

Executive Summary of Shrawasti, Uttar Pradesh

Background

The Ministry of Minority Affairs (GOI) has identified 90 minority concentrated backward districts using important eight indicators of socio-economic development and amenities based on 2001 census data with a purpose to improve all these districts and bring it all India level through a multi sector development plan under the 11th five year plan. Since it is expected that there must be changes in those indicators after 2001, a base line survey has been conducted to inform a multi sectoral development plan with the latest deficits and priorities. In order to implement this, ten indicators (eight has been identified by the Ministry) along with two additional indicators for assessing the health status have been used. Therefore, the baseline survey of Minority concentrated districts in Uttar Pradesh has been started and Shrawasti is one of the Minority concentrated backward district in the State. We have taken the most recent information referring to the official documents and also selected 30 surveyed villages in order to find out the gaps and deficits in the district. In conformity with the gaps, certain important interventions are recommended for further development of the district.

District Profile (Based on Census, 2001)

- The district has 3 Tehsils, 5 blocks and 536 inhabited villages with 97 percent of the total population inhabited in the rural areas. Moreover, the density of population is 461, which is lower compared to the state's average of 690.
- Literacy rate of Shrawasti district is 33.8 percent, in which male and female literacy rate are 46.7 percent and 18.6 percent respectively. This clearly reflects that the literacy rate in Shrawasti including male and female is substantially lower in comparison to state's literacy rate.
- There is substantial concentration of Minority mainly Muslims in the district. As against the State's average of 18.5 percent, the Muslim community constitutes 25.61 percent followed by Christian (0.13 percent), Sikh (0.41percent), Buddhist (0.18 percent) and Jain (0.12 percent) in the district.

- The overall work participation rate in the district is 41 percent. However, the WPR of the Muslim community is 39 percent, which is marginally lower the district average.
- Most of the villages lacks the basic infrastructure, such as 77 percent lacks all whether road, 60 percent of the households lacks permanent houses, number of PHC is substantially lower (1.02 per lakh of population) compared to UP. Some of the basic infrastructure such as number of primary schools (per lakh of population), number of telephone connection and post office per lakh population, length of district road per lakh population are substantially lower compared to the State averages.

Survey Findings

In Shrawasti district, the survey of villages in 2008 result clearly depicts that out of first eight indicators six important indicators are lagging behind all India averages. The last two indicators are also lagging behind the average of all India level. Though, the results of all India figures are little earlier (2005) than the Shrawasti figures, yet most of the indicators in Shrawasti are substantially lagging behind the all India averages.

Development Priorities as per Eight Indicators

1. Electricity

As per the gap indicated between Shrawasti and all India level of electrified households, only 8 percent of the households are electrified in the surveyed villages of Shrawasti and rest 92 percent of the households are not electrified. Moreover, only 6 percent of the household are electrified in Muslim families, where as it marginally higher (8.58 percent) in case of Hindu households. Out of 915 surveyed households, only 75 households are electrified. Therefore, the district lags behind all India level by huge of 60 points.

2. Toilet Facility in the Houses

This is another important areas need proper attention. So far as toilet facilities are concerned, only 7 percent of total household have toilet facility within the house, where as rest 93 percent of the households either have outside facility or do not have the facility.

Lower proportions (3.82 percent) of Muslim households have toilet facility within the house. Moreover, only 0.22 percent of households have septic tank latrines in the surveyed villages. Nearly 94 percent of the households do not have latrine facility. Therefore, the district lags behind all India level by huge margin of 32 points, so far as close set of latrines are concerned.

3. Pucca Houses

This district suffer from another important development indicator of all whether pucca houses. As per the survey results that only 27 percent of the total households have pucca houses and larger proportion of households in the Hindu families (29 percent) have these houses than the Muslim households (23 percent). Again, substantial proportion of households (39 percent) is having thatched houses. Nearly 49 percent of the Muslim households have the thatched houses, which constitute a larger proportion than the households in Hindu community.

Development Gaps and Priorities for the Multi-sector Plan

Sl. No	Indicators	Shrawasti, 2008 (survey results)	All India 2005	Development Gaps Between All India and District	Development Priority of the District
		1	2	3=1-2	4
1	Rate of Literacy	56.68	67.3	-10.62	5
2	Rate of Female literacy	43.61	57.1	-13.49	4
3	Work Participation rate	40.55	38.0	2.55	8
4	Female work participation rate	31.87	21.5	10.37	6
5	Percentage of households with Pucca walls	27.27	59.4	-32.13	3
6	Percentage of households with safe drinking water	85.87	87.9	-2.03	7
7	Percentage of households with electricity	8.21	67.9	-59.69	1
8	Percentage of households with Close set latrines	6.79	39.2	-32.41	2
9	Percentage of fully vaccinated children	2.75	43.5	-40.75	-
10	Percentage of Child Delivery in a Health facility	10.89	38.7	-27.81	-

Source: Survey data of Shrawasti (Col.1), different official documents of 2005 at all India level (Col.2).

4. Literacy Rate with more emphasis on Female

So far as literacy rate is concerned both total literacy and female literacy lag substantially to all India level. Female literacy and total literacy ranks four and five respectively, so far as gaps between this district and all India level data is concerned.

Household survey clearly depicts that only 44 percent of the females are literate. This survey also depicts higher education by the female is also very negligible. This is a critical area as the level literacy plays a crucial role on the development of overall socio-economic condition of the people in the society. In the study villages of Shrawasti, the level of illiteracy is very high, i.e., 43 percent in all the religious groups. However, illiteracy rate (49 percent) is higher in Muslim community than that of (40 percent) Hindu community. Again, the literacy rate under primary or informal education and up to primary education in all the communities is nearly 41 percent. This is also depicted that the literacy rate under these categories in the Muslim community is higher than those of in the Hindu community. In other words, only 16 percent are educated starting from upper primary to post graduation and technical and other qualification. Moreover, literacy rate under these categories in Muslim community is very much lower than those of Hindu community. Again, the literacy rate having graduation, post graduation and professional degree is very much lower (less than one percent) in the all the families in the surveyed villages.

5. Safe Drinking Water

It is observed that own hand pump and tube well is the major source of drinking water for all the communities residing in the villages, which is considered as one of the best source of safe drinking water. Nearly 69 percent of the total households have the facility of hand pump and tube well. It is also observed that 75 percent of the Muslim households have this facility, which is higher than that of Hindu households. Public hand-pump and tube-well is another source of drinking water, on which nearly 11 percent of the total household depend on drinking water. Therefore both public and private pump/tube-well may be considered as sources of safe drinking water, as we have not encountered any case on un-hygienic and pollution of drinking water through these sources.

6. Work Participation Rate especially for Female

So far as work participation rate is concerned, both work participation as well as female work participation is higher than those of at the all India level. In fact, 70 percent

of total working force are still dependant on agriculture and allied activities followed by secondary and tertiary sector in the surveyed villages in Shrawasti. However, only agriculture constitutes nearly 50 percent of the total labour force in the surveyed villages. Low productivity and low income from agriculture aggravate the poverty situation. Another area of concern is that the level of forced migration is very high. Low level of higher education and migration at the young stage confirms high level of vulnerability. Because, nearly 20 percent of the total migration takes place in the age group of below 20 years and these types of migration is higher in Muslim Community than that of Hindu community. The characteristics of migration depicts that most of the migrants (91 percent) are cultivators and the proportion is same in the both Hindu and Muslim families. Secondly, it is observed that most of the migrants are working outside the state in urban centers under short term basis. Most importantly, larger proportion of the respondents have expressed their opinion on getting training on tailoring, animal husbandry, cottage industry in these villages. Therefore, it is clearly reflected that development of rural based handicrafts and artisan and its market facility is an important area for creation of additional employment in the district.

Additional areas of Interventions

- Access to health facility is an important area of concern. Shrawasti is lagging behind both the two important health indicators by 41 point and 28 point from all India level. Institutional delivery of child is only 10 percent of the total cases and only 3 percent of the children are fully vaccinated. Number PHC is very low, i.e., 1.02 per lakh of population as against 2.5 in UP. Similarly, other medical facilities are also very poor compared to the Country's average. This may be one of the important reasons for having indebtedness at the household level as health expenditure is borne by borrowing.
- Another important area of concern is poor social security measures for reduction of poverty level. Only 37 percent of the total respondents have the BPL cards. Most importantly, more than 70 percent are claiming that insufficient in quantity and un-timely available are two important reasons for failure of PDS system.

- Improvement in delivery of institutional credit to the agricultural farmers would help for higher productivity, higher income and better life.
- Training facility on vocational subjects such as tailoring, animal husbandry, cottage industry along with the market facilities to be developed.
- The important area of concern in the district that Shrawasti is badly affected by frequent floods every year. Un-control of river water of the River Rapti in the rainy season submerge to many of villages destroy the households, crops, roads, electric pole and many other public infrastructure. As per the evidence produced by the villagers during the survey period, submergence of river water has spreaded nearly 10 kms and created another rout. By the way destroyed many private and public infrastructures. Therefore, proper attention is needed for construction of few embankments in the low areas of the River Rapti to safe the property of the villagers.