

BASELINE SURVEY OF MINORITY CONCENTRATION DISTRICT

Executive Summary of Gulbarga District (Karnataka)

Background:

- The Ministry of Minority Affairs (GOI) has identified 90 minority concentrated backward districts using eight indicators of socio-economic development and amenities based on 2001 census data with a purpose to improve the socio economic conditions and bring them to the all India level through a multi-sector development plan under the eleventh five year plan. Since, it is expected that there must be changes in those indicators after 2001; a baseline survey has been conducted to formulate the multi-sectoral development plan with the latest deficits and priorities.
- Gulbarga district in Karnataka state is one of the most backward districts in the State and occupies a lowest position in economic as well as human development. The district is a draught prone area which further adds to the vulnerability of the poor and the minorities living in the district.

District profile (2001 census based)

- Gulbarga district is primarily a rural district; 72 % of the total population lives in the rural areas (1360 villages). Urban population is mainly concentrated in Gulbarga, Chittapur, Sedam and Yadgir Blocks. (Census 2001).
- There is a substantial concentration of minority population in the district. Muslim population constitutes 11.6 percent of total rural population as against the state average of 7.6 percent. Minorities form 18 percent of population (State Average 10.3 percent) and Scheduled Caste Population constitutes 25 percent of total population (state average 18.4 percent).
- The rural literacy rate is 43.1 percent, much below the state and national averages. The female literacy rate is also very low, i.e., 29.4%. This indicates that 70 percent of rural women are deprived of access to knowledge, information and education.
- The overall work participation rate is 43.12 percent. It is only 34.9 percent in case of female workers. 67 percent of main workers are engaged in agriculture and 40 percent of them are working as agricultural labourers. 25 percent of the total workers work as marginal workers. 30.4 percent of the workers work in Service sector. Though the work participation rate is high, the availability of employment in dry land agriculture is very less. Further majority of these workers work as casual agricultural Labourers and workers in informal sector. This

indicates the low levels of livelihoods of the people in the district. The workers in informal sector are increasing in recent years where they have to work with low wages and insecurity of employment.

- There are basic deficiencies in infrastructure at village level. This has been a major detrimental factor for slow growth in rural areas. There is acute shortage of Health and drinking water facilities in rural areas. Only 29 percent of the villages have PHC within a distance of 5 Kms and only 13.4 percent of the villages have a Maternity and Child Welfare Center within a distance of 5 Kms. (State average 23.6 percent). The number of taps per lakh of population is only 34 as against the state average of 43. Similarly, there is also shortage of Tube wells and Hand pumps. State average is the minimum benchmark that needs to be reached on priority basis. There is also shortage of higher level educational institutions and credit and finance institutions within a distance of 5 kms. A significant gap is also observed in availability of banking institutions and the infrastructure for providing modern agricultural inputs to the farmer.

Sl. No.	Indicators	Gulbarga 2008	All India 2005	Gap Between All India and District	Priority based on the gap
		1	2	(3=1-2)	4
1	Rate of literacy	51.3	67.3	-16.0	2
2	Rate of female literacy	43.1	57.1	-14.02	3
3	Work participation rate	44.26	38	6.26	6
4	Female work participation rate	32.53	21.5	11.03	7
5	Percentage of households with pucca walls	65.22	59.4	5.82	5
6	Percentage of households with safe drinking water	74.78	87.9	-13.12	4
7	Percentage of households with electricity	90.78	67.9	22.88	8
8	Percentage of households with water close set latrines	5.00	39.2	-34.2	1
9	Percentage of fully vaccinated children	57.78	43.5	14.28	-
10	Percentage of child delivery in a health facility	23.35	38.7	-15.35	-

Note: (1) Survey data of the district (Col. 1) pertains to the rural area only, but all India data (Col. 2) pertains to total.

(2) Data in Col 2 from Sl. No. 5 to 8 pertains to year 2005-06 from NFHS-3 and the rest of the data in Col. 2 pertains to the year 2004-05 from NSSO.

Socio-economic Conditions and other Amenities in 2008 – Major findings of the survey

- In 2008 (based on survey findings), Gulbarga district lagged behind the all India average in four (50 percent) out of eight indicators and also lagged behind the all India level in terms of one more health related indicator. The table below shows the gap between all India and district figures vis-à-vis ten indicators and

prioritizes the development intervention vis-à-vis eight indicators. The district figure is based on the survey findings (2008) and all India figures are of 2004-05 and 2005-06. The distance from the all India figures may be higher, as all India data are a little old.

Development Priorities as per Eight Indicators:

1. Sanitation

The toilet facilities are seriously lacking in rural households in the district. Only 5 percent of the households in rural areas have this facility. Others practice open defecation. There is no significant difference across the Hindu and Muslim Households which indicates poor level of sanitation in rural areas. Sanitation is an important requirement of better health of the people. This situation prevails in the district despite of the implementation of Total Sanitation Campaign programme which aims at universalisation of sanitation facilities by 2009; the district is nowhere near the target. The gap between the district and the Nation is 34.2 percent. Drainage facilities are also not available in rural areas. The multi sectoral plan should bridge this basic development gap in the district.

2. Literacy and education – Focus on Female literacy

Literacy is another grey area that needs urgent attention. The literacy rate of the district 51.3 percent is well below the state average of 66.6 percent (2001) and National average of 67.3 percent. The female literacy is only 43.1 percent much lower than the State (56.6 in 2001) as well as National average (57.1 percent). The rural female literacy rate in 2001 was only 29.4 percent. The progress in literacy is very slow though the district is brought under District Primary Education Programme and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Education is an important tool for empowerment of Marginalized groups therefore it should get required focus in Multi sectoral plan. The findings indicate that Muslim Households lack higher levels of skills and education which is essential for higher level of earnings. Further the asset base of these households is very low; therefore, education and skills are only the powerful tools for their empowerment. High schools for girls with Hostel facilities are very essential to promote female literacy and empowerment. Scholarships and Education loans should be given with greater flexibility to enable the children from the poor families to get higher education. Primary schools with free food, residential facilities and sports and games facilities should be started to promote interest in education among the children- especially for the Muslim Children. The schools should start with Urdu Medium and may be slowly converted into Kannada medium at higher primary level to help them to get access to education.

3. Safe Drinking Water

It is an issue of serious concern that 25 percent of the households in rural areas are denied access to safe drinking water. The coverage has increased to 74.78 percent due to implementation of many rural water supply schemes in recent years. These schemes need to be implemented more effectively in near future. During the survey, it is observed that many mini water supply schemes and Piped water supply schemes are not functioning regularly due to leakages and breakages. There is no adequate provision for maintenance in the budget. The repairs are also delayed causing lot of inconvenience and additional strain on rural women. The rural households are thus deprived of a basic requirement of human life. The plan should make provision for home connections and ensure adequate and regular supply of water.

4. Employment Opportunities

Though the work participation rate of the district is above the national average, the employment is mainly in dry land agriculture which is both insecure and less remunerative. Therefore, employment needs to be given top priority. This is because; the present employment does not fetch enough livelihood to the people. The average male wage rate for agricultural operations is only Rs. 50 per day and employment is available for only 6-7 months in a year. The female wage rate is only Rs. 30 per day. A large proportion of women workers out of the total workers, work as marginal workers.

The service sector is growing in the district. There is a need to sustain its growth and increase the participation of these households in this sector through provision of credit, marketing and skills. Promotion of entrepreneurship among the Muslim community may help them to develop the small industries and trade. The focus of the plan should be on training and skill development in these specific areas.

Additional Areas of Intervention

1. Access to health facilities is another area of concern, as 70 % of the villages are without any medical facilities. The PHCs are also not functioning effectively due to shortage of Staff and medicines. As a result the poor households have to depend on private doctors to meet their health requirements. It is observed that many of the households have incurred heavy debts to meet medical expenditure. Institutional delivery of child is only 23 percent of the total cases. There is a need to increase the provision of health facilities. A provision for mobile health facilities should be made to reach the people living in remote villages, Tandas and small hamlets.
2. Institutional borrowing is quite low due to lack of such institutions in nearby villages. 49 percent of the borrowings are from the traditional sources (Hindus 45 percent and Muslims 60%). Therefore, expansion of credit facilities should be given adequate attention in Multi Sectoral plan.

- 3 Expansion of irrigation facilities is essential to reduce insecurity of livelihood from dry land agriculture. Emphasis on watersheds and minor irrigation will help to attain this.
- 4 Roads and Transport facilities are inadequate in rural areas more so in remote and border villages. Access to paved roads is available only in 64 percent of the villages. This percentage is as low as 42 percent in Shahapur Taluka. Development of transport facilities is essential to improve the connectivity of the people.