 190 kg per acre (Table 3.18). The maximum market price fetched by paddy, one year prior to the date of survey, as reported was Rs. 1200 per quintal while the minimum price was Rs. 525.

Vegetables are found to be cultivated on significant basis in 10 sample villages. The average productivity of vegetables in these villages is around 40 quintal per acres. This is reported that in certain seasons prices of vegetables go up as high as Rs. 31 per kg and in certain season slumps to Rs. 1.5 per kg (Table 3.19).



3.8 Input status for cultivation

3.8.1. Current inputs

This is found that some households in four sample villages are using HYV seeds of paddy, three villages are using chemical fertilizers and in two villages pesticides are being used. The number of households using HYV seeds, chemical fertilizers and pesticides in the sample villages is just about 12 percent of the total households in the district (Table 3.20). All user villages reported that they face some shortage of HYV seeds, chemical fertilizers and pesticides during the peak cultivation season (Table 3.21). No capital inputs are found to be in use in the sample villages.

3.9 Credit

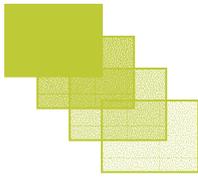
Village level information reveals that credits are mostly required to meet the sudden expenses. Friends and relatives followed by money lenders are the major sources of credit for the working class in the sample villages (Table 3.22). However, for small cultivators money lenders are the prime source followed by friends and relatives (Table 3.23). This could reveal an interesting feature that the destitute working class is not taken into confidence by professional money lenders in forwarding a loan.

3.10 Migration and employment and wage income earning

Village level information reveals that from 21 villages out of the 25 sample villages about 1000 people daily commute to work as labourers in neighbouring areas (Table 3.24). This is also reported that from some villages people commute to block and district head quarters for work. This is revealed that commuting to work helps to fetch on an average Rs. 3000 to 4000 to each worker every month. This is also found that from 18 villages about 400 people have migrated out for works not only within the district, but to outside the district as well (Table 3.25). Local intermediary and relatives have created the passage for in and out migration of the workers. The earning of the out migrated workers is reportedly on an average in between Rs. 3000 to 4000, but there are variations to this.

This has been reported that the wages of male casual labourers have increased in recent times in all the 25 sample villages. The average wage for land preparation, weeding and interculture, transplanting, harvesting and threshing is the same, but varies across the sample villages from Rs. 80 to 100 per day. The wage of the unskilled male workers is the same as the wages in the agriculture sector but there is some variation in few sample villages. The skilled male workforce on the other hand fetches Rs. 200 to 250 on an average in the sample villages. The government stipulated wage for various employment programmes in the district is Rs. 81, which largely corresponds to the average wage earned by an unskilled in the villages (Table 3.26).

One could see that there is no discrepancy of wages among male and female wage earners in agricultural and unskilled activities in the sample villages except for few (three) villages (Table 3.27). The wage rate for government employment programmes is also reported equal for female workers. However, skilled women workforce is reported



only in four sample villages and their wage rates are found to be lower than the male counterpart.

There are altogether 379 government job holders (of which 3 are from Hindu community) in the sample villages. However, one could see that concentration of government jobs in some villages is more (Table 3.30).

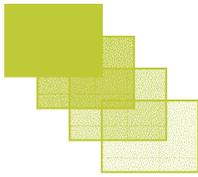
3.11 Rural Development programmes and beneficiaries assisted

People in most of the sample villages (altogether 22) have got assistance under the rural development programmes. SGSY is operational in two sample villages and NREGA in 22 villages (Table 3.50 and 3.51). The presence of NREGA is more reflected, and on an average, 78 people (about 2000 people in all villages) got benefited from each village under this programme. IAY has presence in 16 sample villages and altogether 285 households got benefited under this programme. There are altogether 37 male and 73 women beneficiaries under SGRY and 948 male and 621 female beneficiaries in the sample villages. All the beneficiaries are from Christian community under NREGA. However, in IAY there are four beneficiaries from Hindu community. There is presence of 119 old age pension recipients in 20 sample villages and all got the assistance in the post 2002-03 period (Table 3.32). Moreover, there are three recipients of widow pensioners in one sample village.

This is found during the field visit that family planning programme is operational in only one of the 25 sample villages. There is forestry programme in 12 sample villages and MLA local area development programme is operational in one village (Table 3.49). This is also found that two sample villages received sanctions under SGRY and 22 received under NREGA (Table 3.50). Job cards are distributed in 20 sample villages and altogether 1299 persons have received the job cards. However, information reveals that that there are more beneficiaries of NREGA than the distributed job cards (Table 3.57). Overall, as it is reported, the villagers are satisfied with the progress of NREGA in the villages where the programme is going on.

3.12 Common resource and facility uses

This is found that 22 villages of the 25 sample villages have at least one primary school within the villages. However, in eight villages, there are schools, which are of katcha structure and 11 have semi pucca structures. Further, it is found that in 6 villages there are schools, which have mud flooring (Table 3.38). This is also found that all the schools in the villages have more than one class rooms (Table 3.39). Physical structures of black board are available in 18 primary schools. However, desk and benches are available for all students in just 8 schools (Table 3.40). All the primary schools are found to be running with more than one teacher (Table 3.41). Village level figures of enrollment and attendance reveal that about 78 percent both boys and girls attend their school regularly (Table 3.33). Toilets and drinking water facilities are found to be available in just one primary school. Altogether 13 primary schools in the sample villages have mid day meal provision and it is reported that in most of the schools quality of the food is bad and receive irregular meals (Table 3.43 and 3.44). Text and note books are found to be provided in all the 19 primary schools, though in three schools text and note books are



available only with some students (Table 3.45). Only in the context of 9 village primary schools villagers perceive that the quality of teachers in the schools is good and in 11 schools their attendance is regular (Table 3.46 and 3.47).

This was reported in seven villages that doctors and lady health visitors visit the villages occasionally. ANMs presence is felt in just one village, malaria inspector in seven villages, health educators in three villages, vaccinator in 14 villages and ASHA in five villages. In these villages villagers are, however, getting their services not throughout the year (Table 4.48).

There is presence of good number of self-help groups in the sample villages. There are altogether 50 SHG groups found in 24 sample villages (Table 3.53).

In 17 sample villages, there is presence of ICDS centers and their utilisation is found good. On average, 65 students are utilising each center. The level of satisfaction of the parents on quality of services received and physical conditions of the ICDS centers, however, reportedly bad in most cases (Table 3.54 and 3.55).

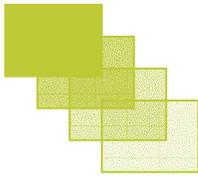
This is estimated that only in about one third of the households in 15 sampled villages possess the PDS cards (Table 3.56). However, only in some villages it is reported that availability and regularity of PDS goods are satisfactory (Table 3.57).

All villages in the sample except the Maha Center Bazar have access to common property forests. Altogether 12 villages in the sample have village ponds and 16 villages have pasture land. Reportedly there is no encroachment in these CPR in the sample villages.

3.13 Summary

Poor literacy and educational attainment causes concern in this backward district of Manipur. This is true that there are reasonable numbers of schools in the sample villages. However, what concern more are the poor infrastructure and the quality of services available in the educational institutions. Access to health facilities is also poor in the sample villages and these villages not usually frequented by the health personnel of the state.

There is need for institutional reforms in certain sectors of the district to usher the development process. The rich potentials in handicraft and artisan activities need removal of constraints in raw material availability and access to niche markets. Likewise the agriculture sector also needs attention for high value crops and modernization. Institutionalisation of credit system is another area which requires attention. ■



RESULT OF THE BASELINE SURVEY

4.1 Religion and Caste Composition

Altogether 704 households are surveyed in 25 sample villages in Chandel district of Manipur. All the households, except two, belong to the Christian community and all the households are from scheduled tribe communities.

4.2 Mother tongue

Mother tongue wise, altogether 702 households reported 11 local languages. These 11 languages spoken in the 25 surveyed villages are - Tangkhul, Mongsang, Lamkang, Anal, Maring, Khoibu, Moyon, Thodou Kuki, Zou, Aimol and Chouthe. Assamese and Bengali reported as the mother tongue in one household each.

4.3 Age and Sex

The total population in the 704 sample households of the district is 3295; of them 49.8 per cent is male and 50.2 per cent is female. The details of age group and sex wise distribution of the sample population are shown in Table 4.3. As the table indicates, 6.3 per cent and 18.8 per cent of the sample population are constituted by the children up to the age of 5 and 6-14 years of age group respectively. A little more than three per cent of the total population is of more than 60 years. Notwithstanding a small data base, the data indicate relatively a lower fertility and higher mortality rate among the people in the sample villages (Table 4.3).

4.4 Household Size

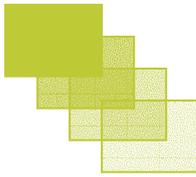
The lower fertility rate in the sample villages is also reflected in smaller size of sample households. This is found that about 68 per cent of the sample households are with up to five members and 31.7 percent with six to ten members (Table 4.4).

4.5 Marital Status

The incidence of early marriages is not prevalent in the Chandel district. This is found that just 14.7 percent population in the age group of 19 to 25 is married. The figure of married persons in the age group of 26 to 30 is 52.8 percent. This indicates that people in this district postpone marriage beyond the age of 30. However, it is found that 85.2 percent population in the age group of 31 to 45 is married in this district. All have implications on low fertility and lower proportion of children of the age of below 5 years.

4.6 Educational Status

The estimated literacy rate of the population in the sample villages overall is 89.5 percent. Literacy rate is more in case of male (91.6 percent) than the female (87.4



percent). The level of literacy in the sample households contradicts the village level data. This could be due to error in sampling. However, it is seen that among the literates, level of educational attainment for 63.7 percent is confined to the middle school level only. The same ratio for women is 66.7 percent. Overall it is reflected that level of educational attainment in most cases is confined up to the high school level (Table 4.6).

4.7 Occupation and Employment

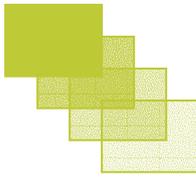
4.7.1 Occupation and Industry

This is reflected that farming is the main occupation for 77.2 percent workforce in the sample households of the district. This figure is 74.6 percent in the case of women workers. This can be mentioned that unlike many states of India, the women in hill districts of north eastern region work full time in the agriculture field apart from looking after the domestic chores. Apart from farming, production related works are the most important primary activity of the population in sampled villages. This is followed by services and sales related work (Table 4.7). This is reflected from Table 4.8 that apart from agriculture being the prime economic activity of people in the villages of the district production related works, sales and business work and certain unspecified activities are principle subsidiary activities of people particularly for women.

This is found that women constitute 42.8 percent of the main workforce (majority of them in farming). Coming to the context of secondary occupation, women constitute 43.4 percent of workforce majorities of them are involved in production related (50.3 percent) and sundry works (32.6 percent) (Table 4.8). There is reflection that women's activities are reflected and captured well in this district.

Industry wise distribution of the people with main occupation (Table 4.9) shows that among the male workers, 80.7 percent is engaged in cultivation, 9.7 percent in community social and personnel services and 1.6 percent in wholesale and retail trades. The figures for women workers is 79.4 percent in cultivation, 4.8 percent in non-agriculture based manufacturing, 3.5 percent each in wholesale and retail trade and community, social and personnel services. Overall this is reflected that women concentration is more in the activities of non-agriculture manufacturing and trades in the Chandel district. This, however, comes at the cost of not able to get engaged in salaried service sector jobs. Overall distribution of activities by the industrial categories reflects that the district is yet to diversify in the labour market context.

This is revealed that a large section of main workers (60.1 percent male and 65.7 percent women work for 100 to 180 days during the year in the district. Another 28.8 percent male workers and 21.3 percent women workers work in between 181 to 260 days during the year (Table 4.10). All reveal underemployment among the working class in the district. However, this is also true that in a thinly populated hill economy, with relative abundance of resources there is less need for a person to stress for entire year for livelihood security. This factor is also responsible for releasing the same workforce to perform certain secondary activities. The nature of these activities in the Chandel district is mentioned earlier. This is revealed that more than 53 percent male workers and 47 percent women workers work up to 100 days in a year and another 46.6 percent male



and 52.4 percent women work for 100 to 180 days in a year in subsidiary activities (Table 4.11). From the village level analysis we got some indication that these activities are mainly for self subsistence and has limited market orientation.

4.7.2 Self-Employment Scenario

This is true that many households in the villages of Chandel district are engaged in self-employment activities in non-agriculture sector, but with limited market orientation. The few households engaged in non-agriculture manufacturing, mostly in handloom and handicraft, are facing some problems in procuring institutional credit, assured supply of raw materials, power, lack of working place and access to market (Table 4.12). These are common problems in any entrepreneurial venture in our country context. However, in a space, which is closer to international boundary and has high prospective for trades under the present open policy regime requires serious institutional intervention.

4.7.3 Additional Employment and Preference

Although a sizeable section of the main labour force is engaged in agriculture, which has neither been adequately remunerative nor can generate substantial employment days throughout the year for a various reasons. The overall employment scenario supplemented by the figures given in Table 4.13 indicates the phenomenon of underemployment. In 666 sample households out of the 704 households is reporting need for additional employment. The preferred option for self-employment (73 percent) is found to be more among the underemployed and unemployed. This is followed by salaried jobs (24 percent), manual labour (1.1 percent) and services (1.9 percent).

4.7.4 Migrant Workers

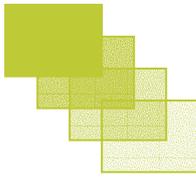
Very few workers have found migrating out of the villages surveyed for work. Out of the 20 workers migrated out one each has migrated out for service and professional work and other from some petty activities within the district (Table 4.14).

4.8 Land and other Assets

4.8.1 Cultivated Land: Ownership and Operational Holding

This was found that landlessness is more prominent among the villagers in Chandel district. More than 9 percent households in the sample found to be landless (Table 4.16). In the context of own cultivable land altogether 318 households (47 percent) have no cultivable land and 343 households (50.7 percent) are marginal farmers (Table 4.17).

This may be understood that ownership rights on land in the hills states of north east India is revolve around common property resources. This should not be understood that reported landless households have no access to land and livelihood. However, the efficiency issue of agriculture practices in common property resources and the subsequent process of privatisation is a debated issue in overall context of equity.



4.9 Livestock

This is revealed that most of rural households in Chandel district keep poultry (82.3 percent households) and have piggery (53.7 percent). Keeping of milch animal is not a common practice in the hill areas of north eastern states. About 15 percent households in the sample are with possession of draught animal (Table 4.19). This low proportion is explained by the fact that a limited proportion of households in this hill district have settled for permanent cultivation.

4.10 Ownership of Productive and other Assets

4.10.1 Agricultural Implements

The important agricultural implement among the sample households is plough, 43.8 percent households possess it. The other agricultural implements possessed by the sample households include fodder cutter (possessed by 19.2 percent sample households), spaying machine (possessed by 25.4 percent) and pump set (possessed by only two households) (Table 4.20). It amounts to say that agriculture in the district is still in a rudimentary state. However, the district clearly witnesses a situation common to the hill states of the north east region.

The other assets possessed by the sample households – transport, non-agriculture machineries, modern household assets and financial assets are found negligible.

4.11 Housing Status

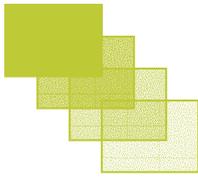
4.11.1 House Type and availability of living space

An important indicator of the economic status of a household is the type of house and the facilities available. The distribution of housing status among the sample households (Table 4.21) reveals that 99 percent families have their own house. No families found availed housing under the government housing scheme for the poor. This fact has a different interpretation. A community (village) bonded by strong social capital (common example in most of the villages in north eastern hills) requires less state support in making provision of housing for the members of the village community. The common practice is that the entire community of the villages participates in and contributes for construction of house for a fellow villager.

It has, however, been found that most of the houses constructed in the villages are katcha houses made of bamboo and thatches (Table 4.22). Most of the households (more than 82 percent) have more than two rooms in their houses (Table 4.23) indicating availability of adequate living space for the small family.

4.11.2 Domestic lighting and fuel use

The village survey reveals that 84 percent of the sample villages in the district have power supply. The findings from the household survey (Table 4.24) show that 92.5 percent households have electricity in their house.



In the non-electrified houses (Table 4.25), the survey reveals that the households are using mainly oil lamps and lantern for lighting.

Clean fuel for cooking is important for health. It is a serious consideration for women who, in most cases, are burdened with the task of cooking. As per Census 2001 data, just about 60 percent of all rural households in the country do not use any of the modern fuels such as LPG, electricity or even kerosene. The household survey reveals that just 17 percent households are using LPG along with kerosene and wood for cooking (Table 4.29) in the district.

4.11.3 Drinking water facilities

Availability and access to safe drinking water has been one of the basic objectives under ARWSP. The results of the household survey reveal that pond, river and stream are the major sources of drinking water for more than 81 percent households of the district. Apart from these sources, 6.3 percent households have access to public hand pumps and another 7 percent have supplied water taps in their dwelling for drinking water (Table 4.26). In case of most of the households (96.3 percent) water sources are located within 10 meters from their homes (Table 4.27).

4.11.4 Sanitation and drainage facility

An important requirement for sanitation is the presence of toilet facilities. About 96 percent of the sample households are found using pit latrine for defecation (Table 4.28). This amounts to say that use of sanitary latrine is not a practice at all in the sample villages.

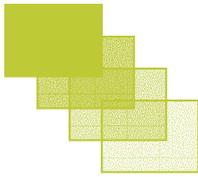
4.12 Indebtedness of rural households

No households in the sample found indebted. There is scope to believe that strong social capital along with non-availability of credit sources and lesser amount of material needs to be fulfilled are the factors not leading to the debt trap.

4.13 Income and Expenditure

The information about income of the sample households reveals a bright picture. This is found that just about 14 percent households have income, which is less than the poverty line figure of Rs. 22800 per annum (Table 4.30). As per the planning commission estimate of 2004-05, altogether 17.2 percent population in the state of Manipur is under poverty line.

Agriculture is found to be the main source of income for about 87 percent sample households of the district. However, Table 4.31 reflects that many households have diversified sources of income. Placing the earnings in different income category levels, it has been observed that majority of the households can not sustain and live comfortably depending on single source of income (leaving aside the salaried jobs). One could infer



from Table 4.31 that earning from artisans jobs, trading and agriculture as well as non-agriculture wages has been at bare minimum for majority of the households.

4.13.1 Family Expenditure

The estimated family expenditure of the sample households reflects that about 35 percent households spend less than Indian average family spending of Rs. 7200/ on cereal and pulses (Table 4.32). In the case of vegetables and protein foods, it is found that about 93 percent families spend less than what average rural India spends (Table 4.33).

Spending on Education, however, is more than the country average of Rs. 850 in the case of 75.4 percent households in Chandel district (Table 4.35). On health care, 43 percent sample households found spending more than Rs. 2100, which is approximately the average expenditure incurred by each family in rural India (Table 4.36). The expenditure on electricity and fuel for 86 percent sample households is in between Rs. 1000 to 5000 per annum, which corresponds to the country average of Rs. 3000/ per households (Table 4.38). This is found that majority of sample households (88.9 percent) are not spending on telephone. This is also found that most of the households need to keep aside a significant proportion of the budget for festival and ceremonies (Table 4.41 and 4.42).

4.14 Current Educational Status, Skill Training

4.14.1 Educational attainment by religion and gender

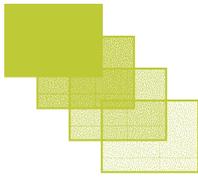
A general trend in the country is that illiteracy among the religious minorities is more than the Hindu community. This is more so in the case of the women. The data of current educational status of people in the age group of 5 to 25 years in the district of Chandel reflects that in this age group less than 2 percent male and 3 percent female were never enrolled or left schooling after enrolment. This reveals that environ for education in the sample villages inhabited exclusively by the Christian community is congenial (Table 4.44). This is also found that most of the students (80.5 percent) in the sample households go to private schools for schooling.

4.14.2 Current Educational Status of Children

Looking at level of educational attainment of people of the age group between 5 and 25 years in the villages of Chandel, one does not find any male female discrepancy. However, one could see that educational attainment level largely confined till the level of higher secondary schooling (Table 4.45). However, the proportion of girl student attending government school is marginally more (19.4 percent) than the male students (18 percent) (Table 4.46)

4.14.3 Access and facilities in education

It has been found that about 39 percent students of the sample villages are required to travel less than 2 kms to attend their school. This is found that more than 31 percent students travel more than 4 kms to attend schools. English is the medium of instruction in the case of more than 95 percent students. This was reported that about 4.4 percent



students continuing their education with regional languages as the medium of instruction.

This is found that very few students have received assistantships from government. This is reported that just 6.3 percent students have received books, 2.4 percent have received scholarships and 1.9 percent have availed the benefits of mid day meal scheme. The reason for meager proportion of students reporting availing government assistances is that in Chandel more than 80 percent students attends private schools. Few school dropouts were reported in the sample villages (Table 4.47) and most of them are female. The reasons for dropouts are found to be largely economic - the need to earn and/or unaffordable fees.

4.14.4 Aspiration of Parents on their Children

In case of 84.7 percent male students, the parents aspire that their boys should attain education at least up to graduation level. This figure in case of girl students is however, 73.1 percent (Table 4.48 and 4.49).

4.14.5 Attitude and Approaches in Skill development training

Interactions in the sample households reveal that family members in altogether 327 households (46.7 percent) are interested to take up skill development training (Table 4.50). Tailoring (30.6 percent) is the most preferred form of skill training followed by weaving (15.3 percent), computer operation (13.6 percent), Handicraft (6.8 percent), driving (6.2 percent) and electronics (5.4 percent) (Table 4.51). Overall these options reveal peoples' outlook to the changing job markets at present economic environment.

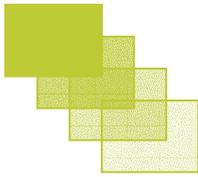
4.15 Present Health Scenario

The survey reveals that about 16.5 percent male members in the sample households have suffered from some kind of diseases during past one year. This figure for women is found to be 19.4 percent. Malaria is found to be the most commonly reported disease in case of male members in the sample households. Apart from malaria, typhoid, chicken pox, diarrhea are the most commonly reported diseases in the sample households (Table 4.52). This is reported that apart from women related diseases certain ailments of diarrhea, fever, cough and cold and chicken pox are found to be more common among the women members in the families.

This is found that more than 82 percent households are approaching private practitioners for treatment. Government hospitals are reportedly accessed by 8.6 percent households. Altogether 5.7 percent households found to be using both private and government health facilities (Table 4.53).

4.16 Maternal and Child Health

Complete coverage of immunization is found to be poor among the sampled households in Chandel district. To be precise just 19.2 percent of total male children and 21.8 percent female children have received the third dose of DPT vaccine. Technically, the figure of



complete immunization cannot be more than this figure of administration of DPT 3. Overall it is found that 79.8 percent male children and 93.6 percent female children have received the BCG vaccine, all doses of OPV are administered in case of 45.4 percent male and 61.5 percent female and Measeles vaccine is administered in case of 71.7 percent male and 78.2 percent female children (Table 4.54). These figures reflect certain interesting features. It seems that people take more seriously the case of BCG and measeles administration compared to OPV and DPT. The reason for this could be explained by the fact that people are not aware of the required multiple doses of OPV and DPT. Another feature revealed in the Chandel district is higher proportion of girl children has been administered vaccine compared to male children. This is found that most of the vaccinations are done through government agency.

The survey reflects that the women in the district have less access to government and institutional facilities for delivery of child. Just about 16 percent women in sampled households have used government or private facilities for delivery (Table 4.55). More than 70 percent women delivered their babies at home assisted by untrained dais or other family members (Table 4.56).

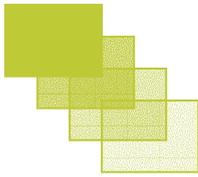
4.17 Poor and the PDS Support

More than 88 percent households in the sample revealed that they belong to BPL category (Table 4.57). However, the income figures of the households do not support this. This is revealed that 5 percent sample households possess the BPL ration card (Table 4.58); however, this is also reported that 26 percent of the households in the sample avail ration from PDS shops. On the other hand, just one household reported that they able to buy all the required items from the PDS shop. Lack of adequate supply through PDS (in case of about 93 percent households) is the reason for not able to buy the entire required quantity of items from PDS shop. Few (altogether 7 households) reported lack of money is the reason for not availing the entire required quantity of items from PDS shops (Table 4.60). Overall it can be commented that PDS does not play an important role in ensuring supply of basic household consumption goods in this remote and backward district. Distribution of ration card to an insignificant proportion of household could reveal two things. The delivery mechanism of PDS is ineffective in the district or as the income level of the sample households suggest there is no requirement to go for expansion of the PDS supports.

4.18 Awareness and Participation

4.18.1 Participation in government programmes

It has been argued for long that level of awareness and participation in political and socio-economic process are two important aspects of development approach. The Government of India has been initiating several specific programmes targeting the poor. The benefits of these programmes to a large extent depend on the level of awareness of the people about the programme. At the same time, any leakages in the process are to be properly identified for designing effective implementation.



The present baseline survey on Chandel district indicates that peoples' awareness on various schemes is not uniform. This is found that awareness level is more in the case of employment and educational programme rather than health and sanitation programmes. Altogether 99.3 percent found to be aware of NREGA, 54.8 percent aware of SGSY, IAY 75.6 percent, Sarvashiksha 64.9 percent, ICDS 78.6 percent and 70 percent households are aware of old age and widow pensions. This is found that just about 6.4 percent population aware of ARWSP, 12.2 percent about TSC and 6.8 percent about maternity benefits schemes (Table 4.61). However, the proportions of beneficiaries are much less compared to the level of awareness. Only in case of NREGA there found 92.9 percent beneficiary households in the sample.

4.18.2 Participation in the socio-political affairs

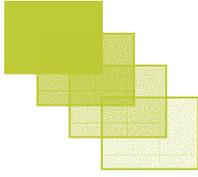
Recent development debates envisage a pro-active role from the people at the grassroots for successful democratic decentralisation, which in turn accelerates the process of growth and development. The 73rd and 74th amendments of the Constitution further the scope of democratic decentralisation in the country by putting local governance Institutions at the centre-stage. The process of democratic decentralisation can be most potent source of ushering development, particularly in rural areas, when people participate in the process.

The baseline survey shows that the level of political participation is high among the sample households at the state assembly elections (Table 4.62). This was reported that more than 97 percent households have voted in the last assembly election. In the case of parliamentary election this is found that just above 33 percent households voted. However, this poor participation in parliamentary election cannot be solely attributed to the lack of awareness. In this conflict prone state there could be other explanation for not participating in the political affairs at a particular point of time. The poor participation in panchayat election can be explained by the fact that not the entire state of Manipur or districts comes under PRIs.

About 49 percent households in the sample found to be part of Self Help Groups and about 89 percent found to be part of religious and social organizations (Table 4.63).

4.18.3 Conflict, insecurity and access to media and communication

Problems and losses related to conflicts, communal or otherwise, and the sense of insecurity is found to be more in this conflict ridden district where 80 percent sample households got trapped in the past (Table 4.64). The victims are mostly (97.7 percent) affected by conflicts which are communal in nature. This is reported that altogether 36 sampled households (6.4 percent) have lost life in violence, 97.7 percent households lost property, and the property lost was in major form in case of about 79 percent households. This is reported that about one fourth of the sample households feel insecure even at the present environment. As far as the access to media and communication is concerned, the baseline indicates overall a moderate level of access to media across the Christian community. This is found that more than 76 percent sample households listen to radio; about 22 percent watch TV and about 23 percent read newspapers (Table 4.65).



4.19 Aspirations of the Communities as reflected from the Survey

4.19.1 Most important facilities lacking in the villages

The respondents of the Christian community in Chandel district feel that drinking water, education and road communication are the most important facilities lacking in their villages. Health is also an important facility missing in the sample villages as perceived by the villagers (Table 4.66).

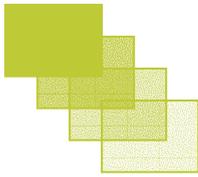
4.19.2 Most important deprivation as perceived by the families

Most of the families perceive that Health followed by housing and lands are the most important deprivations (Table 4.67). On the second option education, employment and skill development are also emerged as important deprivation for the sample households.

4.19.3 Perceived priorities for the welfare of minority communities

The respondents feel that education, health and employment opportunities should be the first priorities for the welfare of the minority communities (Table 4.68).

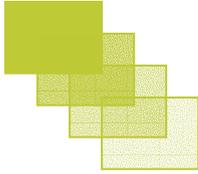
Broadly, it is observed that drinking water, access to educational and health facilities, road communication, and livelihood opportunities are the major concerns of the people in the villages of Chandel district of Manipur. ■



DEVELOPMENT DEFICITS

The overall analysis in earlier sections reveals that Chandel, on an average, is a performing district in some facets of development. Low fertility and remunerative income of a large section of households are some of the areas where the district has performed well. However, the baseline survey points out some development deficits which deserve immediate and adequate attention.

- There is need for institutional reforms in certain sectors of the district to usher the development process. The rich potentials in handicraft and artisan activities need removal of constraints in raw material availability and access to niche markets. The district is plagued by poor infrastructure facilities to initiate any self employment initiatives. This district being closer to the international boundary has bright prospects for trade under the open policy regime. There is need to stress more on self-employment initiatives, which could lead to diversification of workforce in this district otherwise dominated primarily by workforce engaged in agriculture.
- Information reveals that agriculture in this district is still in rudimentary state like many areas of north eastern region. The situation demands effective land use plan. The agriculture sector needs attention for high value crops and modernization. Institutionalisation of credit system is another area which requires attention.
- Drinking water and sanitation facilities are in bad state in the villages of the district. There is need of making more provisioning through state interventions in the villages. School sanitation in the district, as revealed by the baseline survey, is also in poor state.
- Access to educational and health institutions are difficult in the villages largely because of poor connectivity. Communication and connectivity is perceived as an important development deficit in the villages.
- This is true that there are reasonable numbers of schools in the sample villages. However, what concern more are the poor infrastructure and the quality of services available in the educational institutions. Access to health facilities is also poor in the sample villages and these villages not usually frequented by the health personnel of the state.
- The baseline reveals poor quality of infrastructure in schools, services in the form of mid day meals and poor quality and irregularity of teachers. The ICDS facilities in the villages are also in poor state though the services availed by many.
- The survey reveals missing government health facilities in most of the sample villages. Poor presence and infrequent visits of health personnel in the villages costs the villagers dear. This is also found that awareness level of people is less in health

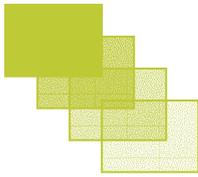


and sanitation programmes than other government programmes on educational or employment.

■ Reproductive health requires serious attention in the villages of the district. In most of the cases child delivery takes place at home. Similarly, very few women are found receiving pre and post natal care.

■ Insecurity feeling among the communities in this conflict ridden district is widely prevalent. This could have affect in accessing livelihood and ensuring decent living of the people.

■ In terms of relative deprivation, common perception of people captures drinking water, educational access, road communication, access to health facilities and livelihood opportunities in the villages of Chandel district of Manipur. ■



LIST OF SURVEYED VILLAGES

Sl. No.	VILLAGE
1	Charangching Khunou
2	Aimol Kombirei
3	Toupokpi
4	Lamkang Khunou
5	Nungourok
6	Salemthar
7	Purum Tampak
8	Khulsaibang
9	Hringkhu
10	Wakshu
11	Biyang
12	Paraolon
13	Bongjang
14	Lunghu
15	Thorcham
16	Maha Centre Bazar
17	Thinghangphai
18	Molnom
19	Molnoi
20	Machi
21	Ringpam
22	Larong Khunou
23	Kangoi Khullen
24	Tengnoupal
25	Laininghu