

## **Chapter V**

### **Development Interventions**

#### **District data**

A map showing the nine districts selected for our study is enclosed. The development status of these sampled nine districts is presented at Annexure I.

These figures indicate that except for Bhojpur and Gaya, the remaining 7 districts have comparatively low urban population. Census 2001 has indicated that Gaya ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> and Bhojpur ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in the urban population of the State. With only 0.25 percent of its population living in urban areas, Sheohar district ranks lowest in the state as far as urban population is concerned. Among these 9 sampled districts the lowest three in pace of urban population are khagaria (0.88 percent population), Banka (0.65 percent) and Sheohar (0.25).

The average percentage of main workers to total population is 29.52 for 9 districts. This percentage is more or less same (29.69) which the CMIE has presented for Bihar as whole. Percentage of industrial worker is 0.72 as average for these nine districts. This percentage differs from the percentage of 1.47 for the State as a whole. This is because none of the sampled districts has industrial activity worth any reckoning. Gaya because of Naxalite problem has lowest percentage of sown area among the nine districts compared to their respective reporting area. Lower cultivation in Gaya can also be partly attributed to its being a drought prone area also. Where problem of Naxalism and problem of forcible harvesting does not exist, the sowing has been adequate and the harvesting has been peaceful. This phenomenon is found in Bhojpur, Gopalganj and Samastipur. Naxalite problem in Bhojpur is localized in one or two blocks viz. Sahar and Sandesh, but as Bhojpur has good network of Sone Canal system and agriculture is the main stay of the economy of the district, localized naxalism has not deterred private investment in agriculture in this district. The yield rate of rice kg. Per hectare in Bhojpur is highest in the State. Districts like

Katihar, Khagaria and Sheohar also indicate showing in more than 86 percent of their reported areas. Gopalganj has satisfactory showing despite poor availability of irrigational facility. The technique for reaping good harvest through use of fertilizers and high yielding variety seeds does not appear to have reached the farmers of Gopalganj district. The consumption of fertilizer in this district is lowest among the nine sampled districts. However this has not affected the value of produce and per capita value of production. Among the sampled district, the value of agriculture produce in Gopalganj is highest. This is because of production of Sugarcane in the district. The farmers of Gopalganj also get highest return from their production. The per capita value of agricultural produce in Gopalganj is highest among the sampled districts and it is nearly thrice to what is available in Gaya district and four times that of Saharsa. This is despite the fact that only 72% of villages in Gopalganj have tasted the fruits of electricity compared to 100% village electrification in Gaya and 85 percent of village electrification in Saharsa. It is of interest to note that whichever village gets electric connection even for one point (bulb) is considered to have been electrified under the Rural electrification programme.

Bhojpur has highest network of roads. Availability of roads in Katihar is comparatively poor. This deprivation may lead to poor monetary return to Katihar farmers from their agricultural production.

U.N.D.P. says that human development is the goal of economic growth. Attempts have, therefore, been made to carve out the human development index (H.D.I.) for assessing whether economic growth has been effectively translated into improvements in various aspects of life. H.D.I. also leads to measure development by results or achievements in different spheres of life such as acquisition to knowledge, enjoyment of healthy and long life. HDI is a weighted average of income, education and health. The HDI value for each district indicates how far that district, as well as the country have to go (in terms of spatial magnitudes) to attain certain goals of human development. The most desirable situation of HDI value is

given as unity. The closer, a district HDI is to one, the smaller the distance to be traveled by that district. U.N.D.P. has categorized human development into high HDI as above 0.8, medium as between 0.8 and 0.5, low as between 0.5 to 0.4 The human development indices of these 9 sampled districts are as follows:-

Name of the District	Rural Literacy	Male/ female Literacy ratio	Rural IMR	Per capita value of major Crops (in Rs.)	Manufacturing work force	HDI 5 component index.
Bhojpur	44.81	2.63	58	545	1.19	0.40
Gopalganj	33.94	3.04	48	550	1.50	0.38
Samastipur	34.83	2.50	69	342	2.21	0.36
Gaya	35.61	2.68	77	403	1.35	0.35
Saharsa	26.91	3.08	79	313	0.68	0.30
Khagaria	30.55	2.30	65	274	1.01	0.35
Katihar	24.54	2.69	93	354	1.20	0.29
Bhagalpur (Banka)	34.96	2.39	71	318	1.15	0.36
Sitamarhi (Sheohar)	26.42	2.74	98	276	1.57	0.29

Source : Ms. P. Geeta Rani, Project Fellow of National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration had developed Human Development Index in India. (A District Profile in Artha Vigyan Vol. XLI No. 1. March, 1999 p. 9-30).

The above figures establish the fact that all sampled districts of our study are low in human development index. Except Bhojpur which has low human development index, remaining eight districts are in lowest category of human development.

Realising the existence of substantial differences between States and within the States in matter of social and economic development, the National Commission of Population has also identified backward districts for improving the quality of life of people in the country. On the basis of latest available data it has evolved composite index of social development separately using 12 indicators and ranked each 569 districts of the country. The ranking of the sampled nine districts on the basis of these indicators are shown at Annexure III.

These socio economic demographic indicators vividly throw light on the socio-economic infrastructure facilities available in the sampled districts.

There is cent percent coverage of safe drinking water facilities in remote districts Saharsa and Sheohar.

Safe drinking water is not available in Gaya district (68.36) which adjoins the State capital and which is a place of pilgrimage for national and international visitors. These figures also establish the non-acceptance of family planning methods, continuance of unsafe maternity conditions, and poor immunization of children in nearly all sampled districts.

Bhojpur largely because of the high female literacy rate, has higher percentage of safe delivery than all other sampled districts. It exceeds its national percentage also despite lower percentage of users of family planning method and higher percentage of girls marrying below 18 years of age.

The sample district of Samastipur has the unique distinction of having lowest facility of safe maternity delivery in the country. This reflects the poor state of maternal, health in the district. But Bhojpur has lowest percentage of complete immunization of children among the nine sampled districts. Bhojpur has also substantially lower sex ratio. This can be attributed to prevalence of bias against female child because of system which compels abortion of the fetus if it is detected as the likely female child. Bhojpur is neared Patna and enumerator teachers who attend their duty by visiting it daily from Patna might have neglected their work and filled in artificial data. Koilwar Block of Bhojpur adjoins Patna and most of government servants are daily visitors from Patna; it is why sex ratio of Koilwar Block for urban are is as low as 641. sex ratio in koilwar block in rural area is 900. this artificial filling of data for Koilwar urban area is also revealed in its literacy rates. In urban areas of Koilwar the female literacy rate of 70.82 is higher than its male literacy rate 66.15. The percentage gape in female literacy amont these sampled nine districts is as large as 18.78 obviously literacy progamme has not served well in interior districts of Saharsa, Sheohar and Banka. Among these three interior districts, concern for lower population growth is highest in Sheohar and Saharsa. Nepal with female literacy as low

as 29.1 Banka's record for decadal population rise appears better than that of Bhojpur which has highest female literacy. There is near absence of birth and death registration in two districts of Katihar and Khagaria. As for Khagaria it is explained by lowest percentage (9.59) of villages connected with Pucca road, but Katihar does not appear to have any reasonable explanation for low registration of births and deaths, because its villages are satisfactorily connected (45.29%) with pucca road. Katihar is a border district of Bihar, having its eastern boundary with West Bengal. Katihar's figure of having larger family size (percentage of birth order 3 and above) clearly leads to conclusion that either people of this district are averse to acceptance of family planning methods or concept of utility of family planning methods have not properly reached them. Percentage of females having birth order 3 and above at 62.5 in Katihar is highest among the nine sampled districts. It is no wonder that in Katihar district percentage of current users of family planning method is quite low at 18.8 percent. This leads to a reasonable conclusion that though girls marrying below 18 years of age is lowest (17.5) in Katihar, the family planning programme has not been satisfactorily implemented here. It is now wonder therefore that Katihar's annual growth rate of population has exceeded 3 percent.

The sampled districts and community development block wise data on literacy. Sex ratio and urban population are presented in Annexure-IV and Annexure-V

Literacy figures in Annexure IV reveal that literacy drive in Shiohar district has reached its rural areas better than nearly all other 8 sampled districts. Percentage of Rural literacy in Sheohar is around 84 percent of that of its Urban literacy and the females in Sheohar is around 84 percent of that of its Urban literacy and the females in Sheohar have been benefited better than their male counterparts in literacy programme. But rural areas in Katihar have been comparatively neglected. While female literacy rate in Urban areas of Katihar is 63.81, in rural areas it is quite low at 19.84, a poor 31 percent of the urban female literacy rate (Annexure-II). In Katihar the

percentage of female child in the age group of 0-6 in its rural area is highest (22.64) among all the sampled districts. However, except for Sheohar district the conclusion emerges that by and large the literacy drive in rural areas among females have suffered in this state. The female literacy rate among urban and rural areas of sampled districts are ----

	<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>
Banka	51.54	28.28
Bhojpur	64.40	39.33
	68.15	32.42
Sheohar	31.32	27.27
Gopalganj	51.11	31.65
Katihar	63.81	19.84
Khagaria	61.23	27.60
Saharsa	58.93	22.31
Samastipur	67.20	31.36

This explains why Samastipur (7.9%) and Katihar(8.6%) have such low percentage of safe delivery, because females in these districts appear to have been forced to undergo unsafe maternity because of low literacy rates.

Among the sampled districts, Sheohar being a recently carved out district has recorded high decadal growth (53.27%) in urban population. Saharsa is an old district headquarter but it has also shown highest decadal growth at 54.73 in its urban population. For Saharsa this may be attributed to disturbance in rural areas and increase in employed opportunities after it become the headquarter of and administrative division. Surprisingly there has been negative growth in the urban population of Samastipur. Katihar has also shown lower decadal growth rate in its rural areas. These figure suggest that person residing in urban areas of Samastipur and of rural areas of Katihar have migrated else where in search of employment opportunities.

### **BLOCKS**

On random sample basis selection of two blocks per district has been done for this study. Bihar has 533 community development block and our study concerns only 18 block. The list of these blocks are as follows :-

	<u>District</u>		<u>Blocks</u>
1.	Banka	(i)	Baunsi
		(ii)	Belhar
2.	Bhojpur	(i)	Garhani
		(ii)	Koilwar
3.	Gaya	(i)	Dumaria
		(ii)	Konch
4.	Gopalganj	(i)	Pachdeori
		(ii)	Thawey
5.	Katihar	(i)	Kursela
		(ii)	Sameli
6.	Khagaria	(i)	Gogri
		(ii)	Mansi
7.	Saharsa	(i)	Mahishi
		(ii)	Satar Katiya
8.	Samastipur	(i)	Kalyanpur
		(ii)	Mohiuddin Nagar
9.	sheohar	(i)	Piprahi
		(ii)	Sheohar

Of the above 18 block, 8 blocks namely Sameli and Kursela of katihar district, Satar Katiya of Saharsa, Pachdeori and Thawey of Gopalganj, Mansi and Gogri of Khagaria and Garhani of Bhojpur are new Blockks.

Koilwar Block has some peculiar characteristics according to 2001 Census. Koilwar has sex ration of 641 in its urban area. This is lowest in the State. For rural areas of this block the sex ratio is 900. such large differences can be neither explained by migration of females only in search of employment or by large scale shifting of females only from its urban areas. The rate of literacy among females residing in urban areas of this block if 70.82 while it is 41.93 in the rural areas. But surprisingly the rate of literacy among males in rural areas of this block is higher than the male literacy rate in the urban areas. It is 76.18 in rural areas against 66.15 in urban areas (Annexure-IV). These data throw doubt on the accuracy of Koilwar Block census figure.

For all the nine districts, one finds that by and large the percentage of children in the age group 0-6 years in urban areas is lower than the rural area, except in case of Sheohar. This suggests that drive for educating masses towards adoption of family planning measures have scanty touched the rural areas of Sheohar. The drive for literacy among females has not yet been successful in Bihar. The literacy level of females residing in rural areas (exception Sheohar) is still much below as compared to males. The figures (Annexure-IV) are :-

Name of Districts	Name of Blocks	Literacy in Rural Areas	
		Male	Females
Banka	Belhar	61.96	27.62
	Baunsi	57.34	29.70
Bhojpur	Koilwar	76.18	41.93
	Garhani	75.05	38.81
Gaya	Konch	69.85	36.48
	Dumaria	48.70	24.64
Gopalganj	Pachdedori	68.95	38.36
	Thawey	69.27	40.46
Katihar	Sameli	46.20	22.65
	Kursela	54.39	28.59
Khagaria	mansi	52.58	28.33
	Gogri	54.19	30.19
Saharsa	Satar katiya	52.64	22.69
	Mahishi	50.22	23.71
Samastipur	Kalyanpur	56.03	31.10
	Mohiuddin Nagar	56.62	31.59
Sheohar	Piprahi	45.40	24.68
	Sheohar	46.65	42.01
Bihar		57.70	30.03

Except Sheohar, it can be reasonably concluded that adult education drive and attempt for increasing literacy have not progressed satisfactorily in so far as it relates to enhancement of female literacy in rural areas of this state. Overall literacy level of male in the rural areas of the state is 57.70 and that of females is 30.03. It clearly indicated that overall literacy level among females in rural areas is only 52.05 percent of their male counterparts. This level is itself unsatisfactory and is suggestive of superficial



drive of literacy in rural areas. Even on this poor yardstick one can safely conclude that literacy drive has been most unsuccessful in rural areas of Katihar district (particularly Sameli Block), Saharsa district, Banka district, Garhani block of Bhojpur district and Dumaria Block of Gaya district.

Literacy level in urban areas among females as compared to males residing in sampled districts of this state is as follows :-

<u>Name of Districts</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Females</u>
Banka	68.59	51.54
Bhojpur	81.75	64.40
Gaya	84.79	68.15
Gopalganj	74.49	51.11
Katihar	80.95	63.81
Khagaria	77.51	61.23
Saharsa	79.10	58.93
Samastipur	84.40	67.20
Sheohar	54.86	31.32
Bihar	80.80	63.30

These figures lead to the fact that females residing in urban areas are getting advantages of the opportunities of becoming literate.

### **VILLAGES.**

With a view to ascertain the impact of planning process initiated over fifty years back at the village level, this study has selected two villages on sampling basis from each of the sampled eighteen community development Blocks. Study at village level have thrown light on the people's attitude towards development process and also on issues which concern their immediate felt needs. This has helped revealing their aptitude towards their participation in activities and programmes likely to be initiated in future.

Sampling of two villages falling in each sampled blocks has given following 36 villages for our detailed study.

These names of those villages are indicated below :

	Name of Districts	Name of Blocks	Name of villages
1.	Banka	(a) Baunsi  (b) Belhar	(i) Jangalpura (ii) Rani (i) Gerua (ii) Kurthia
2.	Bhojpur	(a) Garhani  (b) Koilwar	(i) Bagwan (ii) Dularpur (i) Haripur (ii) Milki
3.	Gaya	(a) Damaria  (b) Konch	(i) Naghri (ii) Pachmah (i) Bhikhanpura (ii) Parhans
4.	Gopalganj	(a) Pachdedori  (b) Thawey	(i) Batwan (ii) harharwa Kalan (i) Rikhayee (ii) Uchhahal Tola
5.	Katihar	(a) Kursela  (b) Sameli	(i) Kataria (ii) Teengharia (i) Dumaria (ii) Nawabganj
6.	Khagaria	(a) Gogri  (b) Mansi	(i) Chandpur (ii) Simla (i) Akania (ii) Matihani

7.	Saharsa	(a) Mahishi  (b) Satar Katiya	(i) Birwar (ii) Kundah (i) Bela (ii) Bishunpur
8.	Samastipur	(a) Kalyanpur  (b) Mohiuddin Nagar	(i) Bamauli (ii) Simri Gopal (i) Mastalipur (ii) Nandani Persuram
9.	Sheohar	(a) Piprahi  (b) Sheohar	(i) Kuama (ii) Majhaura (i) Jafarpur (ii) Muhari.

The Social composition of sampled house holds of the sample these villages have been shown in the chart. Availability of infrastructure facilities in these villages have been shown in the enclosed table 1.

**TABLE-1**  
**Distance of sample village from Infrastructural Facilities**

Figs in Km.

	VILLAGE	District	Sub-div.	Block	Metal road	Rly.	Bus stand	Post office	Bank	Police station	Police town post	Fair price shop
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Jangalpura	35	35	18	10	18	10	4	1	18	18	2
2.	Rani	24	24	5	1	4	4	4	4	4	4	0
3.	Gerua	52	52	12	2	34	12	0	12	12	12	0
4.	Kurthia	45	45	06	0	50	06	02	06	06	01	01
5.	Bagwan	17	17	4	0	17	0	0	0	3	Nil	Nil
6.	Dularpur	14	14	5	1	14	1	0	5	5	Nil	0
7.	Haripur	25	25	6	1.4	6	6	0	1 ½	6	Nil	Nil
8.	Milki	20	20	5	1	6	6	1	6	6	Nil	0
9.	Naghari	80	40	10	4	80	4	3	4	10	10	3
10.	Pachmah	80	40	10	3	8	3	1	3	10	10	0
11.	Bhikanpur	32	33	22	3	3	10	3	3	22	1	0
12.	Parhans	32	34	22	4	2	8	1	8	22	3	2
A.	South Bihar Average (%age)	38	31.6	10.4	2.57	20.7	5.83	1.6	4.4	10.5	5.3	0.7
13.	Batwa	40	40	2	0	18	2	0	2	8	Nil	Nil
14.	Harharwa	48	35	2	0	25	2	2	2	13	Nil	Nil
15.	Rikhayee	6	6	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	Nil	Nil
16.	Uchhahaltola	6	6	1	0	1 ½	1	1 ½	1	2	Nil	Nil
17.	Kataria	50	50	6	01	3	01	6	6	6	6	0
18.	Teengharia	41	41	3	0	1 ½	2	1 ½	1 ½	2	2	1
19.	Dumaria	52	52	3	0	7	5	2	5	5	5	1 ½
20.	Nawabganj	50	50	4	0	6	4	2	4	4	4	2
21.	Chandpur	28	28	2	0	9	2	2	2	2	2	0
22.	Sirnia	30	5	5	0	10	4	4	4	4	4	0
23.	Akaniya	7	7	1 ½	0	1	1 ½	1 ½	1	1	1 ½	2
24.	Matihani	8	8	1	0	½	1/8	¼	1	1/8	1/8	1
25.	Birvar	23	23	7	4	23	3	3	3	7	7	0
26.	Kundah	25	25	8	5	25	5	0	5	5	5	0
27.	Bela	22	22	5	½	8	½	4	5	5	5	0
28.	Bishanpur	6	6	2	0	4	6	2	2	4	4	2
29.	Ramauli	15	15	3	0	12	0	1.5	2	3.5	Nil	1
30.	Simari Gopal	26	26	13	14	26	17	1	11	8	4	1.5
31.	Mastalipur	42	42	4	4	2	4	1	0	0	4	0
32.	Nandani Persuram	45	10	7	0	3	10	2	2	10	10	0
33.	Kuama	18	18	25	6	18	6	0	6	25	23	0
34.	Majhaura	5	5	5	2	25	2	2	5	5	5	1
35.	Jafarpur	3	3	3	3	30	3	2	3	3	3	0
36.	Muhari	5	5	5	1	25	1	3	5	16	16	0
B.	North Bihar Average (%age)	25	22	4.9	1.69	11.9	3.5	1.9	3.4	5.9	4.7	0.5

**TABLE-1 (Contd.)**  
**Distance of sample village from Infrastructural Facilities**

	VILLAGE	PCO	Primary Health centre	Primary school	Middle school	High school	College	Aanganb ari	Hat/ bazar	Electric office	Telephon e office	Govt. Vet. Hosp.
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1.	Jangalpura	18	18	3	2	10	18	0	3	18	18	10
2.	Rani	4	3	0	4	4	1	0	4	4	4	5
3.	Gerua	12	2	0	5	12	3	0	12	12	12	12
4.	Kurthia	06	06	0	06	06	06	0	06	06	06	06
5.	Bagwan	1	0	0	0	3	4	4	3	17	3	3
6.	Dularpur	5	10	0	1	1	14	0	5	14	14	5
7.	Haripur	1 ½	0	0	1	6	25	Nil	1 ½	7	25	6
8.	Milki	6	6	1	6	6	20	Nil	6	6	6	6
9.	Naghari	10	2	1	3	3	40	2	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
10.	Pachmah	10	3	0	3	3	4	0	3	10	10	10
11.	Bhikanpur	10	22	0	1	3	32	Nil	10	10	Nil	3
12.	Parhans	10	2	0	3	2	32	22	2	8	32	22
A.	South Bihar Average (%age)	7.89	6.2	0.4	2.9	4.9	16.7	2.3	4.9	9.3	10.8	7.3
13.	Batwa	2	2	0	0	8	40	Nil	2	8	30	8
14.	Harharwa	2	3	0	4	6	35	Nil	2	35	13	13
15.	Rikhayee	1	1	½	1	1	6	Nil	1	6	6	1 ½
16.	Uchhahaltola	2	3	1	1 ½	1 ½	6	0	1 ½	6	6	1 ½
17.	Kataria	6	0	0	0	6	7	Nil	6	6	6	6
18.	Teengharia	1 ½	2	0	2	½	3	Nil	2	2	2	3
19.	Dumaria	0	7	0	1	7	5	Nil	5	5	5	7
20.	Nawabganj	4	1	0	0	6	23	Nil	4	4	6	6
21.	Chandpur	0	2	0	1	1	¼	0	2	2	2	2
22.	Sirnia	0	4	0	0	0	6	0	4	4	4	4
23.	Akaniya	1	1	0	2	2	7	0	2	½	1	3
24.	Matihani	1	1 ½	0	1	1	8	0	1	1	1	1
25.	Birvar	4	7	0	0	4	23	0	3	7	23	7
26.	Kundah	5	0	0	0	4	25	0	2	8	25	8
27.	Bela	0	5	½	½	3	22	8	4	22	22	22
28.	Bishanpur	2	2	0	0	6	6	2	1	6	6	6
29.	Ramauli	3	1	0	2	2.5	15	0	1	3	Nil	3
30.	Simari Gopal	11	11	0	1	4	11	2	2	11	11	11
31.	Mastalipur	4	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	3.5	4	4
32.	Nandani Persuram	10	0	0	0	0	7	Nil	2	7	10	10
33.	Kuama	6	6	0	6	6	15	Nil	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
34.	Majhaura	2	5	0	2	7	27	1	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
35.	Jafarpur	3	4	0	4	4	28	4	4	3	3	3
36.	Muhari	3	7	0	7	7	38	7	0	Nil	Nil	Nil
B.	North Bihar Average (%age)	3.1	3.2	0.04	1.7	3.8	15.7	1.2	2.7	6.0	7.6	5.4