

## BASELINE SURVEY OF MINORITY CONCENTRATION DISTRICT

### *Executive Summary Parbhani District (Maharashtra)*

#### **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 all these indicators 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 inform the multi-sectoral development plan with the latest deficits and priorities.
- Parbhani, one of the most backward districts of Maharashtra, which is in general underdeveloped mainly in the availability of infra-structure than the human development index in the 90 minority-concentration districts.

#### **District Profile:**

According to the 2001 Census, the population of the district is 10.4 lakhs, among this near 70% resides in rural and rest i.e., 30% is in urban population.

The literacy rate is 55%, in which male literacy rate is 66% and female literacy is 43%.

As per the religious distribution of population, 83% of the population is Hindu, 6% is Muslim, and 9% is Buddhist.

The population of Scheduled Castes (SCs) in the district is 10.9% and population of Scheduled Tribes (STs) is 13.4%.

#### **Development Gaps and Priorities for the Multi-sector Plan**

Sl. No.	Indicators	Parbhani 2008	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	68.2	67.3	0.90	6
2	Rate of female literacy	55.2	57.1	-1.92	5
3	Work participation rate	44.6	38.0	6.62	7
4	Female work participation rate	32.1	21.5	10.64	8
5	Percentage of households with <i>pucca</i> walls	53.9	59.4	-5.51	3
6	Percentage of households with safe drinking water	73.7	87.9	-14.24	2
7	Percentage of households with electricity	63.1	67.9	-4.79	4
8	Percentage of households with water closet latrines	6.7	39.2	-32.53	1
9	Percentage of fully vaccinated children	92.8	43.5	49.34	.
10	Percentage of child deliveries in a health facility	62.5	38.7	23.76	.

**Literacy:** In terms of literacy, the condition of the district (68.15) is on par with the all-India level (67.3%). But the educational standard is low as around 65% of the population is educated till just the primary level. As there is not much of a positive link between education and the nature of occupation, the aspiration level for education of children is also very low.

**Female Literacy:** In terms of female literacy, though there is a relatively minor deficit (55.2%) compared to the all-India level (57.1%), so the situation is not as worrisome for the district compared to others. However, there is a dearth of separate girls' schools in the district. The education level of girls is also very low as more than 80% never cross the primary and lower secondary school levels. One can see this differential when the aspiration of parents regarding the education of male and female children is concerned; the aspiration for girls' education is of a very low standard.

**Work Participation Rate:** The work participation rate is better in the district (44.6%) than at the all-India level (38%). The majority of the workers (around 90%) is directly or indirectly dependent upon agriculture and allied activities. Very few are in salaried jobs and in the secondary sector. As the income from agriculture is low, this adversely affects the income and standard of life of the people.

**Female Work Participation Ratio:** Continuing with the trend in work participation, the female work participation ratio (32%) is better than the all-India level (21.5%). But the participation is limited to those areas which are combined with household work. There is very little participation in salaried jobs and in the secondary sector. This is also related to the low level of education of the females.

**Housing:** Only 53.9% houses have *pucca* walls, which is less than the all-India average of 59.4%. At the social level this is even more skewed as Buddhists have even fewer houses with *pucca* walls.

**Drinking Water:** In terms of safe drinking water, there is a huge gap. While at the all-India level 87.9% households have access to safe drinking water, in this district it comes down to 73.7%. This is the second biggest deprivation faced by the people in the district.

**Electricity:** In the district 63% households have electricity as against the all-India average of 67.9%. Thus there is a little gap in the electrification of the households.

**Latrines:** There is a huge dearth of in-house toilet facilities in the district and the development gap is around five times the all-India average. While at the all-India level 39.2% have in-house latrine facilities, in the district it goes down to 6.7%, with some sections of population who do not have any latrine facilities.

**Vaccination of Children and Child Delivery:** The situation in the district is comparatively better than the all-India situation as in both these indicators the district is placed very high.

**Areas for Future Intervention:** There are some areas which need special attention. The first is the education sector. The educational achievement of the people in the district is high in terms of literacy rate, but very low in terms of quality. As the majority is educated below the matric level, they are not getting quality education. The second area of intervention lies in production-related issues. As the dependence on agriculture is overwhelming, it affects the income of the people and consequently, the quality of life. The third area for intervention is in proper hygiene, particularly in availability of latrines. Finally, as the area comes under the dry zone, the availability of drinking water should also get priority.

