



Baseline Survey of Minority Concentrated Districts

District Report

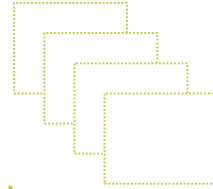
CHURACHANDPUR

Study Commissioned by
Ministry of Minority Affairs
Government of India

Study Conducted by



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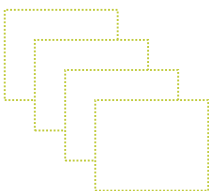


Commissioned by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, this Baseline Survey was planned for 90 minority concentrated districts (MCDs) identified by the Government of India across the country, and the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi coordinates the entire survey.

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 Churachandpur district of Manipur.

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





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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 Muslims, in India. The Sachar Committee, 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.

In order that the benefits of schemes and programmes of government reach the relatively disadvantaged segments of society, districts having a substantial minority population were identified as Minority Concentrated Districts (MCDs). Along with the Based on 2001 Census, using two backwardness parameters at the district level, - (1) specific socio-economic indicators in terms of literacy rate; female literacy rate; work participation rate; and female work participation rate and (2) basic amenities indicators 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 Churachandpur were identified, and 30 households from each village was selected for the sample survey. The present report is based on the data gathered from the total 900 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. ■



A BRIEF PROFILE OF CHURACHANDPUR

2.1 Area and Location

Churachandpur district is situated in the south west part of Manipur. The district is bounded by Senapati district in the north, Bishnupur and Chandel districts in the east, Assam and Mizoram in the west and Myanmar on the south. The total geographical area of Churachandpur district is 4,570 sq.km. It lies between 23° 55'N and 24° 30'N Latitudes and between 92° 59'E to 93° 50'E longitudes. The topography of the district is hilly.

The district got its name “Churachandpur” from the Manipur king Churachand Maharaja. It is home to 2, 23,866 people, as per 2001 census, dominated by 15 ethnic groups like the Chin, Kuki, Mizo, Naga and Zomi.

2.2 Administrative Division

The district is divided into 5 revenue sub-divisions, namely Churachandpur, Singnat, Thanlon, Parbung (Tipaimukh) and Henglep. There are 6 Tribal Development Blocks except for Churachandpur sub-division where there are two Blocks namely Churachandpur and Samulamlan. The sub-division officer also functions as the Block Development Officer and they are the main implementing agencies for the schemes undertaken under the DRDA such as EAS, JGSY etc.

Administrative Divisions	No. of units
Sub-divisions	5
Tribal Development Blocks	6
Village Authority	612
Sub-Deputy Collector Centre	9
Vidhan Sabha Seats	6
District Council Seats	20

2.3 Resource Base

2.3.1 Population

As per the census 2001, the district has total population of 227905 which constitute 10.52% of the total state population. The density of population per sq km is 50. The schedule tribe and schedule caste population form the 93.2 percent and 0.9 percent of the total population respectively.

Table 2.1 Total population by major religious groups in Churachandpur district

Religion	Person
Hindu	10538 (4.62)
Muslim	2573 (1.13)
Christians	213186 (93.54)
Total population	227905

Source: census of India 2001. Note: Figures in brackets are p.c. to total



The overwhelming majority of the tribal population is Christians. The decadal variation of population growth rate shows a declining trend- from 37.41 percent in 1971-81 the growth rate of population decreased to 30.71 percent in 1981-91. During 1991-2001 the growth rate decreased further and stood at 29.34 percent.

2.3.2. Sex Ratio

As per the Census 2001 estimates, Churachandpur district has the second highest sex-ratio of 944 female per 1000 males among the districts in Manipur. However, the sex ratio for the Hindus is abysmally low. The sex ratio of the SC population in the district is 433 females per thousand males while the same for ST is 966. This shows that Majority of the SCs who are Hindus have low sex ratio.

Table 2.2 Sex-ratio by religion in Churachandpur district

Religion	Sex ratio (females per '000 males)
All religion	944
Hindu	369
Muslims	728
Christians	987

Source: census of India 2001.

2.3.3. Literacy Rate

The literacy rate in the district as per the estimates of Census 2001 is 70.6 percent. The male and female literacy rates in the district are 77.7 percent and 63.1 percent respectively.

Table 2.3 Literacy rate by religious group in Churachandpur district

Religion	Literacy rate		
	Total	Male	Female
Hindu	80.50	88.48	58.33
Muslim	65.72	75.67	52.06
Christians	70.11	76.84	63.30

Source: Census of India 2001.

Religion wise literacy status reveals that Hindus have the highest literacy rate. However gender segregated figures show that female literacy rate in the district is much lower than the male literacy rate.

2.3.4 Workforce

The workforce distribution of the total population in the district shows that 43.60 percent of the population is in the total workforce. Cultivators comprise the major work rural force in the district. Other workers category which includes services in tertiary sector is the next major work. While majority of Muslims and Christians are engaged as cultivators, proportionately more Hindus are engaged in tertiary sector. The WPR among the Hindus is also highest among the major religious groups in the district.



Table 2.4 Proportion of different groups of workers by religious groups

Religion	Total worker	Cultivators	Agricultural worker	Household industrial worker	Others	Non-worker
All religion	99363	56107	8472	7043	27741	128542
All religion	43.60*	56	9	7	28	56.40*
Hindus	62	12	3	4	81	38
Muslim	49	49	4	6	41	51
Christians	43	60	9	7	24	57

Note: * is the P.C. to total population.

Source: Census of India 2001

Table 2.5 Proportion of different groups of male workers by religious

Religion	Total worker	Cultivators	Agricultural worker	Household industrial worker	Others	Non-worker
All religion	48*	55	8	3	35	52*
Hindu	76	9	2	3	87	24
Muslim	57	42	3	2	53	43
Christians	46	61	8	3	28	54

Note: * is the P.C. to total male population.

Source: Census of India 2001

The male female WPR shows that, female workers ration is much lower than the males. The data shows that although Hindu males have high WPR, the corresponding ratio for females is only 9 percent which shows that female work opportunities are highly restricted. Low sex ratio coupled with low WPR among the Hindu females reflects high gender disparity among the Hindus.

Table 2.6 Proportion of different groups of female workers by religious in Churachandpur district

Religion	Total worker	Cultivators	Agricultural worker	Household industrial worker	Others	Non-worker
All religion	39*	59	10	13	19	61*
Hindu	9	33	8	14	45	73
Muslim	38	63	6	13	18	62
Christians	39	59	10	13	19	61

Note: * is the P.C. to total female population.

Source: Census of India 2001



2.3.5 Education and Health

Education

Although the Census 2001 data shows that 70 percent of the population in Churachandpur district is literates, the level of educational attainment is skewed towards lower end. Approximately 24 percent of the population has below primary level education, while only 28 percent have completed primary level; the proportion of population with middle level schooling is 21 percent. Proportion of the literate population completing their matric/higher secondary/diploma is 22% and a mere 5 percent are graduates or above.

Table 2.7 Gross and Net Enrolment Ratio in Churachandpur district-2005-06

School level	Total population 6-11 years			GER			NER		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary	17356	16687	34043	89	86	87	66	64	65
Upper Primary	Total population 11-14 years								
	12141	11727	23868	39	35	37	33	31	32

Source: Govt. of Manipur, Education Department.

The GER/NER data clearly reveals high incidence of drop outs from primary to upper primary level. The NER at the upper primary level is less than half the ratio at the primary level. Further, the NER for girls is lower than the boys shows that drop out rate among girls is higher in the district.

Table 2.8 Number of educational institution in Churachandpur district 2001-02(P)

Types of institution	Number of institutions
Pre-primary/primary/JB/UJB school	270
Middle/Jr.high/sr.Basic school	102
High/Higher Sc. School	79
Professional&other educational school	6
Colleges for general education	6
Professional&other educational colleges	1
Universities	Nil
All institutions	464

Source: Statistical Abstract Manipur 2005.

Table 2.9 Number of teachers by type of institution in Churachandpur district

Types of institution	Number of teachers
Pre-primary/primary/JB/UJB school	727
Middle/Jr.High/Sr.Basic school	1035
High/ Hr Sc. School	1763
Professional& other educational school	37

Source: Statistical Abstract Manipur 2005.



Health

An important indicator of health status of the people is the life expectancy at birth. The life expectancy at birth in the district stands at 57.50. The male life expectancy is 54.90 while the female life expectancy is estimated to be much higher at 61.10.

The AIDS has become a major public health problem in Manipur since 1990. Maximum number of positive cases is found in the age group of 21-30 years. As per the Sero-Surveillance report on 31st March 2005, a total of 3026 blood samples were screened of which 33.01 percent were found to be HIV positive cases. The district has the third highest incidence of HIV positive cases in the State. The other types of diseases which have higher frequency of occurrence are heart ailments, malaria and chronic liver disease. The incidence of complications at birth and puerperium is found to be more among rural women in the district.

Another important indicator for health status is the child sex ratio. The child sex ratio in the district is 968. The high child sex ratio among the Muslims reflects higher fertility rate and higher survival ratio for children in the age group 0f -6 years.

Table 2.10 Child sex-ratio by religion in Churachandpur district

Religion	Total
All religion	968
Hindu	968
Muslim	1093
Christians	967

Source: Census of India 2001.

The major health service in the district has been provided through a network of two private and one government hospital. The district has a total of 48 PHSC with population coverage of 4748 persons per PHSC. The number of doctors per lakh population is 0.71 as per Manipur HDR, 2001.

2.3.7 Natural Resource Base

Land and its Utilization

As per the 1994-95 satellite imagery, the total built up area of Churachandpur district is 6,726 Ha. (Urban - 585 Ha. and Rural - 6,141 Ha.) and the cropland area is 9,928 Ha. A large portion of the area is either under current jhum (29,323 Ha) or abandoned jhum (190,447 Ha) respectively. There is no primary forest in the district and the secondary forest including mixed bamboo forest, covers an area of 118,092 Ha. The area under wasteland is 98,424 ha and the total area of the water bodies is 2,144 Ha. (2,072 Ha. of river/streams and 72 lakes/tanks/ponds). Due to population pressure Jhum cycle has reduced from 5-7 years to 4-5 years. The total forest cover in the district is 88.99 percent as per the State Forest Report, 2005.



Soil and Water

The district has maximum temperature of 37°C while minimum is 10°C. The highest rainfall is 3080mm and the lowest is 597mm. The major river flowing in the district is Leimatak, Leinganpokpi, Barak River, Khuga and Tuitha.

Table 2.11 Ground water resource potential in Churachandpur district (MCM)

Ground water resource dynamic	Utilizable ground water for irrigation	Utilizable ground water for drinking & allied
756.80	643.28	113.52

Source: www.manipur.nic.in

Economy

Churachandpur mainly follows a mono-crop economy during the non-monsoon months. Apart from agriculture, handloom and handicraft and weaving provide the livelihood of the people.

The handloom and handicraft especially acrylic is an important out put of the handicraft sector in the district. The district has a total of 39294 numbers of weavers, using 43847 number of loom. The consumption of yarn per month is estimated to be 56502.10 kg, producing 361953.60 meter cloth. The main handloom products include Acrylic/ wool cloth like, tribal Shawl, ladies lungies, wall hanging and covering, upholstery, hanging bags, curtain, home furnishing etc. The silk handicraft in the district is small in size.

The sericulture activities are centered round 14 farms and mulberry is the major product in the district although some amount of eri and tasar are also produced.

Table 2.12 Status of sericulture in Churachandpur district in 2004-05

No. of farms	Cocoon production			Value(in lakh)		
	Mulberry(MT)	Eri(MT)	Tasar(MT)	Mulberry	Eri	Tasar
14	20	10	0.06	20.00	8.00	0.48

Source: *Economic Survey Manipur 2007-08*.

The proportion of livestock in the district is 7.04 percent of the State total. The total poultry population in the district is 6.20 percent.

The district has a total of 6005 enterprises (excluding crop production and plantation). The district accounts for highest annual average growth rate of establishment (13.11 percent) during 1998-2005 with annual average growth rate in employment of 8.95 percent as per the Economic Survey report of Manipur 2007-08.

The economic status of the households in the district as per the latest records of the Food and Civil Supplies Department, Govt. of Manipur, 29.95 percent of the households are BPL families and there are 168 PDS in the district to cater to these households.



2.3.8 Power and rural electrification

The total installed capacity of power in the district is 0.448 MW and percentages of villages electrified till March 2007 stands at 77.03 percent.

2.3.9 Transport and Communication

Road is the most important means of transport in hill districts of Manipur. The condition of the road in hills districts are worse compared to that in the valley. Most of the villages are not well connected and whatever road they have cannot be used all round the year.

Table 2.13 Proportion of roads under different categories in Churachandpur district

National highway	State highway	Major district road	Other district road	Inter village road	Total
100.00	90.0	39.51	100.00	4.42	58.69

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

Large portion of inter village road are not surfaced in the district In Churachandpur district, goods are transported from Jiribam to the southernmost sub-division of Tipaimukh mainly on the river Barak. Under PMGRSY Phase V 3240.84 lakh amount was sanctioned for the construction and up gradation of the roads in the district. A total of 10 new roads are to be constructed under PMGSY with an estimated cost of Rs.3240.84 In respect of telecommunication, Churachandpur district one telegraph office, 4 telephone exchanges, 3869 telephone working (DEL). The tele density in the district is 1.70.

Table 2.14 Average Consumption of power by different users

Type of users	Average consumption
Domestic	64.3
Commercial	8.71
Industry	8.14
Public lighting	1.21
Irrigation& agriculture	0.00
Public water work	0.60
Temporary	0.00
Bulk supply	17.02
Total	5.45
Percentage of state total	3.08

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

2.3.10. Basic Amenities

As per the 2001 census, Churachandpur district has 37,626 numbers of households. There are only 6.4 percent households who have permanent houses, 39 percent have



semi-permanent houses and 54.6 percent have temporary houses. Safe drinking water facilities and electricity are available in 29.82 percent villages.

While 73 percent of the villages have a primary school, middle level schools are available in only 27 percent of the villages. Medical facilities are available in 12 percent of the villages and one PHSC in the district covers a population of 11 villages which clearly indicates the status of health infrastructure in the district. The connectivity status in the district reveals that only 18 percent of the villages have bus connectivity while 48 percent of the villages have no approach roads.

Table 2.15 Basic amenities in Churachandpur district

Amenities	Numbers
Total inhabited villages	540
Drinking water facilities	539
Safe drinking water	161
Electricity(power supply)	306
Electricity(domestic)	306
Electricity(agriculture)	-
Primary school	395
Middle school	143
Secondary/Higher secondary school	48
College	5
Medical facilities	66
Primary health centre	7
Primary health sub-centre	48
Post, telegraph and telephone facility	67
Bus service	95
Paved approach road	123
Mud approach road	279

Source: www.censusindia.gov.in

A causal analysis of the development deficiencies in the rural areas of the district reveals that three major deficits in the rural areas are: education, health, safe drinking water, transport and communication and industry and tertiary sector employment. The deficits need critical intervention for synergizing the growth process in the district. ■



PROFILE OF THE SAMPLE VILLAGES

3.1 Demographic profile

The total population of the sample villages is 50564 with total households 7987 as per 2001 census. In 1991, total population of the villages were 36965 and total households were 6485. The decadal growth rate of population of the sample villages, thus, is 36.78, which is slightly higher than the decadal growth rate of Manipur (30.02) as well as district as a whole (29.81); and annual average rate of growth of population is 4.40 percent. The average household size of the sample villages is 6, which is almost same as the state average. All villages are fully scheduled tribe villages with mostly Christian people.

Table 3.1 Total Population distribution in sample villages (2001 census)

HH	Population	Male	Female	S.C Population	S.T. Population
7978	50564	26588	23976	--	50564

3.2 Sex Ratio

As per Census 2001, the sex ratio in the sample villages is 901 females per thousand male, which is below the state (974) and district (944) sex ratios. Significantly, in 1991, these villages had the sex ratio of 783. The child sex ratio i.e. sex ratio in the age-group of 0-6 years, the district figure of 968 is higher than the overall sex ratio. However, child-sex ratio for Manipur as a whole is 957.

3.3. Literacy Rate

The rate of literacy, as per census 2001, in the sample is 83.21 with that of male and female being 89.91 and 69.23 respectively. These rates are found to be higher than those of state as a whole, state (rural) and district (wholly rural). The figures are given below.

Table 3.2 Literacy rate in sample villages of the district

Place	Total	Male	Female
State (all)	66.00	68.77	52.01
State (rural)	57.41	65.89	48.63
District (all/rural)	70.59	77.67	63.06
Sample villages	83.21	89.91	69.23

3.4 Facilities

One distinctive way of looking at the quality of life in a particular area, whether rural or urban, is to ascertain the presence, accessibility and utility of the social and physical infrastructure in these places. Lack of access to these facilities can emerge either due to the absence of social and/or physical infrastructure in the locality concerned, or because the facilities are beyond the acceptable and required distance apart from these being defunct.



3.4.1 Electricity

Percentage of households using electricity as a source of light, especially in rural areas, is often considered to be indicative of households' economic status. In the sample, it was found that 14 out of 25 (56 percent) villages are electrified. This figure also tells us about the reach of the rural electrification programmes in these villages. There are villages which were electrified as early as 1960 and there are villages electrified only recently, in 2006. But most of these villages were electrified in eighties and early nineties. It is also important to note that 2 villages got de-electrified in between.

In terms of households, it was found that 79.69 percent of the sample households have electricity. It was also found that all use electricity for domestic lighting only. So far the adequacy of power supply, is concerned, there have been reported improvements. The average hour of power availability in the electrified villages was found to be 9 and ½ hours. Five years ago this was about 7 hours and ten years before it was about 6 hours.

3.4.2 Drinking water

Availability and access to safe drinking water has been one of the most important indicators of basic household amenities. Providing safe drinking water to rural households has been India's one of the priority issues since independence. Despite serious and sincere efforts, however, cent percent success across the country is yet to be achieved. Although Census 2001 reveals that in the District of Churachandpur 539 villages out of 546 (about 98 percent of the villages) have drinking water facility, out of which only 161 villages (about 30 percent) has access to safe drinking water. The survey also shows that in 23 (4363) households out of 25 villages depend on tanks and rivers for drinking water, and only 25 percent of the households has access to safe drinking water. The distribution of drinking water sources is given in the table below.

Table: 3.3. Distribution of water sources by types in sample villages

Type	Common	Muslim	Christian	Total
Private Well			400 (2)	400
Private Tube well			50 (1)	50
Public Stand post	4 (1)		350 (4)	354
Tap water in-house		200 (1)	118 (2)	318
Tank/River		120 (1)	4363 (22)	4483

No in the parentheses gives the village counts. Source: Sample Village survey, 2008.

3.4.3 Toilet facility

Safe sanitation is not only an important basic household amenity, but also an important issue of public health. The government of India has been trying to ensure safe sanitation to all households.

The survey reveals that most of the households, about 77 percent, have pit latrines. Substantial households have "other" sanitation facility, which includes open fields and similar non sanitary toilets.



Table: 3.4. Distribution of sanitation facilities by types in sample villages

Type	Households (Christian)
Septic Tank	63 (2)
Service Latrine	--
Pit	5621 (24)
TSC	--
Others	1584 (15)
Total	7268

No in the parentheses gives the village counts. Source: Sample Village survey, 2008.

3.4.5 Education

All together 76 schools were found in the 25 sample villages out of which 5 primary, 5 middle, 24 high/higher secondary, 22 religious schools and 20 other schools. Barring two villages (New Lamka and Bangmual), all villages have schools up to high/higher secondary levels. However, number of girls' schools is very limited. Only in Chongkhajou a girls' higher secondary school exists. This has implications in female literacy and education as evident in rate of literacy in earlier sections.

Table: 3.5. Total number of schools within sample villages

Schools by type	Primary		Middle		High/ Higher Sec.		Religious school	Other
	Boy/ co-ed	Girls	Boy/ Co-ed	Girls	Boys/ Co-ed	Girls		
No. of schools	4	1	3	2	23	1	22	20

Source: Sample Village survey, 2008

Presence of religious schools almost in all villages is noteworthy. So far the school locations are concerned, only 30 percent of schools are within the villages. Distance wise 40 percent are within 2 km and those which are in the district are more than 5 km away from the villages. These following two tables display these results.

Table: 3.6. Distribution of schools by location

Frequency	School location			
	Within village	Within block	Within district	Total
No. of Schools	23	2	51	76
Percent	30.3	2.6	67.1	100.0

Source: Sample Village survey, 2008

Table: 3.7. Distance to school from the villages

Frequency	Distance to school			
	Up to 2 KM	2 to 5 KM	More than 5 KM	Total
Frequency	31	7	38	76
Percent	40.8	9.2	50.0	100.0

Source: Sample Village survey, 2008



Since accessibility of school in many times, particularly in rural and difficult terrains, is conditioned by the all weather approach roads, this was also investigated in the survey. It could be found that most of the school approach roads (about 55 percent) are semi-pucca roads. Only 31.6 percent of the school connecting roads are pucca. The table below reveals this.

Table: 3.8 Type of approach roads to school

Frequency	Type of approach road			
	<i>Pucca</i>	<i>Semi-pucca</i>	<i>Kutcha</i>	<i>Total</i>
Frequency	24	42	10	76
Percent	31.6	55.3	13.2	100.0

Source: Sample Village survey, 2008

3.4.6 Health Facilities

The survey shows that all sample villages have access to health-care facilities of various types. Most of the villages have access to some sorts of Dispensary/Hospital and Medicines shops. Government health care facilities such as health sub centres, primary health centres and community health centres are also found in the sample villages. Private qualified health care providers are reported in half of the villages. Only area which needs improvement is the Maternity and Child Care centre. Only two villages have reported to have access to MCC. This in turn has far reaching implications in child and reproductive health in the villages.

Table: 3.9 Number of sample villages reporting medical facilities

Health-care facility	No	Percent
Sub centre	7	7.0
Primary HC	19	19.0
Community HC	15	15.0
Hospital/Dispensary	23	23.0
Pvt. qualified allopathic doctor	13	13.0
Maternity/child care centre	2	2.0
Chemist/medicine shop	21	21.0
Total	100	100.0

Source: Sample Village survey, 2008

Distance wise, however, the facilities are located mostly in the radius of 5 km or more (69 percent). Only a few (19 percent) are within the radius of less than 2 km and only 10 percent are within the same villages. The approach roads to these facilities are mostly semi-pucca (64 percent), these are easily accessible during summer both on foot (89 percent) and by vehicle (52 percent). During rainy season accessibility becomes a major issue as only 1 can be accessed on foot while raining. By vehicle, however, 11 of them can be reached even when it is raining. All weather accessibility is, thus, is a major issue so far health care is concerned in these villages. It was also found that only in nine villages have ANN and doctors in health centres and out of them medicines and regular check ups are reported to be available only in six villages.



3.4.7 Other facilities

The distance between most of the sample villages and the nearest town has been found more than 10 km. Nonetheless, the survey shows that the sample villages have fair access to various facilities like market, bus stop, post office, Block Head Quarter and Banks. However, facilities like panchayat office, fair price shops and veterinary hospitals are found lacking in the villages. The following table depicts the comparative picture of facilities available in the villages.

Table: 3.10. Number of sample villages reporting other facilities within villages

Facilities within villages	No. of villages
Bus stop	19
Regular Market	21
Post office	24
G.P. Office	9
Fair Price Shop	10
Mandi	8
Veterinary Hospital	11
Block Head Quarter	25
Nearest Town	24
Bank	19

Source: Sample Village survey, 2008

It was also found that only in five out of 25 villages possess all the facilities. These facilities are mostly available out side the villages and their respective blocks which are located beyond 10 km of distance (67 percent). Only 6 percent of the villages have these facilities within the villages and 10 percent of the villages have the facilities within the blocks. Approach roads to these facilities are mostly (47 percent) semi-pucca.

Table: 3.11. No. of sample villages reporting distance of other facilities outside village

	Distance				Total
	<= 2 km	2 to 5 km	5 to 10 km	>10 KM	
Block HQ	8	3	1	13	25
Nearest Town	3	2	1	17	23
Nearest Bus Stop	5	2	0	10	17
Regular market	3	2	0	13	18
Rail station	1	0	0	23	24
Post office	5	2	2	14	23
Bank	2	3	1	12	18
Gram panchayat	1	0	0	8	9
FP Shopo	1	0	1	7	9
General shop	2	0	1	7	10
Mandi	0	0	0	7	7
Vaterinary	3	0	1	7	11

Source: Sample Village survey, 2008



3.5 Common property and Village organizations

Forests and forest based products are found to be mostly (68 percent cases) used common property resources among the sample villages. It was also found that every household has access and rights over forests and forest based resources. Significantly no encroachment has been reported.

Table 3.12 Distribution of village organisations in the sample villages

Organisation	Status	
	Very active	Fairly active
Marketing organisation	1	--
Farmers' organisation	--	1
Voluntary organisation	8	2
Political organisation	5	2
Cultural organisation	12	4
Women mandal	1	--
Youth mandal	23	2

Several village organisations were found active in the villages. Voluntary organisations, cultural organisations and youth organisations were prominent among them. The following table depicts the distribution of village organisations among the sample villages.

3.6 Crop productivity and Household Artisans

Paddy, cereals and vegetables are major crops in the same villages. Average yield for paddy is 10.43 (with standard deviation of 2.47). The average yield for cereals and vegetables are 28.50 and 8.45 respectively. Harvest share of paddy is found to be 20 percent. The average maximum market price of paddy is 2127 Rs. per quintal. The average minimum market price for paddy is Rs. 1522 per quintal. Likewise average maximum and minimum market prices for cereals are Rs. 1100 and Rs. 800 per quintal respectively, while the same are Rs. 2161 and Rs. 1520 per quintal for vegetables.

In 13 out of 25 villages households were found engaged in various artisan activities. The products are sold in and outside markets. Some problems of raw material and marketing were reported.

3.7 Migration and employment and wage income earning

The survey showed that of the thirty sample villages, only a small number of people from villages moved out looking for work. The survey results indicate that approximately 50 to 60 people daily went outside their villages during last one year looking for work. Majority of these people (77 percent) go to neighbouring villages, block and district headquarters. Most of the migrant workers work as daily labourers. On an average they earn 2000 to 3000 rupees per month from such works.



3.8 Rural Development programmes and beneficiaries assisted

So far as the individual beneficiary oriented government programmes are concerned, it was found that employment guarantee scheme under NREGA is operational in 24 out of 25 villages. On an average about 300 persons per village were found benefited from the scheme. About 84 percent of the villages believed that over the last 5 years, flow of schemes has increased. It was also found that on the average 96 days employment were generated under the scheme.

Table: 3.13. Scheme based work generated for men and women and the daily wage

Schemes	No. workers		Average Wage rate per day	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
NREGA	5825	1367	80	80

Source: Sample Village survey, 2008

It was found that 206 people have received old age pension benefits in 14 villages out of which 201 received pension in the last year. Similarly 11 women from 3 villages received widow pension of whom 9 were assisted last year.

Of the total sample villages 782 people of 25 villages reported government job. Almost all villagers perceive that there have been improvements in terms of agricultural productivity, access to education and wage rates compared to the past years.

3.9 Poverty and Public Distribution System

It could be found that PDS was available in 5 villages out of 25. However most of the PDS shops are located at more than 2 km distance. About 1300 people have BPL ration cards out of whom about 250 to 300 people buy rations from PDS. About 40 percent of the buyers felt that availability of the required goods is satisfactory and they get their full quota. Most of the customers have no problem with quality, honesty and behaviour of the fair price shop keepers. On the whole the PDS is found to be working well although in limited places.

3.12 Summary

The village survey findings reveal that sample villages in the district has many areas of concern as well as potentials. Improving the accessibility and quality of service delivery of the crucial social security provisions has emerged as the major challenge of development. Bridging the critical infrastructure gaps in terms of communication and connectivity is another area where concerted efforts are urgently needed. Ensuring decent and gainful employment and livelihood options should be viewed in a more holistic way for designing development programmes. In the subsequent sections these issues are dealt with some greater detail with the insights gathered at the household level. ■



RESULT OF THE BASELINE SURVEY

4.1 Religion and Caste Composition

Altogether 738 households are surveyed in 25 sample villages in Churachandpur district of Manipur. All the households belong to the Christian community and all the households are from scheduled tribe communities except three who fall in the scheduled caste category (Table 4.1).

4.2 Mother tongue

Mother tongue wise, all households except only one reported Manipuri as their mother tongue (Table 4.2). Bengali and Hindi are other languages known to people.

4.3 Age and Sex

The total population in the 738 sample households of the district is 2563; of them 53.8 per cent is male and 46.2 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, 7.2 per cent and 11.2 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. Only 0.3 per cent of the total population is of more than 60 years (Table 4.3). High fertility and low life span are suggestive of significant population as well as health dimensions.

4.4 Household Size

Almost all households have the size up to five members (96.3 percent). Households with 6 to 10 members constitute 3.7 percent of the sample households. Large sized households (more than 10 persons) are absent among the sample households (Table 4.4).

4.5 Marital Status

By marital status 56.8 percent of the population in the sample found currently married and 0.9 percent were widow or widower or separated (Table 4.5). Incidences of early marriage and divorce are very low among the sample population. Most frequent age of marriage is 19 to 45. Age of marriage for females is slightly less than that of males.

4.6 Educational Status

The estimated literacy rate of the population in the sample villages overall is 98.51 percent. Both male and female literacy is pretty high in the sample. Male literacy rate (99.1 percent) is slightly better than the female literacy rate (97.8 percent), yielding a gender literacy difference of 1.3 percent. However, it is seen that among the literates, level of educational attainment for 74 percent is confine to the middle school level only and 87.8 percent receives education up to only HSLC (Table 4.6). The trend is same for



both male and female. Negatively skewed educational attainment is indicative of low human capital formation consequent upon school dropouts. This has special significances for designing employment and skill promotion policies.

4.7 Occupation and Employment

4.7.1 Occupation and Industry

Work Participation rate is estimated to be 36.6 with the estimated female work participation rate of 14.9 percent. It has been reflected that farming is the main occupation for 68.9 percent workforce in the sample households of the district. Out of the male workers about 75 percent and out of the female workers about 41 percent were found to be absorbed in agriculture. 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, clerical and related works as well as production related works (more particularly among the women) were the most important main activity of the population in sampled villages (Table 4.7). This is reflected from Table 4.7 and Table 4.8 that 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 prominent subsidiary activities of people particularly for women. Coming to the context of secondary occupation, women constitute 41.2 percent of workforce majorities of them are involved in production related and petty business works (Table 4.8). The same is also revealed by the data on male main workers.

Industry wise distribution of the people with main occupation (Table 4.9) shows that 63.3 percent of the total workforce is engaged in cultivation of which 48 percent is male and 15.2 percent is female. Industry wise other two important industries are construction and community social and personnel services. Intriguingly though the construction sector appears to absorb more female workforce (27.8 percent of the total female workforce) in the sample while the community, social and personnel services mostly employ male workers (around 12 percent of the total male workforce). Substantial women workers are also engaged in business and many others activities not adequately defined (Table 4.9).

This is also revealed that most of the (about 82.5 percent) of the workers are engaged in work for 100 to 260 days with women having less number of days (Table 4.10). This is consequent upon the nature of work and industry they are engaged in. Since most of them are engaged in the primary sector this is reflective of seasonality of their employment. This in turn, reflects lack of modernisation in agriculture in one hand and opens potentials for employment schemes including NREGA. So far secondary activities are concerned number of days in employment is even less i.e. 96.2 percent of the workers engaged in secondary activities employ themselves only for less than 100 days (Table 4.11). Overall this is indicative of tremendous stress in the employment scenario of the district, particularly in rural areas.



4.7.2 Self-Employment Scenario

This is true that many households in the villages of Churachandpur 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 small businesses, 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 various reasons. The overall employment scenario depicted in the foregoing sections is further supplemented by the figures given in Table 4.13 which is suggestive of potential underemployment. All together 1912 persons from 642 households out of 738 sought additional employment opportunities during the interview. The preferred options were self-employment (76.9 percent) followed by salaried jobs (13 percent) (Table 4.13).

4.7.4 Migrant Workers

About 3.75 percent of the people (96 out of 2563) among the sample population were found to be migrant workers. Mostly they are engaged in variety of sundry activities. This is mostly rural to urban migration. This is visibly indicating lack of gainful employment avenues in the country side (Table 4.14). It could also be found that about 93 percent of them are long term migrant workers.

4.8 Land and other Assets

4.8.1 Cultivated Land: Ownership and Operational Holding

Although most of the workforce in the sample villages is absorbed in agriculture the land holdings of the households are found small and marginal sizes. Own land, cultivable or otherwise, is found to be mostly marginal holdings (91.5 percent) (Table 4.16) and small (6.7 percent) while own cultivable land holdings are mostly marginal (94.4 percent) (Table 4.17). Distribution of operational holdings further provides that about 92 percent of the farmers are small farmers (Table 4.18).

This seemingly smaller land size holding explains many of the issues related to agriculture as mentioned earlier. In the northeast land data, however, needs careful revision in the context of existing common property resource regime to put the things in proper perspective. Landlessness, and own land therefore, has certain implicit meanings in the north-eastern context.



4.9 Livestock

It has been frequently seen that livestock rearing comes almost naturally in most of the hill places. This is revealed that most of rural households in Churachandpur district keep poultry (83 percent households) and rear pigs (61.4 percent). Keeping of milch animal is not a common practice in the hill areas of north eastern states (Table 4.19). Young cattle are another prominent livestock found in about 12 percent sample households.

4.10 Ownership of Productive and other Assets

4.10.1 Agricultural Implements

Since most of the households are dependent on agriculture plough is the most common agricultural implement (64.9 percent) among the sample households (Table 4.20a). Pump set and sprayer are the other important implement possessed the households. Given the size class holding of land, with most of the farmers belonging to marginal and small classes, it is only obvious that modernised implements of power tiller, sprayer and fodder cutter etc. were not found among the households (Table 4.20a).

So far the other important household implements and assets are concerned sewing machine, handloom were prominent among the sample households. TV, cycle, gas stove and mobile phones are other gadgets found in the sample (Table 4.20b).

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 therein. The distribution of housing status among the sample households (Table 4.21) reveals that all families have their own house. No family found availing housing under the government housing scheme for the poor. This is partly because 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 been found that most of the houses (84.4 percent) constructed in the villages are katcha houses made of bamboo and thatches (Table 4.22). This is typical of any hill places. It is, however, should be seen in terms of terrain, climate, availability of housing materials rather strict economic conditions of the households. Most of the households (65 percent) have more than two rooms in their houses (Table 4.23) indicating availability of adequate living space for the family. While interpreting adequacy of the living space one must also consider the family size and terrain.

4.11.2 Domestic lighting and fuel use

While the village survey data reveals that 56 percent of the sample villages in the district have electric power supply, the findings from the household survey (Table 4.24) show that 36.7 percent households have electricity in their house.



In the non-electrified houses the survey reveals that the households are using mainly lantern (38.6 percent) and oil lamps (12.9 percent) for lighting (Table 4.25).

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 all the sample households use wood as common fuel. This is common in most of the hill places. It was found that more than half of the households are using fire wood and kerosene oil as source of fuel. Various wastes along with wood are other common sources of fuel among the sample households. Modern fuel has not reached the households (Table 4.26).

4.11.3 Drinking water facilities

Availability and access to safe drinking water has been one of the basic objectives under the ARWSP. The results of the household survey reveal that although public provision of tap water has been the source of drinking water for 13.6 percent of the households, it is still pond, river or/and stream the major source of drinking water for more than 85.5 percent households in the sample (Table 4.27). Only 14.9 percent of the households have access to safe drinking water. In majority of the cases, water source is located within 100 to 200 meters from the households. There are, however, about 20 percent households with drinking water source located even beyond 500 meter distance, which is quite difficult for hill areas (Table 4.28).

4.11.4 Sanitation

An important requirement for sanitation is the presence of toilet facilities. 85 percent of the households reported to have toilets in their houses. 84.7 percent of the sample households are found using pit latrine in the dwelling for defecation (Table 4.29). Another 13 percent goes to open field to answer nature's call. Households are distinctly lacking proper sanitation facilities in the sample.

4.12 Indebtedness of rural households

No households, except one who has a house building loan from cooperative, 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

Considering the fact that households are primarily dependent upon agriculture, arriving at robust income estimates for a year is pretty difficult. Yet it is found that about 29.3 percent households have income, which is less than the poverty line figure of Rs. 22800 per annum (Table 4.30). Note that 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 among the sample households of the district. However, Table 4.31 reflects that many households have diversified sources of income although level of income across different sectors is uniformly low. 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 75.4 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 99 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 53.1 percent households in Churachandpur district (Table 4.35). On health care, 1.5 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). About 47.8 percent of the households do not have any health expenses. The expenditure on electricity and fuel for 90.1 percent sample households is up 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 (95 percent) are not spending on telephone (Table 4.39). This is also found that most of the households need to keep aside a significant proportion of the budget for festival and ceremonies (Table 4.37, Table 4.41 and 4.42). Consumption of tobacco is another area of expenditure among the households (Table 4.43).

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 Churachandpur reflects that in this age group 4.5 percent (2 percent male and 2.4 percent female) were never enrolled or left schooling after enrolment. The students normally go to government schools (51.6 percent) as well as private schools (42.1 percent) (Table 4.44). This is because of Christian missionaries in the district who run good schools.

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 Churachandpur, it could be seen that most of the students (79 percent), both male and female, goes to private schools (Table 4.44). One could see that educational attainment level largely confined till the level of completion of high school (Table 4.45). While interpreting this result one should take note of the age distribution of the sample population which has a heavy concentration in the age group of 6 to 14 years thereby yielding a high percentage of school goers in high school level.



4.14.3 Access and facilities in education

About 80 percent of students are found enrolled in private schools. It has been found that about 80.5 percent students of the sample villages are required to travel less than 2 km to attend their school. This is found that 8.4 percent students travel more than 4 km to attend schools. English (91.9 percent) and Hindi (7.2 percent) are the mediums of instruction in the case of more than 99.2 percent students. This was reported that only 0.8 percent students are continuing their education with regional languages as the medium of instruction.

This is found that very few (only 3.9 percent) students have received assistantships from government. This is reported that just 3.1 percent students have received books, 0.3 percent have received uniforms and 0.2 percent have availed the benefits of mid day meal scheme. One reason of the low proportion of government assistance could be substantive number of students enrolled in private schools in Churachandpur. 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 need to work at home. Marriage is found to be major reason of dropout for female students (Table 4.47).

4.14.4 Aspiration of Parents on their Children

It was found that parents want that male children should pursue post graduation (58.6 percent) technical education (33.3 percent) while females should complete graduation (58.2 percent) (Table 4.48 and 4.49). It seems that the aspiration of parents regarding their wards education is directly influenced by economic reasons and future prospects for higher earnings.

4.14.5 Attitude and Approaches in Skill development training

Interactions in the sample households reveal that only 2.3 percent are interested to take up skill development training (Table 4.50). Acquiring computer skills were found most prominent (42.1 percent) irrespective of the sexes. On job training of different types is another preferred option among the people (Table 4.50). Overall these options reveal peoples' outlook to the changing job markets induced by the present economic environment. Most of the people prefer short term training from government institutions.

4.15 Present Health Scenario

The survey reveals that about 15 percent of the total sample population have falling sick during the last year. Incidences of diseases are almost same among women and men. Most commonly reported diseases among males and females are dysentery, cough -cold and fever. Dysentery, diarrhoea and malaria are other common diseases. Gynaecological problems were also observed among women (Table 4.52).

32.1 percent of the patients were reported hospitalisation out of which 57.6 percent treated at private hospitals. So far duration of ailment is concerned, it was found that 84.7 percent cases had suffered less than one week. Only about one percent reported prolong sufferings going beyond one month duration.



4.16 Maternal and Child Health

Complete coverage of immunization is found to 48.8 percent among the sampled households in Churachandpur district (Table 4.54). It was found that just 25 percent of total male children and 23.8 percent female children have received all doses of vaccines. Overall it is found that 41 percent (both male and female) received 3 doses of DPT, 50 percent male children and 48.2 percent female children have received the BCG vaccine, all doses of OPV are administered in case of 33.2 percent male and 31.7 percent female and Measles vaccine is administered in case of 55.6 percent male and 44.4 percent female children. These figures reflect certain interesting features. It seems that people take more seriously the case of BCG and measles 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. This is found that most of the vaccinations (98.8 percent) 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. More than 78 percent of the delivery occurs at home (Table 4.55). More than 94.9 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

Only 10.7 percent households in the sample revealed that they belong to BPL category (Table 4.57). This, however, should be viewed with the income and expenditure profiles of the households for a better picture. Among the BPL families, 93.7 percent possess BPL ration cards (Table 4.58); however, this is also reported that only 10 percent of the households as a whole in the sample avail ration from PDS shops. 86 percent of them reported to be able to buy required commodities from the PDS. The low dependency on PDS support system is partly due to irregular and insufficient supply (Table 4.60). The PDS system, plagued by many problems becomes grossly undependable for the poor. Besides, lack of money comes in way for most of the people in buying ration from the PDS.

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. 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 Churachandpur district indicates that peoples' awareness about various schemes is fairly uniform. This is found that awareness level is more in the case of employment and educational programme rather than health and sanitation programmes (Table 4.61). However, the proportions of beneficiaries are much less compared to the level of awareness. Only in case of NREGA beneficiary households is substantial.



4.18.2 Participation in the socio-political affairs

The baseline survey shows that the level of political participation is high among the sample households both at the state assembly elections as well as parliamentary elections (Table 4.62). This was reported that over 90 percent households have voted in the last elections.

Only 1.8 percent households in the sample found to be part of Self Help Groups and about 34 percent found to be part of religious and social organizations (Table 4.63).

4.18.3 Conflict, insecurity and access to media and communication

Some problems and losses related to communal conflict, and the prevailing sense of insecurity was found in the sample (Table 4.64). A few cases of property loss were reported. This is however, no loss of life.

As far as the access to media and communication is concerned, the baseline indicates overall a mix level of access to media across the sample population. This is found that about 22.8 percent sample households listen to radio; about 7 percent watch TV and 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 feel that roads and communication, drinking water and education 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 employment, health followed by housing and lands are the most important deprivations (Table 4.67). Education 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 health, drinking water and education should be at the top of the agenda for minority development. Employment opportunities should be another priority for the welfare of the minority communities. Roads and communication is seen as another most important priority area (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 Churachandpur district of Manipur. ■



DEVELOPMENT DEFICITS

The overall analysis in earlier sections reveals that Churachandpur, on an average, is a performing district in some facets of development. While in certain fronts the district shows impressive results, in some others it has revealed a few areas of concern. Major issues of the district are improving the quality of life parameters through public provisioning of basic social services and benefits, enhancing employment opportunities along with the development of agriculture since most of the people are engaged in agricultural activities only. Provisioning of basic amenities like housing, drinking water, roads and electricity together with improvements in connectivity and communication have emerged as priority areas for development interventions. Securing children's lives through interventions in better reproductive health care should also be viewed with some priority. The Baseline identifies the following development deficits and assigns priority to the core sectors in the following way:

Development deficits and plan priority

Sl. No	Indicators	Survey Result	Estimate for India	Deficit	Priority Ranking attached
<i>Socio-economic indicators</i>					
1	Rate of literacy	98.5	67.30	31.2	9
2	Rate of female literacy	97.8	57.10	40.7	10
3	Work participation rate	36.6	38.00	-1.4	7
4	Female work participation rate	14.9	21.50	-6.6	6
<i>Basic amenities indicators</i>					
5	Percentage of pucca houses	1.6	59.40	-57.8	2
6	Percentage of households with access to safe drinking water	14.1	87.90	-73.8	1
7	Percentage of households with sanitation facilities	1.2	39.20	-38.0	3
8	Percentage of electrified households	36.7	67.90	-31.2	4
<i>Health indicators</i>					
9	Percentage of fully vaccinated children	48.8	43.50	5.3	8
10	Percentage of institutional delivery	21.6	38.70	-17.1	5

■ Provisioning of safe drinking water is the top most priority area. This has been found as most important from the peoples' perspective as well. Providing potable drinking water source well within the reach of people will have many dimensions in development



including health related issues. It should be seen that common ailments reported have water quality involved therein.

- Housing emerges as another top most priority in district. However, terrain and climatic conditions must form important considerations while designing housing plan for the people. It may be possible to provide the other amenity support to households. It should be kept in mind that most of the households are either katcha or semi -pucca basically because of convenience. Nonetheless providing better housing facilities is a priority in the district.

- Sanitation is a priority for development planning in the district. Low cost sanitation can be seen as an important intervention in the district.

- Rural electrification is another area where significant intervention is required. This will not only provide source of lighting but will also help in modernisation of agriculture. It will usher in other productive ventures including small manufacturing and petty business activities.

- Importance of health facilities, particularly reproductive health care including child vaccination has been reiterated by the estimated development gaps and priority assigned.

- Employment is one of the core issues of development planning. Providing gainful employment is essential for improving the economic conditions of the people. This more so because agriculture as an option of livelihood has become increasingly non-remunerative. Un-economic holding is preventing the sector from modernisation. People also ranked employment as the most important option for policy intervention.

- Roads and communication has been a priority from the people's perspective. Improving the roads along with employment generation can be a good option for policies like employment guarantee schemes in the district.

- Skill development is another issue which have employment dimensions. People's aspiration and education level of people must be considered for imparting skill development trainings.

These areas can be addressed by way of toping up of the existing schemes and also by designing specific target based schemes. Convergence of various development schemes and effective implementation of these schemes at the grassroots hold the key of successful development in the district. ■



LIST OF SURVEYED VILLAGES

Sl. No.	VILLAGE
1	Khuanggin
2	Torbung
3	New Lamka
4	Bangmual
5	Gangpimual
6	Chongkhojou
7	Chongchin
8	Tuolbung
9	Phailien
10	Khotuh
11	Thanlon
12	Suangsang
13	Zenhang Lamka
14	Tuibong
15	Sadu Khoiroi
16	Maite
17	Senvon
18	Parbung
19	Mual Vaphei
20	Molzol
21	Sumtuh (Sumtuk)
22	Mong-on
23	Hiangtam Lamka
24	Ngaljang
25	Sumchinvum