

Baseline Survey of Minority Concentrated Districts

West Kameng District Arunachal Pradesh



OMEO KUMAR DAS INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

A Research Institute of Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi and Government of Assam

VIP Road, Upper Hengrabari, Guwahati 781036 www.okd.in, email: dkdscd@yahoo.co.in

Executive Summary





Baseline Survey of Minority Concentrated Districts

Housing
Sanitation
Delivery in
Hospital
Literacy

West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh

he purpose of the Baseline Survey of the Minority Concentration Districts (MDCS) was to assess the development deficits in the district and identification of priority areas for policy interventions to be structured in the line of the Prime Minister's 15- Point Programme, which will be in the form of a Multisector Development Programme (MsDP) for the entire district. In order to do this, ten indicators - eight of which were identified and applied by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India for identifying the Minority Concentrated Districts across the country along with two additional indicators for assessing health status have been used. Since the basic purpose of the Baseline was specified as a pre-requisite for preparation of Multi-sector District Development Plan (MsDP) for the Minority Concentrated Districts (MCDs) characterised by relative backwardness and to bring those district at least to the national level, most recent national level official estimates were taken for finding the development deficits in terms of the ten selected indicators. Taking deficit so derived as weights, the indicators representing specific sectors are ranked on a ten point score-scale. The exercise results in following relative ranking for the district of Tawang. The national estimates of the selected indicators (1-8) are estimated on the basis of NSS 2004 -2005 rounds while (9-10) are from NFHS – 3 with due approval from the Ministry.

Developmental deficits in the district and their priority ranking

S1. No	Indicators	Survey Result	Estimate for India	Deficit	Priority Ranking attached
Socio-economic indicators					
1	Rate of literacy	61.08	67.30	-6.22	4
2	Rate of female literacy	55.00	57.10	-2.10	5
3	Work participation rate	72.82	38.00	34.82	8
4	Female work participation rate	60.51	21.50	39.01	9
Basic amenities indicators					
5	Percentage of pucca houses	32.03	59.40	-27.37	1
6	Percentage of households with access to safe drinking water	96.22	87.90	8.32	6
7	Percentage of households with sanitation facilities	18.24	39.20	-20.96	2
8	Percentage of electrified households	96.00	67.90	28.10	7
Health indicators					
9	Percentage of fully vaccinated children	84.65	43.50	41.15	10
10	Percentage of institutional delivery	25.10	38.70	-13.60	3



- Compared to the national scenario, the first priority area for an effective development intervention in the district should be rural housing, making provision for pucca houses for the rural poor of the district under the existing centrally sponsored housing programme. As pointed out in the table above, the difference between the existing scenario of the district and the national average is quite prominent.
- The problem of sanitation has been a major problem throughout the country. The situation of the surveyed does not stand for a hygienic sanitation status of the villagers. So, the multi-sector development plan for West Kameng should address to this problem in planning housing amenities.
- Excepting in view the development deficits, the third priority of the multi-sector development plan for West Kameng is to work out a feasible strategy for promoting institutional delivery. It may be done in collaboration with the National Rural Health Mission.
- Enhancement of literacy rate in the district is to be the fourth priority of the multi-sector development plan for West Kameng. The present baseline survey has reflected that the rural areas are highly deprived of required education infrastructure leading to an alarming rate of illiteracy. The requirements are better education infrastructure, scholarship etc. In addition to incentives, the religious minority population should be sensitized.
- While developing strategy for promotion of literacy in the district, attention should be paid to enhance female literacy. The rate of female literacy in the surveyed region is below the national average.
- Next, provision for safe drinking water deserves attention, although the survey result is a little above than the national estimate of provisions for safe drinking water.
- The present baseline survey establishes that although the work participation rate for both male and female workers is above the national estimate level, yet, it would be essential to enquire into the quality of work participation. Enhancement of the work-participation is assigned the next priority.
- The work participation rate of the female should be the equal priority in formulation of development plan for the district. The present study provides sufficient insights for effective planning for grater female work participation in the district. For instance, besides highlighting the problems of self-employed people in the district, the baseline survey has clearly pointed out the kind of skill sought by the people.



- In case of electricity, the state of Arunachal Pradesh is naturally endowed with tremendous capacity for hydro-electricity generation. However, steps must be taken to ensure sustainability and surplus production to add to the state revenue.
- The child immunization rate is encouraging in the studied region. However the multi-dimensional plan should aim at the cent per cent child immunization in the forthcoming district plan. ■