

**Ensuring Inclusiveness from the Gender Perspective in the UNDP
Country Programme for India (2008-2012)**

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This report has been prepared by a team including Shrayana Bhattacharya, Jyotsna Sivaramayya, Rajib Nandi, Rina Bhattacharya and Ratna M. Sudarshan. Vishal Goyal has helped with data analysis. ISST is thankful to Meenakshi Kathel and Nandini Oberoi at UNDP office, New Delhi for their advice and comments.

Institute of Social Studies Trust
U.G. Floor, Core 6A
India Habitat Centre
Lodhi Road
New Delhi 110 003
Tel: +91-11-24647873, 24653780
Tele-fax: +91-11-24648724
Website: www.isst-india.org

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Team for preparation of the Report at ISST Ensuring Inclusiveness from the Gender
Perspective in the UNDP Country Programme for India (2008-2012)

Shrayana Bhattacharya : Jharkhand and Orrissa

Jyotsna Sivaramayya : Rajasthan

Rajib Nandi : Bihar and Uttar Pradesh

Rina Bhattacharya : Chattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh

Ratna M. Sudarshan : Overview and Coordination

Ensuring Inclusiveness from the Gender Perspective in the UNDP Country Programme for India (2008-2012)

Overview

Inclusiveness

Ensuring inclusiveness from a gender perspective in practical terms can be interpreted as

- First, ensuring that the views and voices of both women and men are able to **influence the design** of programmes and policies
- Second, that women and men are both able to **access the benefits** of programmes and policies

Before highlighting the key issues that need to be addressed in the seven UNDAF states in order to strengthen inclusiveness from a gender perspective, the historical origins of gender inequality can be briefly reviewed.

Source of gender inequalities

Culturally observed differences in roles and responsibilities of men and women lead to different decisions by households and families on investments and allocations for boys and girls. For example, the understanding that men are the primary breadwinners and women the primary home makers makes education-for-employment a more desirable route for boys than girls, and households are therefore willing to make greater sacrifices for sustained schooling and further education of boys. Women's work participation can be very high but is usually understood as a household decision – that is, women will work if the household needs them to work, but the primacy of the household is not altered by the fact of women's work participation. This influences the choice of work – thus, over 50 % of women in non agricultural work are in home based work, which means they remain at home even though they may be working a full eight to nine hours a day. It also means that women's paid work does not lead to commensurate reduction in their care responsibilities, leading to very long hours of work.

The Constitution, however, gives women equal rights with men, and the legal framework supports women's independent rights. The Constitution and the State thus seek to give women the rights and the freedom to participate fully and equally in economic, social and political spheres, along with men.

To understand why gender disparities exist and persist, it is the struggle between the modernity that is guaranteed by the State and the expectations that are imposed by tradition and culture that needs to be understood.

Since tradition and culture varies across the country, the precise nature of gender inequality is also not the same in different parts of the country.

The UNDAF States: Summary of Observations on Gender Inequality

The table below briefly summarises some key indicators relevant to understanding the nature of the challenges facing UNDAF states in ensuring inclusiveness from a gender perspective. While poverty and low human development affect both men and women,

special interventions are needed to ensure that women are able to participate and benefit in the same manner as men, in light of the constraints and restraints that are present in society and as a result of women's weaker access to work and assets.

State Profile: Summary of Key Indicators (%ages)

Indicator	Bihar	Chhatisgarh	Jharkand	Madhya Pradesh	Orissa	Rajasthan	Uttar Pradesh
Population below the poverty line (%)	41.4	40.9	40.3	38.3	46.4	22.1	32.8
Rural Population (%)	90	80	91.7	73	85	76.6	79
Sex Ratio	919	990	941	920	972	922	898
Female Work Force Participation (%)							
Rural:	13.8	45.4	31.3	36.6	35.1	40.7	24.1
Urban:	6.8	18.1	13.7	15.6	20.2	18.8	12.0
Male Work Force Participation (%)							
Rural:	48.6	56.5	54.5	54.8	60.4	51.6	49.9
Urban:	48.5	52.9	51.0	54.2	55.3	52.3	54.2
Ratio of female to male migrants							
Inter-state	6.2	1.25	1.4	1.95	1.5	2.1	2.4
Inter-district	6.6	2.18	3.3	2.5	1.8	3.0	4.39
Intra-district	8.9	3.98	6.4	4.4	4.9	5.3	5.2
Women who have heard of AIDS (%)							
Rural	29.8	30.7	15.8	35	57.8	19	31.3
Urban	67.7	78.8	71.5	74.1	83.7	73	67.7
Men who have heard of AIDS (%)							
Rural	65.3	58.5	41.7	58.8	68.7	64.5	69.1
Urban	91.1	98.2	89.1	94.8	91.9	96.5	88.2
Female Literacy (%)	33.57	52.4	32	50.3	50.5	44.3	42.2
Male Literacy (%)	60.32	77.86	68	76.1	75.3	76.46	68.8
Institutional Deliveries (%)							
Rural:	19	7.5	11.0	20.2	34.6	23.3	18
Urban:	48	58	54.1	59.9	65	67.7	40

Sources: Poverty: Planning Commission estimates (2004-05) based on NSS 61st Round by using Uniform Recall Period (URP) Consumption; Census 2001 (Population, sex ratio, literacy); Census India D Series (Migration tables); NFHS-3 (2005-6) [AIDS awareness, institutional deliveries]

As the table suggests (and as discussed in greater detail in the chapters that follow, the main sources of livelihood for women continue to be land (agriculture), forests and household industry. In all states, the link between ecological health and women's well being is strong for this reason.

The sex ratio has been seen as a key indicator reflecting the social status of women and in the districts and blocks in which the sex ratio is low and falling, this can be seen as a danger signal warranting further probing and stronger effort to change the environment in a manner that enhances the value and prestige attached to being a woman.

The social profile including health and education indicators, shows persistent gender gaps and rural-urban gaps.

Migration data shows that women migrate far more than men, and even though much of this may be consequent upon marriage, the fact is that after marriage most women will need to work and so they would have the status of migrant workers in new place of residence. Since women migrants are vulnerable to trafficking this is an area needing to be made more visible so that protective regulations and institutions can be put in place.

While available data is a useful way of getting an overview of the situation, the limitations of data also need to be kept in mind.

For example, it is well known that data on women's work tends to undercount many kinds of productive activity that women do, so that many women workers do not get recorded as such.

The presence of health and education infrastructure does not give us ready information on quality of service and on problems of access that may be faced by women.

Top 10 states providing female in-migrants to Delhi

States	Total migrants
Uttar Pradesh	1,001,453
Haryana	309,998
Bihar	232,588
Uttranchal	134,054
Rajasthan	127,858
Punjab	125,526
West Bengal	74,079
Madhya Pradesh	46,640
Jharkhand	42,007 ^[1]
Kerala	38,464

Source: Census of India, 2001

National Initiatives: Implementing the NREGA

The NREGA is a national effort that is particularly significant for women given that the majority of women continue to be dependent on agriculture, and the inability of agriculture to generate adequate annual income could be offset by earnings from public works started under the NREGA.

The Table below shows that there are considerable differences in the participation of women in the NREGA, despite the one-third reservation that is stipulated for women. Data from the official website (accessed November 2007) shows that while in Rajasthan

^[1] 36% of the Jharkhand migrants are women. The state/UT with highest percentage share of women in-migrants in Delhi is Dadra and Naveli.

the female share of total person days is as high as 68 %, in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar it is only 17 and 18 %. The reasons for these differences need to be explored.

Table 1: Women and the NREGA

Rank	States	Total person days (lakhs)	Total female work days (lakhs)	Female share of total person days (percentage)	Expenditure per household (Rupees)
3	RAJASTHAN	998.87	670.68	68	5897.532
9	MADHYA PRADESH	1971.77	852.53	44	6498.463
10	CHHATTISGARH	700.21	275.29	40	5321.89
11	JHARKHAND	520.47	205.46	40	-
14	ORISSA	799.34	284.58	36	5260.956
23	BIHAR	596.87	103.72	18	4220.274
24	UTTAR PRADESH	822.91	136.21	17	3029.928
	Country average			41	

Source: <http://nrega.nic.in/states/nregampr.asp> (accessed on November 2007)

National Initiatives: JNNURM

India's urban population is growing, cities are seen as 'engines of growth', and hence investment in urban areas is being given priority. Six of the seven UNDAF states contain cities that have been identified as eligible for the JNNURM, as shown below. Ensuring inclusiveness from gender perspective in the implementation of this programme requires special attention to factors such as:

- ensuring safety at all hours through presence of street lighting and security personnel
- ensuring distribution of facilities (toilets, water, sewage) for all parts of the city including slum populations
- encouraging active participation of elected women councilors and mayors in city planning and development, and ensuring processes that allow women whether individually or in groups to interface with elected bodies so as to help in engendering the planning process

List of identified Cities eligible for JNNURM

	Mega Cities	Million plus cities	Cities with less than one million population
Bihar		Patna	Bodhgaya
Chhatisgarh			
Jharkand		Jamshedpur Dhanbad	Raipur Ranchi
Madhya Pradesh		Bhopal	Ujjain

		Jabalpur Indore	
Orissa			Bhubaneshwar Puri
Rajasthan		Jaipur	Ajmer-Pushkar
Uttar Pradesh		Lucknow Varanasi Agra Kanpur Meerut Allahabad	Mathura

Source: <http://jnnurm.nic.in/toolkit/Overview.pdf> accessed 19 December 2007

Bihar

1. Context

Bihar is India's third most populated state with a total population of 83 million, with a more than 35 million people below poverty line. The state's economic performances lag seriously behind national trends, and are a significant contributing factor to the growing income gap across states. The trend in the growth rate of Bihar's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) during the Tenth Plan has been volatile. During this period, against an average growth rate of 7 percent for the Indian economy, Bihar's average annual growth rate was 4.01 percent. During the Tenth Plan, Bihar's economy grew at a rate that was marginally higher than its growth rate in the Ninth Plan period and even its per capita income just crept up. However, during this period, Bihar's per capita GSDP growth rate (2.00 %) has been low compared to the national Average (5.50 %). Over 42 percent of Bihar's population below the poverty line, is the highest in India. Its poverty gap, which measures the depth of poverty, is also far above the national average. Rural poverty incidence (41.1%) is substantially higher than the urban level (24.7%); with a low urbanization rate, poverty is predominantly rural.¹

Bihar is organized into 38 districts, 101 Sub-divisions, 9 divisions, 534 development blocks and 8471 panchayats covering 45,103 revenue villages. (District Arwal, the latest district of Bihar came to existence in September 2001 from Jehanabad.² In Census India 2001 data separate details for this district has not been given)

The history of Bihar is very ancient. The ancient kingdoms of Magadh and of Licchavis, around about 7-8th century B.C., produced rulers who developed a system of administration which is discussed quite often in Indian history. During the British rule, Bihar was a part of the Presidency of Bengal. When separated from the Bengal Presidency in 1912, Bihar and Orissa comprised a single province. Later, under the Government of India Act of 1935, the Division of Orissa became a separate province; and the Province of Bihar came into being as an administrative unit of British India. At Independence in 1947, the State of Bihar, with the same geographic boundary, formed a part of the Republic of India, until 1956. At that time, an area in the south-east, predominantly the district of Purulia, was separated and incorporated into West Bengal as part of the Linguistic Reorganization of Indian States. Again, in 2000, 18 administrative districts of Bihar were separated to form the state of Jharkhand.³

The state of Bihar, has an area of 94,163 sq kms approximately with a population of 82,998,509 persons. Till 1991 Census, the composite state of Bihar was the second most populous state in the country (containing slightly more than 10% of the country's population), next only to Uttar Pradesh. However, after bifurcation of the state of Bihar and creation of the new state of Jharkhand, the rank of Bihar among the states of India has slipped down to third.

¹ Govt. of Bihar (2006) *Annual Plan 2006-2007*, Planning and Development Department, Patna

² Districts of Bihar at <http://gov.bih.nic.in/Profile/Districts/Arwal.htm> (accessed on December 18, 2007)

³ Govt. of Bihar: Official Web Portal at <http://gov.bih.nic.in/Profile/default.htm> (accessed on December 18, 2007)

2. Demographic and Socio-economic Profile

Population levels are closely related to poverty, growth and human development. Bihar's decadal population growth was 28.62 between 1991 and 2001, which is higher than India's overall population growth rate. Bihar's demography is marked by an adverse sex ratio. In 2001 census several districts found with very poor sex-ratio. These districts are Munger (872), Patna (873), Bhagalpur (876), Khagaria and Sheohar (885). Only in two districts are above 1000. These are Siwan (1031) and Gopalganj (1001).⁴

The demographic composition of Bihar (see table: 1) shows that it's a predominantly rural. Almost 90 percent of the population in Bihar lives in the rural areas. Almost 16 percent of its population belongs to Schedule Caste community. The Schedule Tribe population is comparatively low in Bihar, which is less than 1 percent. In the state, there are over seven percent households are headed by women, which is below national average.

Table 1: Demographic and Socio-economic Profile

S. No.	Item	Bihar	India
1	Total population	82,998,509	1,028,737,436
	Male	43,243,795	532,223,090
	Female	39,754,714	496,514,346
	Scheduled Caste	13,048,608 (15.72%)	166635700 (16.20%)
	Male	6,784,676	86088780
	Female	6,263,932	80546940
	Scheduled Tribe	758,351 (0.91%)	84326240 (8.20%)
	Male	393,114	42640829
	Female	365,237	41685411
	Rural Population	74,316,709 (89.54%)	742490639 (72.17%)
	Male	38,594,996	381602674
	Female	35,721,713	360887965
	Urban Population	8,681,800 (10.46%)	286119689 (27.81%)
	Male	4,648,799	150554098
	Female	4,033,001	135565591
	Sex Ratio	919	933
	Female Headed Households (Percentage of total hhs)	1012794 (7.38 %)	19987858 (10.35 %)
	Decadal Population growth (%)	28.62	21.54
	Population below poverty line (%)*	41.40	27.50

Source: Census of India, 2001, * Planning Commission (2007) Poverty Estimates of 2004-05 (<http://planningcommission.nic.in/news/prmar07.pdf>)

⁴ Census of India 2001 at <http://www.censusindia.gov.in/> (accessed on December 18, 2007)

3. Poverty and Access to Economic Opportunity

Women's Work in the state

NSS 61st round survey (2004-05) captures overall low participation by women both in rural and urban Bihar (see table:2). Women's participation in work is much lower in the urban areas than that of the rural areas. NSS reports that women's workforce participation in urban Bihar is half than the figure in rural areas.

Table 2: Work Participation Rates for Men and Women: Bihar and India, 2004-05*

	Bihar		India	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Men	48.6	48.5	55.5	57.0
Women	13.8	6.8	33.3	17.8
Men & Women Combined	32.0	29.0	44.6	38.2

Note: * usual status ps+ss

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

2001 Census data show a much higher percentage of men in main worker category (40.5 %), than the women (8.9 %) in Bihar. In the state, more than 50 percent of women workers belong to marginal workers category. More than 81 percent of women have been categorized as non-workers in Bihar. The following table (table: 3) presents a comparative picture of gender-wise main and marginal workers in Bihar.

Table 3: Main, Marginal and Non Workers by Gender and Location in Bihar (in percent)

	Men			Women		
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
Main worker	40.84	37.66	40.49	9.38	4.70	8.91
Marginal Worker	7.21	4.04	6.87	10.79	2.34	9.93
Non Worker	51.95	58.31	52.63	79.82	92.96	81.16

Source: Census of India, 2001

In Bihar, women workers are mostly concentrated in agricultural sector. In rural Bihar almost 88 percent of women workers are engaged in agriculture (see Table: 4). However, unlike men workers, women are engaged more as agricultural labourer in the sector. Districts like Paschim Champaran and Purnia have been identified with high concentration of women agricultural labourers (80%). Nalanda and Nawada districts have relatively higher percentage of women cultivators, i.e. around 34 and 37 percent respectively. In Bihar two districts have been identified with a relatively higher participation by women workers in household industries. These are Jamui (38%) and Begusari (12%). In Begusarai, many women workers are involved with bidi making industry.

The urban work scenario is slightly different from rural. Here 26 percent women workers are employed as agricultural labourer. In districts Banka, Gopalganj, Lakhisarai, Paschim Champaran and Supaul, more than 50 percent of women workers are engaged as agricultural labourers. About 16 percent of women workers are occupied with household industries. Women participation in household industries is high in Jamui (55%), Nalanda (31%) and Bhagalpur (26%).

Table 4: Location and Sector-wise Participation of Men and Women Workers in Bihar

Location	Gender	Cultivators	Agricultural Labourer	Household Industries	Other Workers
Rural	Men	34.27	46.01	3.00	16.71
	Women	23.86	64.00	5.53	6.61
Urban	Men	5.25	10.18	5.16	79.41
	Women	5.88	26.37	15.80	51.94

Source: Census India, 2001

Female Wage Rates

In the labour market, women generally get an unfair deal. Constrained by illiteracy, lack of skills, lack of organization and with little mobility, women have no bargaining power. Both men and women often earn less than the minimum wage but they are often unaware of the Minimum Wages Act. Illiteracy and lack of information can adversely affect human rights. We have already found a large concentration of women workers in agriculture in rural Bihar. However, they are highly discriminated as far as the wage rate is concerned. The following table (Table: 5) shows the wage differences between men and women in agricultural jobs in the state.

Table 5: Average Daily Wage Rates in Agricultural Occupations in Rural Bihar during April 2005 by Sex (in Rupees)

Task	Men	Women	Woman to Man Ratio
Ploughing	60.47	Not Reported	N.A.
Sowing	56.68	51.22	0.90
Weeding	48.85	41.85	0.86
Transplanting	52.40	49.35	0.94
Harvesting	58.23	54.77	0.94
Winnowing	51.50	41.44	0.80
Threshing	55.71	48.00	0.86

Source: Wage Rates in Rural India 2004-05 at <http://labourbureau.nic.in/WRRI-2004-05%20Contents.htm> (accessed on December 18, 2007)

Women wage rates are lower than that of the men both for the regular salaried employees and casual workers in public and private works. The following tables indicate the lower wage rates received the women in India and Bihar.

Table 6: Average Wage/Salary earnings per day received by regular wage/salaried employees

(in Rupees)

	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	F:M	Male	Female	F:M
India	144.93	85.53	0.59	203.28	153.19	0.75
Bihar	175.97	96.72	0.55	249.61	209.45	0.84

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Table 7: Average daily wages for casual workers of age between 15-59 years engaged in works other than public works

(in Rupees)

	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	F:M	Male	Female	F:M
India	55.03	34.94	0.63	75.10	43.88	0.58
Bihar	45.41	37.42	0.82	54.65	81.91	1.50

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Table 8: Average daily wages for rural casual workers of age between 15-59 years engaged in public works

(in Rupees)

	Rural		
	Male	Female	F:M
India	65.33	49.19	0.75
Bihar	79.75	-	-

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Female Child Labour in Bihar

The total population of the persons, aged 5-14 years in the State is 238.68 lakhs. Out of this, 126.75 lakhs (53.11 per cent) are males and 111.93 lakhs (46.89 per cent) are females. The share of 5-14 years age group of the total population is 28.76 percent, with a sex ratio of 883.

In this age group, 4.68 percent are workers. According to Census 2001 data, the incidence of child labour (5-14 years) is lower than the national average of 5.0 percent. (see Table: 9) The incidence of girl child labour is again slightly lower in Bihar than the national average. In Bihar, 3.63 percent girl children aged between 5 and 14 are enumerated as workers against 4.85 percent, all India average. Among the boys 5.61 percent boys are enumerated as workers in Bihar, which is slightly higher than national average. Girl child labours are mostly concentrated in the group of marginal workers (2.43 %) than the main workers (1.20 %).

Table 9: Distribution of workers (5-14 years) by Sex

State/India	Total Workers			Main Workers			Marginal Workers		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
India	12666377	6804336	5862041	5778991	3696904	2182087	6887386	3207432	3679954
(percentage in the age group)	5.00	5.14	4.85	2.28	2.79	1.81	2.72	2.43	3.04
Bihar	1117500	710843	406657	539760	405049	134711	577740	305794	271946
(percentage in the age group)	4.68	5.60	3.63	2.26	3.20	1.20	2.42	2.41	2.43

Source: Census of India, 2001

Migration and Trafficking

Migration has been a livelihood strategy for people. It influences poverty and livelihoods for both men and women. However, in some cases female migration is closely associated with trafficking. The migration data from Bihar show that female migration (86%) in the state is six times higher than male migration (14%). This might have raised the

vulnerability of women migrants in the state as far as trafficking and HIV/AIDS are concerned. Even within the state, women migrate six times more than the men. These figures also included marriage related migration by women.

Table 10: Number of Migrants by Gender, Bihar

	India			Bihar		
	Men	Women	F:M	Men	Women	F:M
Inter State Migration	19098082	22068183	1.16	224706	1394325	6.21
	46.4%	53.6%		13.88%	86.12%	
Inter Dist. Migration	24241706	50384616	2.08	580310	3844000	6.62
	32.4%	67.5%		13.12%	86.88%	
Intra Dist. Migration	47337924	146255014	3.09	1425336	12800231	8.99
	24.4%	75.5%		10.02%	89.98%	

Source: Census of India, 2001

The following tables give reasons for migration as per the census 2001. It shows a very high female migration for marriage in the state.

Table 11: Reasons of Migration by Gender, Bihar

Reasons for Migration	Bihar		
	Persons	Male	Female
Work/Employment	473,161	382,355	90,806
	2.31	17.00	0.50
Business	42,119	22,935	19,184
	0.21	1.02	0.11
Education	85,672	68,975	16,697
	0.42	3.07	0.09
Marriage	16,015,036	133,868	15,881,168
	78.19	5.95	87.11
Moved after birth	75,569	44,100	31,469
	0.37	1.96	0.17
Moved with household	942,910	340,234	602,676
	4.60	15.13	3.31
Others	2,846,509	1,256,668	1,589,841
	13.90	55.87	8.72
Total	20,480,976	2,249,135	18,231,841

Source: Census of India, 2001

Trafficking of girls is a big problem in Bihar

Bihar State Women Development Corporation released a report on girl trafficking in Bihar's Kosi region. The report prepared by a voluntary organisation, Bhoomika Vihar, is based on a survey of 58 villages spread out in four districts – Katihar, Purnia, Araria and Kishanganj. It refers to vanishing of a large number of girls from the villages on the pretext of marriage, job promises or due to love affairs. The report, entitled "Bojh" (Burden), suggests that a large number of such girls end up being sex workers and are sent to brothels around the country. The report has identified 173 cases in which girls have become victims of trafficking and given their case histories. It says that more than 85 per cent of the victims were below the age of 18 and that almost half of them belonged to Dalit castes. It suggests that about 33 per cent of the victim girls taken out of their villages on the pretext of marriage have vanished

virtually without a trace. Releasing the report, Ms. S. Sidhu, the Managing Director of the Corporation, acknowledged girl trafficking as a major problem. She said women's home for victims of trafficking is no solution. Rehabilitation of such girls in society is a big problem because people refuse to accept them, she maintained, adding that rehabilitation of the victims should be done where they have grown. Arun Kumar of Bhoomika Vihar said girl trafficking is not an issue for society despite an alarming rise in the number of girls falling victim to this vice in the area. Referring to 25 red light areas in the four districts, he said they pose a great threat by spreading AIDS in the region. He maintained that the laws against girl trafficking should be amended to ensure punishment to the culprits. Inakshi Ganguli Thakural of Campaign Against Child Trafficking said the problem is not confined to Bihar as it prevails even in richer states like Haryana. She referred to the "hostile attitude" of police when it comes to taking up trafficking cases.

Asia Child Rights Weekly Newsletter Vol.3, No. 12 (17 March 2004)

<http://acr.hrschool.org/mainfile.php/0170/>

4. Social Profile

Age at Marriage

Child marriage has been illegal in India since the passing of the *Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929*. In India, legal age of marriage for the girls is 18 years and for the boys it is 21 years. However, there are plenty of cases of child marriage and marriages below the legal age both for the boys and the girls in India. According to Census 2001 data, in Bihar the incidence of child marriage (below 10 years) is higher than the national average (see Table 12). Over 58 percent marriages of all married women in the state took place below 18 years of age.

Table 12: Age at Marriage India and Bihar

		Currently married persons of all durations		
	Age at Marriage	Persons	Male	Female
India	All ages	468,593,016	231,820,399	236,772,617
	Below 10 years	10,316,817	3,232,370	7,084,447
		2.20	1.39	2.99
	Below 18 years	127,771,010	24,892,828	102,878,182
		27.27	10.74	43.45
	18 years and above	327,372,502	200,168,923	127,203,579
		69.86	86.35	53.72
Bihar	All ages	37,007,560	17,988,107	19,019,453
	Below 10 years	943,647	263,986	679,661
		2.55	1.47	3.57
	Below 18 years	14,344,280	3,228,687	11,115,593
		38.76	17.95	58.44
	18 years and above	21,914,708	14,377,279	7,537,429
		59.22	79.93	39.63

Source: Census of India, 2001

Health Indicators of Bihar

Population and health indicators in the state of Bihar are somewhat below the country average. Almost all the key indicators in the state are poor in the state. Total Fertility Rate, Maternal mortality Ratio and Infant Mortality Rates are higher in the state than the national average. The Total Fertility Rate of the State is 4.3. The Infant Mortality Rate is 61 and Maternal Mortality Ratio is 371 (SRS 2001-03)⁵ which are higher than the National average. The Sex Ratio in the State is 919 (as compared to 933 for the country). The Maternal Mortality Ratio in Bihar is the 4th highest in the country. The high level of MMR can be attributed to low level of institutional deliveries (22%) compared to national figure (41%), high level of anaemia among women. Comparative figures of major health and demographic indicators are as follows:

Table 13: Demographic, Socio-economic and Health profile of Bihar State as compared to India figures

S. No.	Item	Bihar	India
1	Crude Birth Rate (SRS 2006)	30.2	24.1
2	Crude Death Rate (SRS 2006)	8.1	7.5
3	Total Fertility Rate (SRS 2004)	4.3	2.9
4	Infant Mortality Rate (SRS 2006)	61	58
5	Maternal Mortality Ratio (SRS 2001 - 2003)	371	301
6	Sex Ratio (Census 2001)	919	933

Source: <http://mohfw.nic.in/NRHM/State%20Files/bihar.htm>

National Family Health Survey -3 (NFHS-3) reports that only 34 percent pregnant women in Bihar got at least one antenatal care service. There is a huge gap between rural and urban. The survey also reports that only 17 percent mothers had at least 3 antenatal care visits during their last child birth. In Bihar, deliveries are traditionally taken place at home. Consequently, institutional delivery is low in the state (22%) with wide difference between rural and urban areas. Most of the home deliveries take place without any assistance from health personnel. Use of contraceptive, as NFHS-3 reports is low in the state.

Bihar is a state, where a large number of girls get married before the age of 18. Moreover, the total Fertility Rate is as high as 4 in the state. Suffering from anemia by the pregnant women is quite common in the state. NFHS-3 reports that more than 60 percent pregnant women in the state suffer from anemia. NFHS-3 reports that knowledge of HIV/AIDS is terribly low among women in the state. Merely 35 percent of women have heard about HIV/AIDS. The figure is further low among the rural women (30%). In the state only 22 percent women know that the use of condom can reduce chances of getting HIV/AIDS.

Table 14: Population and Health Indicators of Bihar from NFHS-3

	Bihar	Urban	Rural
Marriage and Fertility			
Women age 20-24 married by age 18 (%)	60.3	37.3	65.2
Men age 25-29 married by age 21 (%)	43.0	23.2	48.8
Total fertility rate (children per woman)	4.00	2.87	4.22

⁵ Sample Registration System of India, Vital Statistics Division, Registrar General, India.

Anaemia among Children and Adults			
Children age 6-35 months who are anaemic (%)	87.6	75.8	89.0
Ever-married women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	68.3	68.8	68.2
Pregnant women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	60.2	66.4	59.4
Ever-married men age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	32.6	15.1	34.3
Knowledge of HIV/AIDS among men and women aged between 15-49			
Women who have heard of AIDS (%)	35.2	67.7	29.8
Men who have heard of AIDS (%)	70.0	91.1	65.3
Women who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	22.4	47.8	18.1
Men who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	58.4	79.9	53.6
Indicators related to Maternal Health and RH			
Any Antenatal Care (%) in last 3 years	34	53	32
Mothers who had at least 3 antenatal care visits for their last child birth (%)	16.9	36.2	14.5
Institutional Delivery (%)	22	48	19
Births assisted by a health personnel	30.9	56.1	27.6
Contraceptive Use (%) Married women 15-49	34	51	31

Source: NFHS-3 Fact Sheet – Bihar (Provisional Data) National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3) 2005-2006, Min. of Health and Family Welfare, GOI and IIPS, Mumbai

Literacy and Education in Bihar

Literacy is an effective instrument for social and economic development and national integration. It is defined in Census operations, as the ability to read and write with understanding in any language. Any formal education or minimum educational standard is not necessary to be considered literate. The latest census report (2001) reveal that at the beginning of new millennium literacy rate in India stands at 64.8%, with male literacy level at 75.3% and female literacy level at 53.7%. There has been only marginal increase in literacy level from the last census in 1991 (literacy level was 52.2%). (see Table 15)

Table 15: Literacy Rates 1991 – 2001 (Bihar and India)

Census Years	In percentage					
	Bihar			India		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1991	38.48	52.49	22.89	52.19	64.20	39.19
2001	47.53	60.32	33.57	64.8	75.3	53.7

Source: Census of India 1991, Final Population Tables, Series-I, Paper 2 of 1992; http://www.censusindia.gov.in/Census_Data_2001/Census_Data_Online/Social_And_Cultural/Literates_Rate.aspx

For Bihar (the least literate state) the rate is merely 47.5%. Moreover, in Bihar there is a huge gap between male literacy (60.3%) and female literacy (33.6%). The literacy rates in some districts of Bihar present a very depressing picture. As the census data shows four districts viz. Kishanganj, Purnea, Araria and Katihar are at the lowest rung of the ladder. Kishanganj district has the lowest literacy rate (31%) with 43 percent of male literacy and 19 percent of female literacy. A few other districts have been identified with low female literacy like Supaul (21%), Araria (22%) and Madhepura (22%). There is also a sharp

difference in literacy rates between rural and urban locations. The difference is sharper for the female literacy. (see Table 16)

Table 16: Rural Urban difference in the Literacy Rates of Bihar, 2001

	Rural	Urban
Male	57.1	79.9
Female	29.6	62.6
Persons	43.9	71.9

Source: Census of India, 2001

The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) is also one of the lowest in Bihar. The GER at the primary stage for Bihar in 2006 was 70.9 per cent as compared to the figure of 98.2 per cent for the country as a whole. The drop out rates at various stages of education in Bihar are extremely high as compared to such rates for the country as a whole. From class I-V, the drop out rate in Bihar is 59.03 per cent, a little less than double of the figure of 31.47 per cent for the country as a whole.⁶ Gender disaggregated data on gross enrollment ratio, published by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India in 2001-2002 for Bihar shows the poor GER in the state as well as the difference between the boys and the girls in primary and middle education. The school dropout rates are higher in Bihar in comparison to all India figures.

Table 17: The Gross Enrollment Ratio in Bihar Schools as reported by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, as on 30 September, 2002

	School Enrollment Ratio 2002-2003 (Provisional)					
	Classes I-V (6-11 Years)			Classes VI-VIII (11-14 Years)		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
India#	94.90	104.08	85.18	58.79	67.15	49.66
Bihar*	78.70	95.45	61.19	30.07	38.22	21.07

Source: Govt. of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Education (2001). Annual Report 2000-2001*. New Delhi. P. 218; Annual Report 2003-2004#, p. 261.

Table 18: Dropout Rate Classes I-VIII (2001-2002)

	Total	Boys	Girls
India	54.53	51.96	58.00
Bihar	75.03	71.90	80.31

Source: Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Education. *Annual Report 2002-2003*. GOI, New Delhi

Crime against Women in Bihar

Over 37 percent married women in the country were victims of physical or sexual abuse by their husbands at sometime in their lives, reports NFHS-3 survey. There are large variations among the states. Abuse ranges from a low of 6% in Himachal Pradesh to a high of 59% in Bihar. Survey says that lack of education is main reason behind it. Illiterate women have suffered more spousal violence in comparison to literate women. In Bihar,

⁶ Govt. of Bihar (2007) *Report of the Common School System Commission*, (Chapter :4, Present status of School Education in Bihar, p. 41) 8 June 2007. CSSC, Patna.

women in urban areas fared worse than those in rural areas. While 62.2 percent underwent the trauma in urban areas, it was 58.5 percent women in villages.⁷

Table 19: Incidence and Rate of Crime Committed against Women in Bihar and India, 2001

State	Incidence	Percentage contribution to all-India total	Rate of total cognizable crimes
Bihar	5356	3.7	6.5
India	143795	100	14.0

Source: <http://nrcw.nic.in> (National Resource Centre for women, National Commission for Women) based on data from Ministry of Home Affairs, National Crime Records Bureau (2003), Crime in India 2001. New Delhi p. 261

Table 20: Incidence of Crimes Committed against Women during 2004

	Bihar	India
Rape	1049	16078
Kidnapping and abduction	669	14895
Dowry Deaths	855	6655
Cruelty by husband and relatives	1431	48343
Molestation	258	31836
Eve-teasing	5	13364
Importing of Girls (up to 21 years)	7	112
I.T.P. Act	1	5114
Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition)	1	3092
Dowry Prohibition Act	1217	2546
Total	5493	142035

Source: <http://nrcw.nic.in> (National Resource Centre for women, National Commission for Women)

5. Politics and Participation

Bihar is often called a political lab for its volatility, has come to news for having elected 24 women legislators in the recent assembly polls in a strident move towards empowerment.⁸ Women constitute 10 per cent of the total legislators in the 243-member Bihar State Assembly. The state government of Bihar has decided to reserve 50 percent seats for women in the Panchayat bodies. Similar reservation would be provided to the women in the upcoming civic body elections too. The state cabinet has already approved the proposal.

6. Centrally and State Sponsored Programmes

Annual Plan 2006-07 has identified schemes which directly benefit women. This is also the first time that such an exercise is undertaken. The Annual Plan has allocated a total sum of Rupees 90,940.25 lakh in the women components in the state plan programmes,

⁷ NFHS-3 (2007) "Summary of Key Findings", Available at <http://www.nfhsindia.org/summary.html> (accessed on December 16, 2007)

⁸ List of MLAs in Bihar <http://gov.bih.nic.in/Governance/MP-MLA.htm> (accessed on Dec 16, 2007)

which is 45.54 percent of the total allocation of the state annual plan in the year 2006-2007. Details of a few schemes under Rural Development, Primary and Adult Education, social Welfare has been given below.

Centrally Sponsored Programmes

National Employment Guarantee Scheme : This scheme aims at providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members are volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The Govt. of Bihar has proposed to implement Employment Guarantee Scheme in such rural areas as may be notified by the Govt. of India from the year 2006-07. Under this scheme, the Govt. of India will provide for the entire wages of unskilled labourers while the State Govt. will bear 25 percent of cost of materials and wages of skilled and semi- skilled workers. Rs.12000.00 lakh. A total budget of 3600 lakh Rupees has been allocated under women component in the Annual Plan.

Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana : This is a holistic programme to bring the assisted families below BPL in course of three years. Assistance to the beneficiaries would ensure that the family has a monthly income of at least Rs. 2000. Rs.6600.00 lakh. A sum of 2000 lakh Rupees has been allocated directly under women component in the Annual Plan.

Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana : This programme aims at providing wage employment and food security in the rural areas not covered by National Employment Guarantee Scheme. Rupees 2300 lakh has been allocated especially for the women beneficiaries in the scheme in the state.

Indira Awas Yojana : This is a flagship rural housing scheme of the Govt. of India out of which has earmarked 20 percent of the fund meant for it towards upgrading unserviceable Kutchra Houses of BPL families in the rural areas. The people who cannot be covered under it would be assisted under credit and subsidy scheme. The entire budget of Rs.12100.00 lakh, has been allocated under Women Component under the scheme in the state.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan : For Universalisation of Elementary Education the scheme of S.S.A. has been started in 2001-02. Though there are still a good number of out of school children at present in the State, this scheme is gradually progressing towards 100% enrollment. Two new schemes have been added in the umbrella of this scheme – National Programme of Education for Girls upto Elementary Level (NPEGEL) and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidhyalaya Yojna (KGBVY). Provision towards State Share was Rs.30000.00 lakh for the year 2006-2007. A sum of Rupees 1200 lakh has been allocated under the women component.

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya : In the financial year 2006-07 this scheme is to be extended in rest of the educationally backward 429 Blocks. Towards Share for establishing Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya. Rs.1154.00 lakh.

Mid-day Meal: Total allocation Rupees 15345.60 lakh. Women Component was Rupees 5400 lakh.

Nutrition : ICDS : This scheme is for nutrition to children below six, lactating mothers and adolescent girls. Under this component there is a provision of Rs. 2.00 per day per child in the age group of 0 to 6 years, Rs. 2.30 per day per pregnant and lactating women and Rs. 2.70 per day per severely malnourished children in the age group of 6 months to 3 years. There is a provision of nutrition for 80 children, 16 pregnant and lactating women and 3 adolescent girls Per Anganwadi centre for 300 days in a year. The expenditure of the scheme is shared between the Centre and State. Government of India matches a rupee to a rupee, but only on reimbursement basis. Rs. 39720.00 lakh. Rs 18000 lakh was allocated under Women Component.

National Programme for Adolescent Girls : National Programme for Adolescent Girls is fully funded by the Government of India. It targets adolescent girls through the delivery system of Anganwadi Kendras. Under National Nutrition Mission there is a provision of distribution of 6 Kg. rice/wheat per month per beneficiaries to the malnourished adolescent girls. The adolescent girls having weight less than 35 kgs. would be identified as malnourished. Total allocation was Rs.1518.00 lakh in the year 2006-2007.

State Government sponsored Programmes

Bihar Employment Guarantee Scheme: In 15 districts where the National Employment Guarantee Scheme has not been started, the State Employment Guarantee Scheme, similar to the National scheme will be implemented. The State Government would be providing entire wages of unskilled labour and also bear 100% cost of materials and wages. The scheme is operationised from 2005-06. With this the entire State of Bihar will be covered by either National or State Employment Guarantee Scheme. Apart from creation of community assets, the twin schemes would also discourage poor people from distress migration. This is a major held initiative of the State Government. Rs. 20000 lakh. The share of Women Component in the total outlay was 6000 lakhs in Annual Plan 2006-2007, Govt. of Bihar.

Women Development Corporation : The main responsibilities of the corporation is to implement the various schemes for the social and economic development of empowerment of women in Bihar, for this an outlay of Rs.45.00 lakh is being proposed for the year 2006-07. Rs.45.00 lakh.

Help Line & Women's Empowerment : To help the women who are either tortured or deserted by their husband, family or society etc., Help Line schemes are being run in various districts of Bihar. An outlay of Rs.245.00 Lakh is proposed for the year 2006-07. Rs.245.00 lakh.

7. NGOs working on women's issues in Bihar

Patna

Adhiti

2/30, State Bank Colony-II, Bailey Road,
Patna-800014

Tel: +91-612-3254574 Mob: 09334910246, 09334750500
Email: adithiwomen@rediffmail.com

Asia Development Research Institute (ADRI)

BSIDC Colony, Off Boring Patliputra Road,
Patna-800013
Tel: +91-612- 2265649

All India Progressive Women's Association (AIPWA)

c/o Mina Tiwari, AIPWA office,
MLA Flat 147, Vir Chand Patel Path,
Patna-800001

Action against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children (ATSEC)

Prayas Bharati, D-34, Shahdeo Mahto Marg,
Patna-800001
Tel: +91-612- 2234827

Bihar Domestic Workers Welfare Trust

5B-1, Kulharia complex, 5th Flr,
Bankipore P.O.,
Ashok Rajpath, Patna-800004
Tel: +91-612- 2301808

Bihar Mahila Udyog Sangh

Chopra Bhawan
9, Nehru Nagar
Patna- 800 013
Phone +91(612) 3201435 (O)
Fax +91 (612) 2323518

Bihar Women's Network,

Abdin House, Fraser Road,
Patna-800001
Tel: +91-612-2207912

Centre for Community Resource Development (CENCORED)

A/16, Buddha Colony, East Boring Canal Road,
Patna-800001
Tel: +91-612-2523858

Chhatra Yuva Sangharsh Vahini

12, Rajindra Nagar, Patna-800016

Community Health Centre

Community Health Centre, Bakhriarpur Post
Patna - 803212
Tel (06132)226386

Ekta Parishad

PO: Amarpura (Naubatpur),
District: Patna 801117
Tel: 235290, 234259, 9431017138
Email: pragatigvs@sify.com

Graminevam Nagar Vikas Parishad
15, IAS Colony, Kidwaipuri
Patna-1

Hum Log
133, Patliputra Colony, Patna
Email: rahfam@rediffmail.com

Intergrated Development Foundation
Near Shyamal Hospital, Maurya Path
Khajpura, Patna - 800 014

Mahila Samakhya, Bihar
Bihar Bihar Education Project, Beltron Bhawan,
Shastrinagar, Patna-800023
Tel: +91-612-2280699

Mahila Jagran Kendra,
Nihar Women's Network
Abdin House, Fraser Road
Patna- 800001
Tel: Tel: +91-612-2207912

Mahila Jagiran Sanghatana
C/o Samta Gram Sewa Sanghatana,
Poorvi, Lohanipur, Patna-800003

Nari Vikas Parishad
Choti Kothi, Lalu Babu's Lane, Jaikrishna Road,
PO. Begumpur, Distt. Patna

Prayas Bharti Trust
D-34, Sahadeo Mahto Marg
S.K J. Ruri, Patna-800001
Tel: 234827

Sampoorna Kranti Manch
A 13, Housing Colony
Kankar Bagh, Patna-800020

Swa-Shakti
Women Development Corporation, Bihar,
2nd Flr, Indira Bhawan, R.C. Singh Path,
Patna-800001
Tel: +91-612-2226038

Women Welfare Society of Patna (WWSP),
Diamond Lodge, Room No. 7,
P.O. Bankipore, Subzibagh, Patna- 800004,
Tel- Tel: +91-612-2674210
Email: pwws@hotmail.com

Munger

Sarika Samdani
c/o Ujjal Ganguly ITD, ITC Ltd,
P.O Basdeopur, Munger,
Bihar
Tel: +91-9431237252

Nalanda

JAn Jagran Sansthan
Kagzi Mohalla, Bihar Sharif, Nalanda
Tel: 23261
Email jjs_nalanaa@sify.com

Madhubani

Sewa Mithila
C/o Gaud Mishra, Mangrani Road (Near Hanuman Temple)
Madhubani, Distt. Madhubani-847211

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Chhattisgarh

1. Context:

The Chhattisgarh state came into existence on 1st Nov., 2000 by the Bill “Madhya Pradesh Reorganization Act. 2000” passed in the Parliament. It is situated between 17.46 to 24.05 degree North latitudes and 80.15 to 84.26 East longitudes. Rice is the principal crop of the state. Uttar Pradesh to the North, Jharkhand to the North East Orissa to the east, Andhra Pradesh to the south-east and south, Maharashtra to the south-west, Madhya Pradesh to the west and north-west form its boundaries.

The State comprises of 16 districts, carved out of the original seven, viz., Raipur, Durg, Rajnandgaon, Bilaspur, Surguja, Raigarh and Bastar. The last three districts lie on the fringes of the region and are considerably influenced by the culture and ecology of the areas they border, Mirzapur, Ranchi, Gumla, Gadchiroli, some districts of Orissa, and the Telengana districts of Andhra pradesh.

The Chhattisgarh region has a large area under forest cover. Nearly one-third of the forests comprise Sal forest produce which provide livelihood to large numbers of population. Timber wood has an important place among the major forest produce. It contributes about forty percent of the total forest revenue. Nearly ten thousand industrial units depend on forests for their raw material base.

The river Mahanadi flows through the central part of the region, and the plain areas in the river valley are famous for rice cultivation. Chhattisgarh is known as the "rice bowl". Many of the rice varieties grown here are indigenous to the region and are adapted to local eco-climatic conditions. Apart from paddy, cereals like maize, kodo-kutki and other small millets, pulses like tur and kulthi and oilseeds like groundnut, sunflower are also grown. The main rabi crops of Chhattisgarh are jowar, gram, urad, mong and moth¹.

Chhattisgarh region is as well known for its rich cultural heritage as for its abundant deposits of natural resources. A variety of mineral resources are found in this region, diamond, gold, iron-ore, coal, corundum, bauxite, dolomite, lime, tin, granite to name a few. High quality iron-ore deposits are found in the Bailadila hill ranges as well as in Dalhi-Rajhara. Abundant deposits of limestone are found in the districts of Raipur, Bilaspur, Durg and Bastar facilitating the growth of several large cement plants in the area.

2. Demographic and Socio –Economic Profile of the State:

Chhattisgarh has approximately 32.5 % Scheduled Tribe population, 12% Scheduled Caste population, and other communities including a large number of people belonging to the Backward Classes constitute the rest of the population. Table-1 presents the Demographic and Socio –Economic profile of the state.

Scheduled Tribes:

¹ <http://cg.nic.in/SSA/PL/stateprofile.aspx>

Of the total ST population, 98.1% of this population lives in the rural areas and only 1.9% lives in urban Chhattisgarh. The Scheduled Tribes are concentrated in the southern, the northern and the north-eastern districts. The highest concentration is in the erstwhile Bastar district. The district of Dantewara has 79 percent tribals followed by Bastar (67 percent); Jashpur (65 percent), Surguja (57 percent) and Kanker (56 percent). There are a total of 42 tribes in Chhattisgarh, principal among them being the Gond tribe.

Scheduled Castes:

Most of the Scheduled Castes are found in the central and north central parts of Chhattisgarh. The districts of Janjgir-Champa, Bilaspur and Raipur had over 15 percent scheduled castes. The relatively larger concentration of scheduled castes is found in Raigarh, Kawardha and Mahasamund districts.

Status of Women:

The districts which now come under Chhattisgarh state ranked higher in the Gender Development Index than the rest of districts of then Madhya Pradesh². The relative freedom to women is evident in the local traditions and customs. The Pardah system, present in one form or the other in many parts of India is not present in Chhattisgarh except in a few Brahmin and Bania Communities. According to another local custom, women, other than those of these caste can choose to terminate a marriage relationship and through a custom called Chudi pahanana, if she so desires. In spite of these progressive local customs, male authority and dominance is seen quite clearly in the social and cultural life of Chhattisgarh.

Table 1: Demographic & Socio Economic Profile:

S. No.	Item	Chhattisgarh	India
1	Total population (Census 2001) (in million)	20.83	1028.61
2	Men	10.47	532.2
3	Women	10.36	496.4
4	Scheduled Caste	2.41	166.6
7	Scheduled Tribe	6.62	84.3
8	Total Urban	4.18	286.1
9	Men (U)	2.16	150.5
10	Women (U)	2.02	135.6
11	Total Rural	16.64	742.4
12	Men (R)	8.31	381.6
13	Women (R)	8.34	360.8
14	Decadal Growth (Census 2001) (%)	18.27	21.54
15	Sex Ratio (Census 2001)	990	933
16	Sex Ratio (Census 2001)	975	927
17	Population below Poverty line (%) #	40.9	27.5
18	Female Headed Households	11%	10.35%

Source: Census 2001; # Planning Commission Estimation (2004-05) based on NSS 61st Round data (URP consumption) <http://planningcommission.nic.in/news/prmar07.pdf>

²Human Development Report (1998) of the Government of Madhya Pradesh

Sex Ratio:

The sex ratio indicates Chhattisgarh has a higher sex ratio (990) as compare to the national average of 933. However there are districts that record much lower sex ratio compare to state average .These include Surguja, Koriya Korba and Raipur. As regards Child Sex ratio there are districts that recoded lower than the state averages. Among these are Rajgarh, Raipur, Bilaspur, Durg, and Janjgir (Census, 2001).

A look at the sex ratio data in Chhattisgarh reveals, although higher than the national average and second only to Kerala, has in fact been declining steadily over the last century, although a small reversal of the trend seems to be there between 1991 and 2001. In general, the sex ratio decline in Chhattisgarh has paralleled the process in the whole of India, although the absolute levels in the case of Chhattisgarh have been higher³.

Female Foeticides Increasing:

Chhattisgarh may lose its superior position in the country on general sex ratio status, if the state fails to check ‘alarming’ decline in the Child Sex Ratio (CSR) as indicated in the latest estimates of the Sample Registration System (SRS). The number of girls in the age group of 0–6 years has been steadily declining at the rate of 57 girls per thousand males in the last five years (2001–06) in the tribal-dominated state. This trend now threatens to significantly bring down a sex-ratio statistics of Chhattisgarh with 990 females per thousand males, which is next to Kerala state (1,058) according to the 2001 census⁴. The national average figure is 933.

According to the Population Foundation of India (PFI) that takes into account the nation-wide comparative data prepared by the SRS, there were 975 girls per thousand boys in 2001 in Chhattisgarh, which has now plummeted to 918 in 2006. The alarming rate was noticed while mapping the CSR in the state in terms of losing-counts of girl child and main reason behind the CSR decline seems to be latent female foeticide which might be widely-practiced but going unnoticed by the state government. The Act prohibiting Pre-Natal sex Determination Test (PNDT) exists but is not deterrent for both the doctors and the parents in the state.

3. Poverty and Access to Economic Opportunity

Table 2 shows the differences in male and female work force participation rates as per NSS data. In Chattisgarh female workforce participation is much higher as compared to All India. However, Census 2001 data show that 44.5% men accounts for main workers as against 22.3% women in Chhattisgarh. Less than 5% men and 17% women are marginal workers. Around 60% women and 47.1% men have been non- workers in the state.

Table 2: Work Participation Rates for Males and Females: Chhattisgarh & All India

Year	Chhattisgarh		All India	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Men 2004-05	56.5	52.9	54.6	54.9

³ <http://ncw.nic.in/pdfreports/Gender%20Profile-Chhattisgarh.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/Print.aspx?Id=4fb219ab-6f79-44ca-8a09-430c826d3a08#>

Women 2004-05	45.4	18.1	32.7	16.6
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Source: NSS Round on Employment and Unemployment (61st Rounds)

	Men			Women		
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
Main Worker	45.5	44.57	45.28	25.25	10.15	22.31
Marginal Worker	8.65	3.23	7.5	21.28	3.03	17.72
Non Worker	45.8	52.9	47.18	53.46	86.8	59.95

Source: Census of India 2001

Table 4: Distribution of Workers by Sector and Location: Chhattisgarh

Location	Gender	Cultivators	Agricultural Labour	Household Industries	Other Workers
Rural	Men	54.09	27.41	1.93	16.56
	Women	47.05	46.1	1.61	5.22
Urban	Men	3.3	2.9	2.7	90.9
	Women	6.84	14.67	7.56	70.89

Source: Census of India, 2001

In Chattisgarh women workers are concentrated in agriculture. For the state as a whole, while 82 % of men workers in rural Chattisgarh are cultivators or agricultural labourers, 93 % of women are so located. While 27 % of men rural workers are agricultural labourers, 46 % of women are so classified. 2 % of men and 2% & of women are in household industry in rural areas (Table-4).

Table-5 Gender Gap in Earnings in Regular Employment, Casual works in Public and other than Public Works

State/Locations	Average per day Earnings in Regular Employment		Average daily wages for Casual Workers in Public Works		Average daily wages for Casual Workers in Works (Non Public Works)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Chhattisgarh(Rural)	122.7	79.69	58.2	70.15	37.6	28.55
		0.65		1.2		0.76
Chhattisgarh(Urban)	180.2	69.03			47.62	32.43
		0.38				0.68
India (Rural)	144.93	85.53	65.33	49.19	55.03	34.94
		0.59		0.75		0.63
India (Urban)	203.28	153.19			75.1	43.88
		0.76				0.58

Source: NSS Report No 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Wage/Salary Earning by Gender:

There is a gender divide in wage earned among salaried employees and those working as casual workers (in works other than public works) Table-5. It is interesting to note that female earning is much higher as compared to males in case of public works in rural Chattisgarh.

Migration:

Table 6 shows the data on migration and the male/ female distribution of migrants. While more women than men are recorded as migrants in the all India data as well, the ratio is more skewed towards women in Chhattisgarh. Within the district, the ratio of females to males is 2.4. (and this movement may reflect marriage related movement); between districts the ratio is 2.2; and between states the ratio is 1.3.

Table 6: Gender-wise Migration, Chhattisgarh

	India			Chhattisgarh		
	Person	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Inter State Migration	41166266	19098082	22068183	936415	415913	520502
		46.3%	53.6%		44.4%	55.5%
Inter District Migration	74626322	24241706	50384616	1479561	464692	1014869
		32.4%	67.5%		31.4%	68.5%
Intra District Migration	193592938	47337924	146255014	4462354	895252	3567102
		24.4%	75.5%		20.0%	79.9%

Source: Census of India, 2001

Table 7: Reasons of Migration by Gender, Chhattisgarh

Reasons for Migration	Chhattisgarh		
	Persons	Male	Female
Work/Employment	806,856	693,573	113,283
	11.68*	85.95	14.04**
Business	28,615	22,226	6,389
	0.41	77.67	22.32
Education	88,457	60,447	28,010
	1.28	68.33	31.66
Marriage	3,839,567	62,079	3,777,488
	55.58	1.61	98.38
Moved after birth	163,338	95,441	67,897
	2.36	58.43	41.56
Moved with household	1,155,162	472,597	682,565
	16.72	40.91	59.08
Others	825,204	385,050	440,154
	11.94	46.66	53.33
Total	6907199	1791413	5115784

Source: Census of India, 2001 Note: *Column percentage; ** Row percentages

As the distance of movement increases, so does vulnerability; even if on paper a large part of this migration is shown to be for 'marriage' women will still look for work and would

be under pressure for survival reasons to do so. Thus the link between migration (for whatever purpose), work, and vulnerability needs to be uncovered more carefully.

Table 7 gives reasons for migration as per the Census. Though the percentages are small, the absolute numbers of women who report moving for ‘work’ or ‘business’ is high – over 100,000 – and as mentioned above, women who migrant initially for other reasons are also often subsequently engaged in work with all the vulnerabilities that this implies.

Migration, Agriculture and Women

In Khamera village near Rajnandgaon, nearly 80 per cent men move out every year for work. Women do the ploughing, sowing and all other work. The fact that women work in farms is nothing new, but the women having to virtually become custodians of their land in the absence of men, is something new. Women from this area are in demand because they can do all the work and at comparatively cheaper wages.

Several issues crop up in the wake of migration leading to feminisation of agriculture⁵. Neither Chhattisgarh government nor Madhya Pradesh government has envisioned this process in the policy planning. But, it’s an issue that calls for an immediate policy to stop the massive exodus of men from their villages to the urban centres. Not only does the exodus cause labour shortage and hence affects the agriculture yield badly, it also renders huge land barren in the absence of agriculture labourers in the villages. In such cases where only men migrate for work, women have to shoulder all other responsibilities, including, importantly, agricultural activities.

Secondly, when men move out – most of whom are marginal farmers or landless – their women slog in the farms. It also means a loss of labour for the farmers when they need them most. Shortage of labourers effectively raises the wages of the farm labourers. This in turn forces the women agriculturists to abandon their farms since they can’t afford to pay good wages to the remaining labour despite good monsoon.

Girl Child Labour

From the data it also seems that Chhattisgarh has a higher percentage of working girls in the age group 10-14, with implications for their ability to go to school and acquire other skills. Table 8 indicates that the risk is greater for girls from rural Chhattisgarh than boys. In case of urban area boys are more vulnerable as compared to girls. Percentage of workers is higher than the national level.

Table 8: Percentages of Workers among Children: Chhattisgarh & All India

	Female		Male	
	5-9	10-14	5-9	10-14
Rural				
Chhattisgarh	0.3	11.7	0.4	6.6
All India	0.3	7.4	0.3	6.8
Urban				
Chhattisgarh	0	2.2	0	7.7
All India	0.3	3.3	0.2	4.8

Source: NSS Round on Employment and Unemployment (61st Round)

⁵ <http://www.indiatogether.org/cgi-bin/tools/pfriend.cgi>

As per the Census-2001, out of the total population, aged 5-14 years, 3.65 lakhs (6.96 per cent) are Workers and 48.75 lakhs (93.04 per cent) are Non-Workers. Of the total main workers 19.6% are male and 16.2% are female workers. As far as marginal workers are concerned, 38.1% are female as against 25.9% male. The data shows clearly that percentage of female marginal workers is higher in Chattisgarh as compared to all India (Table-9).

Table 9: Distribution of workers (5-14 years) by Sex

State/India	Total Workers			Main Workers			Marginal Workers		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Chattisgarh	364572	166139	198433	130905	71483	59422	233667	94656	139011
		45.57	54.43	35.9	19.61	16.29	64.09	25.96	38.12
India	12666377	6804336	5862041	5778991	3696904	2182087	6887386	3207432	3679954
		53.71	46.28	45.62	29.18	17.22	54.37	25.32	29.05

Source: Child Labour Facts & Figures: An Analysis of Census 2001 / International Labour Office. - Geneva: ILO, 2007

4. Social profile:

Table 10: Health Profile of Chhattisgarh

S. No.	Item	Chhattisgarh	India
1	Crude Birth Rate (SRS 2006)	27.4	24.1
2	Crude Death Rate (SRS 2006)	7.7	7.5
3	Total Fertility Rate (SRS 2004)	3.4	2.9
4	Infant Mortality Rate (SRS 2006)	60	58
5	Maternal Mortality Ratio (SRS 2001-03)	379	301

<http://mohfw.nic.in/NRHM/State%20Files/chhatisgarh.htm>

Table 11: Health Indicators by Gender, Chhattisgarh

Marriage and Fertility	NFHS-III	Urban	Rural
Women age 20-24 married by age 18 (%)	51.8	25.4	60.3
Men age 25-29 married by age 21 (%)	44.8	17.5	51.9
Total fertility rate (children per woman)	2.62	1.78	2.88
Anaemia among Children and Adults			
Children age 6-35 months who are anaemic (%)	81.0	75.6	82.1
Ever-married women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	57.6	50.3	59.4
Pregnant women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	63.1	65.2	62.7
Ever-married men age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	26.4	17.9	28.7
Knowledge of HIV/AIDS among Ever-Married Adults (age 15-49)			
Women who have heard of AIDS (%)	40.7	78.6	30.7
Men who have heard of AIDS (%)	66.9	98.2	58.5
Women who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	25.9	56.8	17.7
Men who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	59.6	93.4	50.4

Source : <http://www.nfhsindia.org/pdf/MP.pdf>

Age at Marriage: It is an important indicator to unravel issues surrounding women's status and marriage patterns and the decision-making power of women within marriages. Women in India marry and begin childbearing at young ages. As regards age at marriage

in Chhattisgarh, about 5.2 percent of girls are married in less than 10yrs of age (Table12). 50.5 percent women are married below the age of 18 years. In rural Chhattisgarh more than 60% women get married by 18yrs as per NFHS-3 results (Table-11). Nearly 60% women age (15-49) in rural and 50% in urban area are anemic while among the pregnant women anaemia is more pronounced in urban area as compare to rural area. The data shows a marked gap regarding 'knowledge of HIV/AIDS' and 'usage of condom to reduce chances of getting HIV/AIDS' between men and women regarding HIV/AIDS and between urban and rural areas.

Table 12: Age at Marriage

State	Age at Marriage	Duration of Marriage of currently married persons all durations	
		Males	Females
India	Less than 10	3,232,370	7,084,447
	Less than 18	21,660,458	95,793,735
	All Ages	231,820,399	236,772,617
Chattisgarh	Less than 10	91,681	246,724
	Less than 18	660,755	2,162,408
	All Ages	4,664,997	4,775,564

Source: Census of India, 2001

Reproductive and Child Health (RCH):

The Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) programme that has been launched by Government of India (GoI) in 1996-97 is expected to provide quality services and achieve multiple objectives. The district being the basic nucleus of planning and implementation of the RCH programme, it was decided to undertake District Level Household Survey (DLHS) under the RCH programme in the country. The Round I of RCH survey was conducted during the year 1998-99 in two phases (each phase covered half of the districts from all states/union territories) in 504 districts. In Round II, survey was completed during 2002-04 in 593 districts⁶ as per the 2001 Census.

The RCH data indicates that there are districts where girls are getting married below 18yrs, specifically, Kawardha, Koriya, Surguja⁷. Young age at marriage is associated with low birth weight of children, and can lead to weakness and poor health for the mother is adequate care and nutrition is not provided. Moreover, early marriage also implies low levels of education thus denying the woman opportunities that could be accessed through education and training.

A low prevalence of institutional deliveries is evident from the RCH data, and that about 70-90 percent deliveries take place at home. In Koriya district institutional deliveries are less than 10% of all deliveries, including both government and private facilities⁸. This naturally means a higher risk of maternal mortality as medical care cannot be provided in time in case of complications during delivery. This may be due to lack of access to public health facilities. The state level health resource is presented in Table-13 below.

⁶ http://mohfw.nic.in/INDIA%20RCH%20REPORT_Pdf/7.%20CHAPTER-1.pdf

⁷ <http://www.rchindia.org>

⁸ ibid

The level of awareness on RTI/ STD and HIV/AIDS is low, and varies considerably across the districts. In Rajnandgaon, only 7.5% reported awareness; the highest level is 66.2% in Durg. Similarly, awareness on HIV/AIDS is only seen for 19.9 % in district Rajnandgaon and going up to a maximum of 73.5 % in Kanker⁹.

Table 13: Sub Center Adequacy Data, Chhattisgarh

District	Popn. (2001)	Blocks	Sub center	Average Popn/ Sub center	Character
Bastar	1306673	14	317	4108	Fully tribal
Bilaspur	1998355	10	303	6577	Largely non tribal
Dantewado	719487	11	204	3525	Fully tribal
Dhamtari	706591	4	139	5062	Mixed
Durg	2810436	12	353	7937	Largely non tribal
Janigir	1317431	9	211	6238	Non tribal
Jashpur	743160	8	212	3552	Fully tribal
Kanker	650934	7	161	4045	Fully tribal
Kawardho	584552	4	101	5789	Non tribal
Korba	1011823	5	195	5894	Fully tribal
Koriya	586327	5	124	4721	Non tribal
Mahasamund	860257	5	149	6332	Non tribal
Raigorch	1265529	9	245	5164	Largely non tribal
Raipur	3016930	15	458	6569	Non tribal
Rajnandgaon	1283224	9	214	5990	Largely non tribal
Sarguja	1972094	19	507	3887	Fully tribal
Total	20833803	146	3893	5342	

Source : [http://ncw.nic.in/pdfReports/Gender%20 Profile-Chhattigarh.pdf](http://ncw.nic.in/pdfReports/Gender%20Profile-Chhattigarh.pdf)

Educational Status:

The average literacy rate of the state is 65.18 with 77.86% male literacy and 52.4% female literacy. The state of Chhattisgarh ranks 23rd in the country in terms of total literacy. Further comparison reveals that some districts in Chhattisgarh have average literacy rates higher than the national average. These are Janjgir-Champa, Rajgarh, Rajnandgaon, Durg, Raipur, Mahasamund, Dhamtari and Kanker. Rajnandgaon district has the highest literacy rate in Chhattisgarh with 77.58% followed by Durg district with 75.84. A district wise analysis shows that in terms of female literacy along with overall literacy, Rajnandgaon ranks the highest, followed by the district Durg (Table-14).

Table 14: Literacy Rate in Different District and Categories

District	General		Literacy rate (SC)		Literacy rate (ST)	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Bastar	56.3	31.6	63.9	36.1	46.4	22.1
Bilaspur	78.4	48.2	77	42.4	68.7	35.5
Dantewada	39.8	20.7	71.3	46.1	30.4	13.4

⁹ibid

Dhamtari	86.5	63.4	84.7	57.9	81.8	55.1
Durg	86.4	64.6	84	58.2	85.3	61.6
Janjgir - Champa	81.8	50.1	79.6	46.1	75	39.6
Jashpur	75.2	52.4	72	45.7	73	51
Kanker	82.7	63.3	87.4	68.6	78.7	58.3
Kawardha	71	39.5	72	38.4	59	29.7
Korba	75.9	47	77.9	49	65.7	33.7
Koriya	75.7	49.7	74.5	48.4	65.8	37.5
Mahasamund	81.1	53.3	76.3	46.2	75.6	45
Raigarh	82.7	57.6	80.3	53.4	74.9	45.9
Raipur	82	54.8	78.4	46.6	73.3	41
Rajnandgaon	87.2	67.6	87.5	66.6	85.2	65.4
Surguja	67.6	41.6	63.8	37.9	60.8	35.6

Source: Census of India, 2001

Table 15 below shows that drop outs rate of girls are highest among the scheduled tribes in the tribal districts followed by general category both at primary and upper primary level. The GER amongst the ST girls are lowest for both levels (Table- 16).

Table 15: Table-Female Drop-outs from School at Primary level &Upper primary level

Category	Number of drop-Outs	Percentage to the total school going population	Number of drop outs	Percentage to the total school going population
SC	2582	1.2	2083	2.54
ST	16386	3.58	5879	3.56
OBC	7060	1.03	5548	2.11
Gen	2243	2.53	1395	2.77
Total	28271	1.95	14905	2.66

Source:<http://ncw.nic.in/pdfreports/Gender%20Profile-Chhattisgarh.pdf>

Table 16: Population and Enrolment at the Primary and Upper Primary Level

Category	6 to 14 age group children			Enrolled in classes I to 8			GER %		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
SC	329356	296690	626046	303428	265566	568994	92.13%	89.51%	90.89%
ST	695313	658940	1354253	633107	562261	1195368	91.05%	85.33%	88.27%
OBC	986013	905245	1891258	948692	848605	1797297	96.21%	93.74%	95.03%
General	147811	137773	285584	145945	131859	277804	98.74%	95.71%	97.28%
Total	12158493	1998648	4157141	12031172	1808291	38394631	94.10%	90.48%	92.36%

Source:<http://ncw.nic.in/pdfreports/Gender%20Profile-Chhattisgarh.pdf>

Violence against Women in Chhattisgarh:

The incidence of crimes in Chattigarh reflects that the percentage of molestation being the highest in the list of crimes. The rate is much higher as compare to national average (Table - 17).

The girls in the age group of 13-18yrs in Chattigarh are very often become the victim of rape. The percentage is higher than the national average for this age group. Of the total rape victims in Chhattisgarh more than 65 percent belong to the age 18-30Yrs (Table-18).

The district-wise incidences of violence indicate that highest number of rape cases occurred in the district of karwardha followed by Surguja and Bastar. As far as molestations are concerned the raipur district records the maximum cases followed by districts Durg and Korba (Table-19).

Table 17: Incidence of crimes committed against women during 2004

	Chhattisgarh	(%)	India	(%)
Rape	959	17.48	15078.00	8.15
Kidnapping Abduction	198	3.61	14895.00	8.05
Dowry Deaths	631	11.50	19701.00	10.64
Cruelty by husband & relatives	667	12.16	48343.00	26.12
Molestation	1663	30.31	31836.00	17.20
Eve-teasing	666	12.14	41145.00	22.23
Importing of girls (upto 21 yrs)	1	0.02	112.00	0.06
Sati prevention act	0	0.00	1.00	0.00
I.T.P. Act	9	0.16	7763.00	4.19
Indecent representation of women	676	12.32	3390.00	1.83
Dowry prohibition act	17	0.31	2827.00	1.53
Total	5487		185091.00	

Source:<http://nrcw.nic.in/statistic%20tables/rape-case-victim.html>

Table 18: Age group-wise victims of rape cases (total), 2002

India/State/UTs	No. of Cases Reported	No. of Victims						Total Victims
		Upto 10 Yrs	10-14 Yrs	14-18 Yrs	18-30 Yrs	30-50 Yrs	50+ Yrs	
Chhattisgarh	992	26	131	25	652	147	11	992
		2.62	13.21	2.52	65.73	14.82	1.11	
India	16373	411	854	1325	10730	2992	66	16378
		2.51	5.21	8.09	65.51	18.27	0.40	

Source:<http://nrcw.nic.in/statistic%20tables/rape-case-victim.html>

Table-19 Crime against women in the districts of Chattisgarh (2002)

Distirct	Murder	Attempt to Murder	Hurt	Grievous Hurt	Molestation	Kidmapping	Rape	Total
Bastar	11	3	20	3	57	0	46	140
	7.86	2.14	14.29	2.14	40.71	0.00	32.86	3.77
	4.89	4.23	4.47	1.89	3.16	0.00	5.03	3.77
Bilaspur	16	11	58	19	199	14	72	389
	4.11	2.83	14.91	4.88	51.16	3.60	18.51	10.47
	7.11	15.49	12.98	11.95	11.04	14.89	7.87	10.47
Dantewada	7	0	4	2	19	1	9	42
	16.67	0.00	9.52	4.76	45.24	2.38	21.43	1.13
	3.11	0.00	0.89	1.26	1.05	1.06	0.98	1.13
Dhamatari	5	2	15	3	54	2	21	102
	4.90	1.96	14.71	2.94	52.94	1.96	20.59	2.75
	2.22	2.82	3.36	1.89	3.00	2.13	2.30	2.75
Durg	19	18	44	24	294	3	132	534
	3.56	3.37	8.24	4.49	55.06	0.56	24.72	14.38

	8.44	25.35	9.84	15.09	16.31	3.19	14.43	14.38
Janjgir- Champa	11	2	54	5	105	7	42	226
	4.87	0.88	23.89	2.21	46.46	3.10	18.58	6.09
	4.89	2.82	12.08	3.14	5.82	7.45	4.59	6.09
Joshpur	23	6	7	12	43	0	35	126
	18.25	4.76	5.56	9.52	34.13	0.00	27.78	3.39
	10.22	8.45	1.57	7.55	2.38	0.00	3.83	3.39
Kanker	5	2	3	5	34	0	35	84
	5.95	2.38	3.57	5.95	40.48	0.00	41.67	2.26
	2.22	2.82	0.67	3.14	1.89	0.00	3.83	2.26
Kawardha	9	1	26	1	49	0	20	106
	8.49	0.94	24.53	0.94	46.23	0.00	18.87	2.85
	4.00	1.41	5.82	0.63	2.72	0.00	2.19	2.85
Korba	14	3	27	5	106	0	40	195
	7.18	1.54	13.85	2.56	54.36	0.00	20.51	5.25
	6.22	4.23	6.04	3.14	5.88	0.00	4.37	5.25
Koriya	6	1	35	16	88	10	52	208
	2.88	0.48	16.83	7.69	42.31	4.81	25.00	5.60
	2.67	1.41	7.83	10.06	4.88	10.64	5.68	5.60
Mahasamund	6	3	28	8	70	0	31	146
	4.11	2.05	19.18	5.48	47.95	0.00	21.23	3.93
	2.67	4.23	6.26	5.03	3.88	0.00	3.39	3.93
Raigarh	10	3	14	10	127	12	30	206
	4.85	1.46	6.80	4.85	61.65	5.83	14.56	5.55
	4.44	4.23	3.13	6.29	7.04	12.77	3.28	5.55
Raipur	25	11	78	26	247	45	148	580
	4.31	1.90	13.45	4.48	42.59	7.76	25.52	15.62
	11.11	15.49	17.45	16.35	13.70	47.87	16.17	15.62
Rajnandgaon	13	1	16	5	109	0	60	204
	6.37	0.49	7.84	2.45	53.43	0.00	29.41	5.49
	5.78	1.41	3.58	3.14	6.05	0.00	6.56	5.49
Surguja	45	4	18	15	202	0	142	426
	10.56	0.94	4.23	3.52	47.42	0.00	33.33	11.47
	20.00	5.63	4.03	9.43	11.20	0.00	15.52	11.47
Total	225.00	71.00	447.00	159.00	1803.00	94.00	915.00	3714.00
	6.06	1.91	12.04	4.28	48.55	2.53	24.64	100.00
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source:<http://ncw.nic.in/pdfreports/GenderProfile-Chattisgarh.pdf>

Salwa Judum and Violence on Women in Dantewara:

Attributing the significant increase in incidence of violence against women in Chhattisgarh's Dantewara district to Salwa Judum, the Committee against Violence on Women (CAVOW) has called for a review of the Government's counter-insurgency strategy in the Dantewara district of Chhattisgarh. Salwa Judum was initiated by the Government in June 2005 as a people's movement against terrorism and naxalism.

In a report 'Salwa Judum and Violence on Women in Dantewara', the group has documented cases of violence and abuse against women in the State. The report, submitted

to the National Commission for Women, highlights the atrocities perpetrated by the Salwa Judum activists.¹⁰

Salwa Judum, which was built for restoring peace in the area has instead proved to be a violent institution, CAVOW reports that "Women have been raped and molested, dole being given out to people is insufficient, ration does not last for the whole week, international organisations working out of the area have documented that there is malnutrition and hunger, minors are being recruited as Special Police Officers and under-trial women in jails are victims of sexual abuse."

Citing the problems being faced by the tribals in the State, the CAVOW has urged the Government to ensure that those who have been forced to live in relief camps should be settled back in their villages, all cases of atrocities against women must be investigated by independent agencies and the practice of recruiting underage SPOs should be stopped.

The practice of Witch - hunting:

This is a very cruel and barbaric form of violence against women seen in Chhattisgarh and some other states like Bihar and Jharkhand. In this practice, a woman is branded as a witch who is then considered responsible for all the ill luck and is considered as a bad omen for the village. If any child is suffering from illness, or the cattle is affected due to any reason, or any other adverse situation comes, the blame for all this is put on the witch or the 'tonhi' of the village. To identify a 'tonhi' a man who is known as a 'baiga' is called and he randomly identifies the witch. Thereafter the whole village turns against her, subjecting her to the most cruel and inhuman forms of physical and mental assault. Generally, the women who are identified as 'tonhi' are often single and to children involved in cases of property disputes. Too often, the accusations of witchcraft are prompted by the relatives wanting to get hold of the property and other assets of the 'Tonhi'.¹¹

The concept of Tonhi (Witch) is part of the state of Chhattisgarh. A woman who is declared 'Tonhi' is accused of spreading disease and bringing disaster to the village by performing Jadu-Tona (Witch craft). These women are insulted and humiliated publicly. Often it is accompanied by physical torture and they are ostracized from the community. In many cases the torture is so severe that they suffer from the wounds for months. Within the village it is not possible to get treatment. The psychological wounds due to public insult and dishonor stay for life. In witch hunting cases often the village representatives and the government officials do not come forward on the pretext that this is an indigenous belief and is best to leave undisturbed. So the news does not reach the world beyond the village and the rule of the 'Baigas' (Witch Doctors) gets established. These Baigas declare all disasters in the village to be due to Jadu-Tona. They charge any amount for catching a Tonhi, branding her and bringing the whole village under his protection (Gaon Bandhava). These Baigas demand impossible tests from these women to prove that they are not Tonhi. When the whole village is against the Tonhi, it is impossible for her to prove herself innocent.

5. Political Participation

¹⁰ <http://www.thehindu.com/2007/01/19/stories/2007011905501300.htm>

¹¹ <http://ncw.nic.in/pdfreports/GenderProfile-Chattisgarh.pdf>

Women in Chattisgarh in eighties and nineties were quite active in local movements. These included movements for workers' rights led by the Chattisgarh Mines Shramik Sangh¹², and the struggle against alcoholism by men led by many women's organizations across the state. Their active participation brought them in to the mainstream discourse of the women's movement. However the political representation in the Vidhan Sabha does not reflect the full participation. The state Assembly has 90 seats and there are at present only 5 women members

6. State Initiatives for Income Generation and Health Program:

A. Micro-credit & Income Generation:

Training in micro-credit financing: In 2002 women from Raigarh district of Chhattisgarh were sponsored for a month's training in Mumbai for receiving instructions in micro-credit financing and setting up small trades like spice (masala) making¹³.

B. Mahila Arthic Samooh:

Bastar is a district in Chhattisgarh state in central India, inhabited largely by adivasi people. The regions rich in resources, in the form of lush forests and minerals, have attracted non-tribal populations from other parts of the country. The last 50 years has seen much of these resources pass into the hands of outsiders, leading to a further deprivation of the adivasi peoples. Government programmes, subsidies, reservations and certain laws, enacted to protect the adivasi people have all proved inadequate.

The villages near towns, though populated primarily by adivasi people, are usually controlled by non-advasis. Control simply implies the ownership of prime property, free access to forest resources; in particular, non-timber forest produce (NTFPs) worth millions of rupees have become sought-after resources, known to influence local and regional politics. An advantage in NTFP-trade usually implies a "hand-in-glove" relation with the police, the forest department and the administration. The adivasi people have witnessed and borne much injustice; the occasional government officer who pleaded their case was quickly posted away.

It is in this scenario that a small group of adivasi women from Asna, a roadside village in central Bastar, first made their voices heard. The pretext, if one was needed for their uprising, was an attempt by the Forest Department (FD) to take over the village commons for a plantation. The FD had begun to fence off the area – used for fuel, fodder and grazing by the local people - with barbed wire, without any discussion with the village people. The adivasi men, fearing violence if they interfered, did nothing. But the women came together and acted: they physically stopped the FD staff, not allowing any work to take place in the area within their jurisdiction.

Quite expectedly the women attracted the wrath of the administration, with senior officials coming first to threaten, and later to plead, with them. Realizing their strength the women refused to give in and made their demands. A compromise was struck: the FD will in future first consult the women before undertaking any activities that might affect them.

¹² Sen, Iina (1990) A Space within the Struggle: Women's Participation in People's Movements, Kali for Women, New Delhi.

¹³ <http://www.aiwefa.org/Projects.html>

The women of Asna became a cohesive group that fought for and gained control of the village commons. From this first step, they began to involve themselves in the collection and trade of NTFPs in the region. This was a decisive factor, as trade in NTFPs was a monopoly of non-tribal communities: the adivasi takeover was therefore an economical as well as a political move.

In 1988, the women established the Mahila Arthik Samooh and began to work in the NTFP collection centres. The amount of produce collected increased and brought about a wave of confidence among the women, enough for them to take up various other activities within the village¹⁴.

C. Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Programme- Reaching the Last Woman¹⁵:

The state government of Chhattisgarh has implemented the programme which is being supported by IFAD along with other donors such as DFID and GTZ. The objective of the Programme is to develop and implement a replicable model that ensures household food security and improves livelihood opportunities and overall quality of life of the tribal population based on the sustainable and equitable use of natural resources. To achieve this, the programme uses strategies: i) empower tribal grassroots associations and users' groups, including women and other marginal groups; ii) promote activities which generate sustainable increases in production and productivity of land and water resources; and iii) generate sources of income outside of agriculture, particularly for the landless. The basic approach is to promote processes of awareness generation, legal literacy, social analysis and mobilisation for self-selecting group formation among disadvantaged women and marginalised groups.

D. Community Health Programme:

Poor health education and the prevailing cultural practices of those living in rural areas of **Chhattisgarh** led to high levels of disease and a low use of health services. The community needed to be encouraged to address its own health needs by requesting and taking part in health programmes as well as using the health services already on offer. For this the first step was to organise and empower women in the community as well as the Panchayati Raj institutions. This was done by establishing a state-wide Community Health Volunteer (CHV) programme¹⁶. The CHV is a woman called a Mitantin (a special kind of friend in local tradition) who was a married woman from the same community, not necessarily formally educated, but with a background in social work, selected by the community and endorsed by the panchayat.

The Mitantin is trained (20 days of camp-based training and 30 days on-the-job training) and supported by a block training team and the Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM) and Anganwadi Worker (AWW). Mitantin is supposed to provide: Elementary health education, First aid help etc Treatment for minor ailments. Prompt referral advice if necessary.

Mitanins are working on a purely volunteer basis - no remunerations have been paid to them. Future plans envisage compensation for Mitanins who miss work time to attend

¹⁴ http://www.bothends.org/encycl/cases/casecontent.php?id=91&id_language=1

¹⁵ http://www.cjtdp.cg.gov.in/proj_summary_E.html

¹⁶ <http://www.cbhi-hsprod.nic.in/searnum.asp?PNum=49>

training and some performance-based incentives. The programme is run by a state-civil society partnership at the state, district and block levels.

The initial programme was launched in May 2002 and expanded to the remaining 65 blocks of the state during Phase-2. The initial estimate was to have 54,000 Mitans in the state. Gradually, the total number of Mitans selected has reached 60,092 (around 32,000 in phase-1 and about 28,000 in phase-2). Of these, 55,830 have now had various levels of training and training for the rest is to be initiated soon. Of the 55,830, more than 29,101 have completed 15 days of training (5 rounds) and another 24,275 have nearly completed 8 days of training (3 rounds). About 20,000 Mitans from Phase-1 have started to provide first contact care using Mitan Dawapeti (drug kit) and the remaining Mitans will be provided with this after achieving the appropriate training level.

State Policy for Women, Chhattisgarh:

The Women Empowerment Policy¹⁷ is not a modification of any earlier policy, but is based on the state's specific geographical, social and cultural characteristics. The Women Empowerment Policy seeks to address the unique situation and issues facing women in Chhattisgarh across urban, peri-urban, rural and tribal areas. The policy is based on a comprehensive analysis of the best practices of other Indian states and countries from where positive elements have been culled out and suitably incorporated keeping in view the State's unique features. The Government has already set up a high level committee to define and review the achievable and measurable goals for the newly formed State.

Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes:

In year 2004-05, the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh under the aegis of Dept. of Women and Child Development, Govt. of India has appointed BISWA as a Nodal Agency for the state of Chhattisgarh. Presently BISWA covers 16 districts in Chhattisgarh. BISWA¹⁸ has implemented number of activities in the state since its interventions started in 2005. These include the Promotion of Self Help Groups; Capacity building of NGOs in micro-credit activities; Extension of credit; Implementing Reproductive & Child Development program; Total Sanitation Campaign.

Kamara, a special tribe has received attention of BISWA for integrated development. The activities are concentrated in 4 blocks; Gariabandh, Chura and Mainpur in Raipur district and Nagri block of Dhamtari district. The focus is on implementing income producing activities by the tribal population. The Bamboo artisans, farmers and micro-entrepreneurs of Basna, Saraipalai and Pithora blocks Mahasamund district have been receiving support for their micro-enterprise activities in technical and financial aspects.

¹⁷ <http://chhattisgarh.nic.in/wcd/womenpolicy.PDF>

¹⁸ <http://www.biswa.org/activity/Chhtisgarh/ch1.html>

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A list of Organisations working in Chattisgarh

JAN JAGRITI KENDRA

Lakhagarh, Pithora, Distt. Mahasmund, Chhattisgarh- 493551

CHHATTISGARH MAHILA JAGRITI SANGATHAN,

C/o Chhattisgarh Multipurpose, Polytechnic,
Mission Compound, Tungaon Road, Mahasamund, Dist. Raipur-493445

CHATISGARH MAHILA JAGRAN SANGATHAN

Gramin Shilp Shaka Mahasundara, P.O. Mahasmudi, Distt. Raipur- 493445

CHHATTISGARH MAHILA JAGRITI SANGATHAN GRAMIN SHILP SHAKA MAHASUNDARA

P.O. Mahasmudi, Dist. Raipur-493 445

Jharkhand

1. Context

Created in November 2000 from southern Bihar, Jharkhand has been a state synonymous with plurality, poverty and potential. Jharkhand is considered one of India's most backward states with a per capita income of Rs 4161, which is less than half of the national average of Rs.8399¹. Nearly two-third of the population (66%) lives below the poverty line. This has been further complicated by tribal and ethnic minority related concerns. Jharkhand has remained a home to a number of tribal communities. These are Asur, Baiga, Banjara, Bathudi, Bedia, Binjhia, Birhor, Birjia, Chero, Chick-Baraik, Gond, Gorait, Ho, Karmali, Kharwar, Khond, Kisan, Kora, Korwa, Lohra, Mahli, Mal-Paharia, Munda, Oraon, Parhaiya, Santal, Sauria-Paharia, Savar, Bhumij, Kol and Kanwar.

The status of women and their experiences in the state have been influenced by the political, socio-economic and environmental trajectories traversed by the state.

A recent World Bank report² (World Bank 2007) stated that Jharkhand was witnessing the 'early signs of turn around' (pp 13) with a positive Gross State Domestic Product growth rate of 4.8% per year during 1993-2003. Activist and non governmental organizations have been lobbying the contrary view with many stating that the tensions between Adivasi disillusionment and the development path charted by the political classes are escalating the plight of the state (Aaron 2007)³. Women bear the burden emanating from such tensions.

2. Demographic and Socio-economic Profile

The state houses a total population of 26.90 million, consisting of 13.86 million males and 13.04 million females. The sex ratio is 941 females to 1000 males. The population consists of 28% tribals, 12% Scheduled Castes and 60% others. There are 274 persons for each square kilometer of land. However, the population density varies considerably from as low as 148 per square kilometer in Gumla district to as high as 1167 per square kilometer in Dhanbad district. The following data⁴ throw light on the demographic status of women in the state.

¹ Situational Analysis of Women in Jharkhand , available at
Ahttp://ncw.nic.in/pdfreports/Gender%20Profile-Jharkhand.pdf, NCW 2008

² **Jharkhand : Addressing the Challenges of Inclusive Development** , World Bank 2007

³ Aaron Sushil , Contrarian Lives: Christians and Contemporary Protest in Jharkhand, Asia Centre Research Working Paper,LSE, London, available at

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/asiaResearchCentre/pdf/WorkingPaper/ARCWorkingPaper18SushilJAaron2007.pdf>

⁴ Census 2001, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Table 1: Demographic and Socio-economic Profile

S. No.	Item	Jharkhand	India
1	Total population	26,945,829	1,028,737,436
	Male	13,885,037	532,223,090
	Female	13,060,792	496,514,346
	Scheduled Caste	3,189,320 (12%)	166635700 (16.20%)
	Male	1,640,583	86088780
	Female	1,548,737	80546940
	Scheduled Tribe	7,087,068 (28%)	84326240 (8.20%)
	Male	3,565,960	42640829
	Female	3,521,108	41685411
	Rural Population	20,952,088 (77%)	742490639 (72.17%)
	Male	10,679,596	381602674
	Female	10,272,492	360887965
	Urban Population	5,993,741 (33%)	286119689 (27.81%)
	Male	3,205,441	150554098
	Female	2,788,300	135565591
	Sex Ratio	941	933
	Female Headed Households (Percentage of total hhs)	398,933 (8.3%)	19987858 (10.35 %)
	Decadal Population growth (%)	23.36	21.54
	Population below poverty line (%)*	40.3	27.5
	Total disabled population	448,377 (1.7%)	21,906,769 (2.1%)
	Male	264,229	12,605,635
	Female	184,148	9,301,134

Source: Census of India, 2001; * Planning commission Estimation (URP consumption) based on NSS 61st Round data. (<http://planningcommission.nic.in/news/prmar07.pdf>)

Jharkhand is a predominantly a rural state with 77% of its population residing in rural areas. 40% of the population in the state falls within the ST or SC category. Majority of these groups are rural. The sex ratio of Jharkhand in 2001 was 941 females per 1000 males. The sex ratio amongst ST groups was higher at 978 per 1000 males.

The state is witnessing a declining sex ratio with the estimate dipping from 961 in 1951 to 941 in 2001 amongst the General population. Amidst the Tribals, the sex ratio has declined from 1009 in 1951 to 975 in 2001 as per Census data.

A comparatively better scenario emerges from the district of Koderma where the sex ratio has been registered as 1001 females per 1000 males. Other districts having comparatively better sex ratio, include Gumla (995), Chatra (964), Giridih(983), Dumka(961) and

Lohardaga(976). Poor sex ratio has been in the district of Bokaro(895), Dhanbad(874), Deoghar(914), Purbi Singhbhum(930) and Garhwa(935). Recent National Commission for Women report on women in Jharkand suggests that poor sex ratios are more marked in districts having urban and industrial growth⁵.

3. Poverty and Access to Economic Opportunity

Jharkhand has one of the highest levels of poverty in India. Poverty in Jharkhand is influenced by poor physical infrastructure, particularly poor quality of roads and low concentration of health infrastructure, droughts, adverse topography, degradation of natural resources, poor markets for forest produce and relatively underdeveloped agricultural production affected by limited irrigation facilities.

Women's Work in the state

Labour force participation as per the usual status⁶ in Jharkhand for rural males is 54.6% and 31.3% for women. Men in urban areas report LFPR of 51%, while urban women report a weaker LFPR of 13.7%.

Table 2: Labour Force Participation Rates for Men and Women: Jharkhand and India, 2004-05*

	Jharkhand		India	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Men	54.6	51	55.5	57.0
Women	31.3	13.7	33.3	17.8
Men & Women Combined	43.3	33.3	44.6	38.2

Note: * usual status ps+ss

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

The highest female work participation rate as per the Census data from 2001 is reported in the district of Gumla. In rural areas the female WPR is 47%, while the total female WPR is 45%. This is followed by Paschimi Singhbhum where FWPR is 37% and Lohardaga with 36% FWPR. The mining towns of Bokaro, Giridh and Dhanbad have the weakest FWPR at 11.8%, 21.8% and 9.5% respectively. Urban areas in Bokaro, Giridh and Dhanbad report FWPR of approximately 4%.

The following table suggests that a majority of women in urban and rural areas are non-workers, at 93% and approximately 68% shares respectively. Larger share of women in rural areas are marginal workers compared to the share of male marginal workers.

⁵ <http://ncw.nic.in/pdfreports/Gender%20Profile-Jharkhand.pdf>, pp 7

⁶ including subsidiary status

Table 3: Main, Marginal and Non Workers by Gender and Location in Jharkhand (in percent)

	Men			Women		
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
Main worker	3921518 (37)	1,212,549 (38)	5,134,067 (37)	1,183,823 (11.5)	128,892 (5)	1,312,715 (10)
Marginal Worker	1380625 (13)	145,164 (4.5)	1,525,789 (11)	2,083,625 (20.3)	52,834 (2)	2,136,459 (16)
Non Worker	5,377,453 (50)	1,847,728 (57.5)	7,225,181 (52)	7,005,044 (68.2)	2,606,574 (93)	9,611,618 (74)

Source: Census of India, 2001

Majority of rural working women are engaged in agriculture with 45% being cultivators and 41.5% reported as agricultural wage labour. Women's share of agricultural labour as a share of the total female working population is much higher than the estimate for men. While a 45% majority of men in the state also report being cultivators, this is followed by 27/5% who report working as agricultural wage labour. In urban areas, majority of women are engaged in other work unrelated with 80.5 involved in other work.

Table 4: Location and Sector-wise Participation of Men and Women Workers in Jharkhand

Location	Gender	Cultivators	Agricultural Labourer	Household Industries	Other Workers
Rural	Men	45	27.5	4	23.5
	Women	45	41.5	5.5	8
Urban	Men	2	2	3	93
	Women	4	8	7.5	80.5

Source: Census India, 2001

Female Wage Rates

There is a major wage gap reported between men and women in the state. The wage and salary differential is particularly high in urban areas, amongst regular waged or salaried workers. This difference reduces amongst urban casual workers. Within this group, those rural workers who were engaged in non public works.

While the rural wage gap amongst regular or salaried workers in the state mirrors the overall Indian scenario, the urban wage gap is wider with women receiving 50% of male wages or salaries.

Table 5: Average Wage/Salary earnings per day received by regular wage/salaried employees

(in Rupees)

	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	F:M	Male	Female	F:M

India	144.93	85.53	0.59	203.28	153.19	0.75
Jharkhand	180.10	101.87	0.57	287.85	142.88	0.5

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Amidst casual workers the wage gap narrows for those employed on non-public works. Women in Jharkhand receive 74% of male wages in rural areas and 92% in urban areas. The gap in urban areas is significantly lower than the estimate at the national level.

Table 6: Average daily wages for casual workers of age between 15-59 years engaged in works other than public works

(in Rupees)

	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	F:M	Male	Female	F:M
India	55.03	34.94	0.63	75.10	43.88	0.58
Jharkhand	51.11	37.93	0.74	60.16	55.46	0.92

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Table 7: Average daily wages for rural casual workers of age between 15-59 years engaged in public works

(in Rupees)

	Rural		
	Male	Female	F:M
India	65.33	49.19	0.75
Jharkhand	62.59	-	-

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Female Child Labour

The total population of the persons, aged 5-14 years in the State is 7439049. Out of this, 3853573 (52%) are males and 3585476 (48%) are females. In this age group, 5.5 percent are workers.

According to Census 2001 data, the incidence of child labour (5-14 years) is higher than the national average of 5.0 percent. (see Table: 9). The incidence of girl child labour is higher than male child labour in Jharkhand, especially amongst marginal workers. In Jharkhand, 5.5 percent girl children aged between 5 and 14 are registered as workers against 4.85 percent, all India average. Among the boys 5.4 percent boys are registered as workers. In Jharkhand close to 4.2% of the girl child population is engaged in marginal work which is a percentage point higher than the male child labour share.

Table 8: Distribution of workers (5-14 years) by Sex

State/India	Total Workers			Main Workers			Marginal Workers		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female

India	126663 77	680433 6	586204 1	577899 1	369690 4	218208 7	688738 6	320743 2	367995 4
(percentage in the age group)	5.00	5.14	4.85	2.28	2.79	1.81	2.72	2.43	3.04
Jharkhand	407200	208486	198714	132583	83698	48885	274617	124788	149829
(percentage in the age group)	5.5	5.4	5.5	2	2	1.4	3.7	3.2	4.2

Source: Census of India, 2001

Migration and Trafficking

The incidence of poverty at the state level was assessed at 40.3 percent in the state compared with 27.5 percent for India as a whole. The incidence of rural poverty, assessed at 46.3 percent in 2004/05, is the 2nd highest among all Indian states, with the highest being Orissa (46.8 percent)⁷. While studies to analyze the intra household dimension of poverty are few from the region, activist and religious organizations cite strenuous economic conditions as the key driver of female migration and trafficking. Migration and Trafficking related concerns have assumed greater significance in Jharkhand. Cases of trafficking alongside the nascent trend of buying brides for men in Punjab and Haryana has also been increasing at an alarming rate (Shakti Vahini: 2002).

Migration data from Jharkhand suggests that majority of migrants in the state are female. Of the total 7,260,548 migrants, 5,717,332 are female and 1,543,216 are male. This implies that 78% of the total migrants are female.

Table 9: Number of Migrants by Gender, Jharkhand

	India			Jharkhand		
	Men	Women	F:M	Men	Women	F:M
Inter State Migration	19098082	22068183	1.16	708,870	1,022,068	1.4
	46.4%	53.6%		41%	59%	
Inter Dist. Migration	24241706	50384616	2.08	275,324	896,308	3.25
	32.4%	67.5%		23.5%	76.5%	
Intra Dist. Migration	47337924	146255014	3.09	608,160	3,902,224	6.4
	24.4%	75.5%		13.5%	86.5%	

Source: Census of India, 2001

This is higher than the national estimate where 70% of total migrants are female. Looking at disaggregated data at the state levels helps highlight streams where female migration is more dominant. Female shares of migrants are the highest within the state. Close to 86.5%

⁷ Source: Poverty Estimates for 2004-2005, at <http://planningcommission.nic.in/news/prmar07.pdf>.

of the intra district migration is female in the state, which is higher than the national share of 75.5%, while 76.5% of the inter district migrants are female.

Table 11: Reasons of Migration by Gender, Jharkhand

Reasons for Migration	Jharkhand		
	Persons	Male	Female
Work/Employment	673,299	618,162	55,137
	9	39	1
Business	33,792	28,007	5,785
	0.5	2	1
Education	70,993	52,381	18,612
	1	3	0.3
Marriage	4,734,996	49,346	4,685,650
	64	3	80.4
Moved after birth	66,941	39,518	27,423
	1	2.5	0.5
Moved with household	779,510	295,768	483,742
	10.5	18.5	8.3
Others	1,068,628	517,155	551,473
	14	32	9.5
Total	100	100	100

Source: Census of India, 2001

While work, employment and business account for close to 41% of male migration, while marriage accounts for 80% of female migration.

Domestic Workers from Jharkhand

One of the key forms of migration assuming significance is female migration for domestic work towards urban centres, especially Delhi. Though there has never been a comprehensive survey, NGOs like Chetanalaya, Nirmala Niketan and the Indian Social Institute, which are trying to organize domestic workers in New Delhi and fighting for their rights, estimate that their number could be anywhere between 80,000 to 5 lakhs. While no national or official statistics are available, several activist groups are attempting to make these workers more visible. Delhi has a total of 113,677 migrants from Jharkhand and 37% of these migrants are women. While looking at the states which have contributed to the highest number of female migrants who have migrated prior to 1991, Jharkhand ranks 11th with only 675 female migrants moving from rural Jharkhand to urban areas in Delhi in search of work.

Women in Agriculture and forestry face several problems. The work is seasonal, and they have few alternatives for income generation at other times. They are constantly looking for wage to supplement their income. There is an increasing trend towards seasonal migration to the regions of intensive agriculture in Punjab and Haryana in the north and west Bengal in the east, from the states of U.P, Bihar and Jharkhand.

Agriculture and Wage Labour

The rate of growth in agriculture has been one of the slowest in the country both in terms of production and productivity. Almost 90% of the cultivated area is monocropped. Only 9% of the total cropped area is irrigated. Hence the rural population is very vulnerable to rainfall fluctuations. The worst-affected are primitive tribal groups which historically are late entrants to settled cultivation and own land on hilly slopes with very low fertility. Being a monsoon-dependent state, most villagers in Jharkhand sow only a single crop. The whole of the early part of the year, extending up to the onset of the rains, constitutes a lean period for agricultural labourers. Most people therefore migrate.

Access to basic amenities

Quality of household amenities and assets usually etch the nature and quality of women's lives. This is due to the strong linkage between natural and household resources and women's reproductive and domestic roles. The recent Census data (2001) reveals poor access to basic amenities. 24% of Jharkhand is electrified. 10% of households in rural areas have electricity. A dominant 90% rely on kerosene for lighting. As per the latest Census data, 15.8% households in Jharkhand report possessing electricity and a toilet. This figure drops to 3.4% in rural areas. Only 4% households in rural Jharkhand report having bathroom facilities. 70% of households in Jharkhand have no drainage system and this estimate is 82% for those residing in rural areas. 60% of households rely on firewood for fuel and cooking. This is followed by 21% who rely on coal. Close to 68% of households in the rural areas rely on the former. 59% of households in rural areas rely on wells for water. This is followed by 30% who reply on hand pumps.

Assets: Credit and Land

Tribal areas have been forever significant in eastern India due to their rich mineral resources. Colonial paternalism negotiated with them by directly managing the mineral resources and simultaneously excluding the tribal elite from playing any significant role. Various revolts and movements, including the rebellion of the Kols, Santhals and Mundas, led to some re-thinking of this policy, but the basic framework of 'exclusion' continued by means of the Government of India Act, 1919, and the Simon Commission (1928). After Independence, this strand remained marginalized in the dominant nationalist model, which was marked by a reluctance to delegate powers to local bodies.

The new Industrial Policy, that the BJP-led government unveiled in 2001, promised an investment friendly climate for foreign companies in a host of areas including power and 'mineral development' that would entail further appropriation of adivasi land – principally through the Land Acquisition Act (1894) that authorized the government to take over land for public purposes. This is inevitable because Jharkhand has 38 percent of India's mineral wealth. It has 33 % of India's coal, 47% of mica, 34% of copper, 24% iron ore, 17% of graphite in India. While tribal land is protected by the Chotanagpur Land Ceiling Act, recent cases surrounding mining development suggest increasing exploitation. Women have had to face brutal consequences die to such land related practices. Recently the state

has witnessed women's organizations lobbying around land rights due to mining and industry led acquisition (Rao: 2005)⁸.

The status of tribal female inheritance in society is based on customary laws. Although women shoulder heavy economic responsibilities but laws deny them equal property rights. The system of inheritance among most of the tribes unquestionably favours men. Generally women are entitled only to maintenance rights and expenses for marriage while men inherit land and all other moveable and immovable property. Several women amongst Ho and Santal choose to remain unmarried in order to retain their rights to land.

Since 1998, there have been efforts to boost microfinance in Jharkhand⁹. Since 1998 several programmes have initiated micro finance advocacy campaign for the poor and tribal women in the remote and backward districts of Jharkhand. The focus is on building financial systems, through initiating Self-Help Groups of poor women in the area and building their capacities through trainings and exposure visits.

Environment & sustainable development

Jharkhand has been marked by a history of rampant resources based exploitation. The *sarkar-sahukar-zamindar* nexus continued post independence with its mineral and forest resources alongside large Adivasi and Dalit populations serving the interest of more developed eastern states such as West Bengal and Bihar (Prakash 2001)¹⁰. This factor has been cited as key, among a host of other complexities related to development, which formed the basis for a separate identity and political space.

Mining and Forest Cover

Jharkhand has around 30% of its land under forest cover as against the national average of 23%. A recent participatory research study conducted by PRAXIS into livelihoods in the state reveal that the dependence on forest produces is an important source of livelihood for a large number of poor families in the state.

Forests in Jharkhand extend over 23,605 sq.km. representing 29.61 % of the total geographical area of the State of which 82 % are Protected Forest and 17.5 % are Reserve Forest with a small amount of un-classed forests (33.49 sq.km.). There are many ways in which forests contribute to the economy of poor households in Jharkhand.

Collection and sale of forest produces provide significant livelihood opportunities to the rural poor (for example, through collection and sale of *tendu* leaves, which are value added and resold as *bidis*); require very little capital or any special skills like literacy; sales are possible in retail as well as in bulk; stored forest produces provide insurance against difficult periods to poor families; besides coming in handy for a number of other reasons, e.g. consumption as fruits, flowers, leaves, timber, oil for treatment, manure, fuel etc. Lac is collected by male whereas *saag* is generally collected by women. Children are involved

⁸ Rao, N, Questioning Women's Solidarity: The case of Land Rights in Santhal Parganas in Journal of Development Studies , 2005, 41:3, pp 353-375

⁹ http://www.icprd.org/micro_finance.htm

¹⁰ **Jharkhand: Politics of Development and Identity** by Amit Prakash; Orient Longman, Hyderabad, 2001

mainly in the collection of fruits wherein workload of women is found greater in compared to men in terms of quantum of workload in collecting forest produces by each of them.

Unfortunately, there has been a steady decline in the availability of forest due to industrial mining projects. In return for 169198 Crore Rupees (c. US\$3.8 billion) of investment, several mining agreements promise companies massive land acquisition, which will deforest no less than 57,000 hectares of forest and displace 9,615 families, many of them located in legally protected Scheduled Areas set aside for indigenous Adivasi peoples in the State.

In addition, villagers in several areas of Jharkhand, particularly women experience harassment at the hands of policemen and forest officials. Most of the instances of harassment were related to carrying of forest produces out of villages.

Mining and Women

As per a recent study cited by the National Commission of Women¹¹ in 2004 over 90 per cent women in the Hazaribagh-Chhatra districts have lost their agricultural land to mining related activities. As women are not able to find steady jobs at the mines, they work as daily wage earners at the construction sites and at the brick kilns between Ranchi, Ramgarh, Barhi and Hazaribagh where they face sexual harassment, abysmal working conditions and poor pay. Women's traditional control over land in a tribal society is not in terms of ownership, but in the entitlement to use the land and produce. Thus, land acquisition by mining companies reduces women's economic capacity and livelihood share. Several women start working in illegal mines due to hardship. According to a rough estimate by the Hazaribagh-based Prerna Resource Centre cited in the NCW Jharkhand report, over 400 women have been killed in illegal mine mishaps since 1998.

Drought and Food Security

Drought in the state primarily occurs at the start or end of the kharif season . Jharkhand is one of the most food-insecure and malnourished states in the country. NSSO (55th round) data reveal that 10.46% of all households in Jharkhand face seasonal food insecurity. Around 2.5% of households face chronic food shortages. Of the families facing food insecurity, 64% face food shortages for two to three months while as many as 28% do not have sufficient food for four to five months. Almost 6% of the food-deficient households have to go hungry for more than half the year. The incidence of food insecurity is higher among ST and SC families.

Drought affects all communities but in different ways. Among landless, marginal and small families, male members start to migrate early. Women and the aged are often left behind to take care of themselves. In 2004, some of the starvation deaths reported have been of women and the aged. Landless, marginal and small farmers reduce their consumption of cereals, pulses and other items. The consumption of irregular foods like broken rice, wild roots, gethi, chakora sag, and other forest produce increases. People add more water to dilute the foodgrain. People also resort to the distress sale of assets, cattle

¹¹ Illegal mining taking heavy toll of women in Jharkhand: NCW, The Kashmir Times, 23 December 2004

and fuelwood and increase the frequency of trips to the forests for sustenance. The rate of interest on borrowings rises. Drought also increases health risks from malnutrition and unsafe drinking water.

After Jharkhand became a separate state, many drought-prevention measures like promotion of watershed management and minor irrigation projects; restoration of lift irrigation schemes, wells and tanks and bench terracing have been promoted. The state government has reorganised the Relief and Rehabilitation Department and a Disaster Management Wing is expected to be formed. Plans for drought-proofing and emergency measures are made by the DoA in consultation with some top officials and some large NGOs. District and block officers and farmers are hardly consulted. Farmer meetings are held only after the plan is finalized. Recently some mechanisms have been put in place to talk to farmers about their immediate needs but these are at a rudimentary state.

Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) do not function in Jharkhand as PRI elections have not been held in the last 25 years. Hence people have no forum to participate in the planning and implementation of local-level projects. The absence of PRIs also makes it difficult for the government to allot funds and fix responsibility.

In 2001-02 the state government allocated Rs 77.4 million for digging small wells in each panchayat in drought-affected blocks. An additional sum of Rs 241.7 million was allotted in 2002-03. However against the target of 5,040 wells, only 2,458 were constructed. In 2002-03, a scheme was launched to dig one pond in each village of Palamu and Santhal Parganas through gram sabhas. A large number of works remain incomplete.

In 2004 around Rs 800 million was allotted from the Calamity Relief Fund. But relief work has hardly begun in many areas. Ten quintals of grain have been kept at the panchayat level to give to families in distress. In many villages families have not been given that grain. The government is yet to evolve a foolproof mechanism for identifying distressed families, though this is mandatory under the Famine Code. Surveys to identify hungry families have been conducted by district administrations but in the absence of PRIs, the participation of people has been low and remote areas have hardly been covered.

Disaster risk management

Shri Krishna Institute of Public Administration in Jharkhand has been selected as a nodal training Institute by the Home Ministry of Govt. of India for imparting training to government personnel.

4. Social Profile

Age at Marriage

Average household size in Jharkhand is 5.6. The majority 23.5 % of married women state age of marriage to be between 16-17. This is followed by 23% who have been married at age of 18 or 19 years. 4% report being married below the age of 10 years.

Existing laws permit female marriage at the age of 18 years, but generally in Jharkhand, it is performed at lower age. Close to 54% of females in the state marry below the age of 18.

Table 12: Age at Marriage India and Jharkhand

		Currently married persons of all durations		
	Age at Marriage	Persons	Male	Female
India	All ages	468,593,016	231,820,399	236,772,617
	Below 10 years	10,316,817	3,232,370	7,084,447
		2.20	1.39	2.99
	Below 18 years	127,771,010	24,892,828	102,878,182
		27.27	10.74	43.45
	18 years and above	327,372,502	200,168,923	127,203,579
	69.86	86.35	53.72	
Jharkhand	All ages	11720501	5799335	5921166
	Below 10 years	279054	67359	211695
		2.4	1.2	3.6
	Below 18 years	3,610,813	624,355	3,198,153
		31	11	54
	18 years and above	7,570,072	4,974,889	2,595,183
	60.6	86	44	

Source: Census of India, 2001

Only 11% men get married below the age of 18. Hence the share of female marriages below the age of 18 is much higher in Jharkhand compared to the national estimate.

Health Indicators of Jharkhand

While the infant mortality ratio is lower in the state compared to the national estimate, maternal mortality ratio is much higher at 371. The fertility rate is higher at 3.5.

Table 13: Demographic, Socio-economic and Health profile of Jharkhand State as compared to India figures

Indicator	Jharkhand	India
Crude Birth Rate (SRS 2006)	26.2	24.1
Crude Death Rate (SRS 2006)	8	7.5
Total Fertility Rate (SRS 2004)	3.5	2.9
Infant Mortality Rate (SRS 2006)	49	58
Maternal Mortality Ratio (SRS 2001-03)	371	301

Source: <http://mohfw.nic.in/NRHM/State%20Files/bihar.htm>

Poor maternal health is also indicated by the NFHS 3 data. While only 36% of women in the state have had at least 3 antenatal care visits for their last child birth, only 29% of the births have been assisted by health personnel. This estimate dips for rural areas, which are inhabited by a larger section of the population. Only 28% of those living in rural areas have had 3 ante natal visits. Only 21% births are attended. 10% of women receive post natal care in rural areas

Current fertility rate as per the National Family and Health Survey is 3.3. Close to 48% of women in rural areas report body mass index much lower than normal. According to NFHS-3 (2005-6), 42.6 per cent of the women in the state are dealing with nutritional deficiency, with a body mass index (BMI) which is below normal. This estimate is much weaker than the 33.4% share of the male population who report BMI levels below normal. The prevalence of anaemia among the married women of 15–49 year age group is twice the share of men in the same age group who are anaemic. Apart from low BMI and nutritional deficiency in case of women, the incidence of malnutrition is very high among both male and female children of Jharkhand.

Table 14 : Population and Health Indicators of Jharkhand from NFHS-3

	Jharkhand	Urban	Rural
Marriage and Fertility			
Women age 20-24 married by age 18 (%)	61.2	33.6	71
Men age 25-29 married by age 21 (%)	47.1	26.8	54.7
Total fertility rate (children per woman)	3.31	2.32	3.69
Anaemia among Children and Adults			
Children age 6-35 months who are anaemic (%)	77.7	65.9	80.5
Ever-married women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	70.4	59.4	73.7
Pregnant women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	68.4	69.6	68.2
Ever-married men age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	37.4	23.1	41.8
Knowledge of HIV/AIDS among men and women aged between 15-49			
Women who have heard of AIDS (%)	28.9	71.5	15.8
Men who have heard of AIDS (%)	52.8	89.1	41.7
Women who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	21.8	55.4	11.5
Men who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	46.7	86.8	34.3
Indicators related to Maternal Health and RH			
Any Antenatal Care (%) in last 3 years	61	86	55
Mothers who had at least 3 antenatal care visits for their last child birth (%)	36.1	67.1	28.8
Institutional Delivery (%)	19	54	11
Births assisted by a health personnel	28.7	62.2	20.8
Contraceptive Use (%) Married women 15-49	36	28	60

Source: NFHS-III Fact Sheet – Jharkhand (Provisional Data) National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3) 2005-2006, Min. of Health and Family Welfare, GOI and IIPS, Mumbai

The prevalence of child malnutrition (as measured by the proportion of underweight children) has increased from 54 percent to 59 percent between the last two NFHS rounds carried out in 1998/99 and 2005/06. Similarly, the infant mortality has risen from 54

deaths to 69 deaths per thousand live births. On account of both these indicators the state's current record appears poor within the national context.

HIV and development

The recent NFHS data suggests that AIDS awareness is weak with only 16% of women in rural areas being aware of the disease. This is far lower than 42% of men in rural areas who know about the disease.

A recent survey based out of Ranchi University¹² revealed that only 39 % of the tribal respondents had ever heard about AIDS and only 3 % had ever heard about HIV. The further probing with the tribals who have ever heard about AIDS reflected widespread ignorance. Many of them believed that AIDS was spread by hand shaking (72 %) and eating together (88 %). Almost all (98 %) believed that AIDS could be treated in hospitals and a tiny minority knew that it could be prevented by safe sex.

Literacy and Education

Literacy for women is a major concern. Not only does the data suggest that female literacy rates fall far behind national estimates, they are also much weaker compared to men within the state. The overall female literacy rate is extremely low at 32%. The female literacy rate for those above the age of 6 years is 39%, which is below the national estimate of 51% and the state's total literacy rate pegged at 54%. The male literacy rate for those above the age of 6 years is 68% which is comparable to the national estimate of 75% and above the total literacy rate for India at 65%.

Table 15: Literacy Rates 1991 – 2001 (Jharkhand and India)

Census Years	In percentage					
	Jharkhand			India		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1991	na	na	na	52.19	64.20	39.19
2001	53.6	67.3	38.9	64.8	75.3	53.7

Source: Census of India 1991, Final Population Tables, Series-I, Paper 2 of 1992; http://www.censusindia.gov.in/Census_Data_2001/Census_Data_Online/Social_And_Cultural/Literates_Rate.aspx

The female literacy rate in rural areas is weaker at 30%, while the male rural literacy rate is close to 61%. The gap significantly reduces in urban areas, where the female literacy rate is 70%, seventeen percentage points less than the male literacy rate of 87%.

Table 16: Rural Urban difference in the Literacy Rates of Jharkhand, 2001

	Rural	Urban
Male	60.9	87.9
Female	29.9	70

¹² Jayaswal M, 2004, "Are rural tribals of Jharkhand (India) vulnerable to HIV/AIDS?" Presented at International Conference AIDS, Bangkok, 2004 Jul 11-16; 15: abstract no. D10773. Available at <http://gateway.nlm.nih.gov/MeetingAbstracts/102277836.htm> accessed in November 2007

Persons	45.7	79.1
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Source: Census of India, 2001

Women comprise close to 60% of the state's illiterate population. Approximately, 74% of literate females have been educated below matric or secondary levels. Only 5% of the educated female population has completed graduation. Women comprise merely 25% of college graduates in the state and 21% of the educated population with post graduate degrees. The districts of Pakur, Garwah and Simdega report the weakest female literacy rates of 20.6%, 22.9% and 26.6% respectively. Purbhi Singhbhum, Dhanbad and Ranchi report highest female literacy rates of 57.3%, 52.4% and 51.7% respectively.

Amongst tribal communities, the overall literacy rate has increased from 27.5% in 1991 to 40% in 2001. However this increased access to education is gender biased. The table below shows that female literacy rate amongst tribal's remains as low as 27.2%, which is lower than the state average.

Table 17: ST Literacy Rates in Jharkhand

Literacy Rate	All ST's (state)	Oraon	Kharia	Munda	Bhumji	Ho	Lohra	Santhal	Kharwar
Total	40.7	52.5	51.0	47.9	41.5	39.2	38.9	33.4	29.6
Female	27.2	40.8	42.2	34.9	24	23.9	19.5	19.5	13.9

(Census 2001)

Table 18: The Gross Enrolment Ratio in Jharkhand Schools as reported by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, as on 30 September, 2002

School Enrolment Ratio	Primary (Classes 1-5)		Middle (Classes 6-8)	
	India	Jharkhand	India	Jharkhand
Girl	85.18	76.34	49.66	30.76
Boy	104.08	100.51	67.15	43.86
Total	94.9	88.56	58.79	37.56

Source: Govt. of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Education (2001). Annual Report 2000-2001*. New Delhi. P. 218; Annual Report 2003-2004#, p. 261.

Table 17 also suggests that female literacy rates amongst certain tribes in the state are much higher than the state average of 39%. This is true for the Oraon and Kharia tribes. However, Santhal, Lohra and Kharwar tribes report very weak female literacy.

Violence against women

Violence levels against women have been on the increase with the total cases reported increasing from 593 in 1999 to 667 in 2001¹³. The overwhelming majority of victims of

13 SAMADHAN, UNIFEM, 2003, "Support Services to Counter Violence against Women in Jharkhand: A Resource Directory

"available at

www.unifem.org.in/PDF/Jharkhand/Jharkhand.pdf

domestic violence are women. Women report cases of rape and dowry deaths. The NFHS 3 suggests that 24.6% women face spousal violence in urban areas, while 40.8% face such violence in rural areas.

Table 18: Incidence and Rate of Crime Committed against Women in Jharkhand and India, 2001

State	Incidence	Percentage contribution to all-India total	Rate of total cognizable crimes
Jharkhand	2229	1.6	8.3
India	143795	100	14.0

Source: <http://nrcw.nic.in> (National Resource Centre for women, National Commission for Women) based on data from Ministry of Home Affairs, National Crime Records Bureau (2003), Crime in India 2001. New Delhi p. 261

Table 19: Incidence of Crimes Committed against Women during 2004

	Jharkhand	India
Rape	447	16078
Kidnapping and abduction	200	14895
Dowry Deaths	175	6655
Cruelty by husband and relatives	282	48343
Molestation	182	31836
Eve-teasing	14	13364
Importing of Girls (up to 21 years)	44	112
I.T.P. Act	1	5114
Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition)	28	3092
Dowry Prohibition Act	136	2546
Total	1509	142035

Source: <http://nrcw.nic.in> (National Resource Centre for women, National Commission for Women)

5. Politics and Participation

Panchayat elections have not been held in Jharkhand so far on account of the Jharkhand high court striking down the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA), 1996 and the provisions of the Jharkhand Panchayati Raj Act 2001 relating to reservations for SCs, STs and OBCs. Because of non holding of Panchayat elections in Jharkhand, the grants earmarked for local bodies under the 12th Finance Commission award have not been released by the Government of India. The notification for holding Panchayat elections was issued but in view of the High Court's judgment, the notification had to be cancelled. The matter is now pending before the Supreme Court of India, in which Government of India is also a party. The Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas Act (PESA) can promote the rights of tribal communities in respect of access to, and, control over natural resources. It offers potential for the reassertion of tribal identity based on local decision making through a bargaining framework which is advantageous to tribals. The rights of Gram Sabhas envisaged in PESA offer a model for Gram Sabhas for all other areas in terms of enabling village communities to assert control

over local natural resources. Such a process could help reverse the widespread alienation of local stakes in forest, land and water management and thereby promote environmentally sustainable development.

6. Centrally and State Sponsored Schemes

Swa Shakti Project

The Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project (Swa Shakti Project), was launched in 1998. The key objectives are to empower women in six States through the establishment of self-help groups. This project is being implemented in 5 districts of Jharkhand, namely Ranchi, Hazaribagh, Gumla, Dumka and West Singhbhum in 22 blocks along-with 17 NGO partners.

Working Women Hostel

This scheme envisages provision of cheap and safe accommodation facilities for working women, widows, divorcees and such working women whose husbands stay at far away places. These are to be run on the self-financing basis through a Management Committee. The Department proposes to set up such hostels in a phased manner in Ranchi, Jhamshepur, Dhanbad, Bokaro, Dumka, Giridih, Hazaribagh and Daltonganj. The budgetary provision for this financial year (2003-04) in this scheme is 1.5 crores.

Local Food Model

An innovative plan of the Department of Social Welfare has recently been initiated wherein womens groups are being provided with forward linkage and the groups have achieved sustainable economic independence and empowerment.

The local food model has been initiated at the Anganwadi Centres of ICDS within the state in order to provide nutritional support to the pregnant or lactating women and children under the age of 6 years through the local food model. In the districts of Giridih, East Singhbhum and Lohardaga the supplementary food being provided at the Anganwadi Centers is procured from the local women's groups .This initiative provides women with economic independence and the local production and procurement also has ensured improved quality of food being distributed from the AWC .

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NGOs Working on Women's Issues in Jharkhand

EKTA MAHILA MANCH

Chuna Bhatta, Kokar, Ranchi, Jharkhand

BASTI VIKAS MANCH (1993)

Basti Vilas Manchm M & P.O. Lem Baragain
(VIA-R.M.C.H), Distt. Ranchi-834009
Tel: 545769, 542086, 304055

JUMAV MANCH

Palamu Zone: Main Road, Garhwa, Jharkhand-822114
Tel: 06562 2227533

NAV BHARAT JAGRATI KENDRA

Ranchi Jharkhand

PRERNA BHARATI

High School Road, Mitijam, Jamtara Dist., Jharkhand - 815354
Re-registration (Jharkhand)
Amarnath Dham, B-III, 60 Circular Road, Lalpur, Ranchi- 834001
Tel: 2545428

Madhya Pradesh

1. Context:

Madhya Pradesh is the second largest Indian state in size with an area of 308,000 sq. kms and a population of 60.35 million. MP is located in central India. It is a predominantly agricultural state with 30 percent of its area covered by forest. In 2000, the state was bifurcated to create a new state of Chattisgarh.

Madhya Pradesh has one of the largest tribal populations in the country. Out of the 45 districts in the state, 18 are predominantly tribal. Eighty nine blocks (approx. 28%) of the total 313 development blocks are tribal blocks.

Among important state initiatives that have had a positive impact from a gender perspective, are the Education Guarantee Scheme and the legislation for welfare of unorganized workers, with creation of Welfare Boards 2003/5.

2. Demographic & Socio Economic Profile of the State

Table 1 below presents the demographic profile of the state.

Attention is drawn to two aspects in which MP differs from the national averages:

- a. High percentage of tribal population
- b. Sex ratio lower than national average

Table 1: Demographic & Socio Economic Profile:

S. No.	Item	MP	India
1	Total population (Census 2001) (in million)	60.35	1028.61
2	Male	31.45	532.2
3	Female	29.92	496.4
4	Scheduled Caste	9.2	166.6
5	Male	4.8	86.0
6	Female	4.4	80.5
7	Scheduled Tribe	12.3 (20 %)	84.3 (8 %)
8	Male	6.2	42.6
9	Female	6.1	41.7
10	Total Urban	15.96	286.1
11	Male(U)	8.41	150.5
12	Female(U)	7.55	135.6
13	Total Rural	44.38	742.4
13	Male(R)	23.03	381.6
14	Female (R)	31.35	360.8
15	Decadal Growth (Census 2001) (%)	24.26	21.54
16	Sex Ratio (Census 2001)	920	933
17	Population below Poverty line (%)*	38.3	27.5
18	Female Headed Households	7.57%	

Source: Census 2001; * Planning Commission (2007) Poverty Estimates of 2004-05 (<http://planningcommission.nic.in/news/prmar07.pdf>)

Sex Ratio

Sex ratio is seen as an indicator of the level of gender equality and the lower it is the more likely that there is discrimination in the treatment of girls and boys, men and women. The sex ratio in MP is below that of all-India, but the good news is that there has been a significant improvement in the sex ratio from 912 in 1991 to 920 in 2001. However the very low sex ratio in some places is cause for concern. These include Bhind (829); Morena (822); Datia (857); Shivpuri (858). A study shows that the low sex ratio is an outcome of adverse practices, as given below.

Adverse Child Sex Ratio in Shivpuri district, Madhya Pradesh

The 2001 Census reported the child sex ratio of 904 girls per 1000 boys in the age group 0-6 at Shivpuri. A recent survey conducted in this district headquarter by the district administration shows that there has been a fall of 58 points and now the town has a child sex ratio of 846 girls per 1000 boys. The Government of India had issued directives to keep a monthly tab on the child sex ratio to keep a check on the alarming drop in the number of girls as reported by the 2001 Census. The Registrar-General of India has also asked its State offices to prepare a monthly report of the births to monitor the sex ratio.

The adverse child sex ratio in Shivpuri is indicative of female infanticide and shows that foeticide is being practiced. The recent behavior of society could be judged by comparing the sex ratio at birth and the overall child sex ratio. The 2001 Census showed that there were 11944 boys and 10800 girls out of the total 22744 children in the age group 0-6yrs in Shivpuri. Births recorded in private hospitals at Shivpuri in the last one year period, indicates a sex ratio at birth to 787 girls per 1000 boys born in private hospitals. In sharp contrast, in the case of government hospitals, where mostly the weaker sections go due to various incentives and low delivery cost, the sex ratio at birth went up to 929 girls per 1000 boys.

There is no clear and simple answer to the question of how best to tackle and address this problem. While legal sanctions are present in the form of Pre-Conception Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act (PCPNDT), the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act may be misused.¹ The balance between assuring women of the right to terminate a pregnancy and ensuring that this does not result in female foeticide requires change in the environment, the prevalent mindsets in order to enhance women's status and lead to a welcoming of the girl child. This requires a multi-dimensional approach to tackle the deep-rooted patriarchal ideologies that perpetually undervalue women and lower their status.

3. Poverty and Access to Economic Opportunity

Differences in the well being outcomes of development for men and women arise from a number of factors, including differences in levels of literacy and skill, access to economic opportunities, unequal access to and ownership of productive assets, and underlying cultural norms that restrict women's mobility and choices.

¹ <http://www.bhopalpost.com/shivpuri1.asp>

In order to understand the state specific issues relating to gender inequality in the incidence of poverty and access to economic opportunity, with a view to highlighting the key areas in which policy attention may reasonably be focused, it is important to review the available data but also to be aware of the limitations of this data; for example it is well known that existing data seriously underestimates women's work participation and contribution to economic activity. Table 2 shows the differences in male and female work force participation rates as per NSS data, however, these need to be interpreted with caution and it is possible that the economic contribution of women in home based activities and especially unpaid family work is being underestimated.

The Census 2001 data show there is gender gap in marginal workers in rural as well as in urban Madhya Pradesh. Less than 5% women fall under the category of marginal workers. Madhya Pradesh registers 48% men and 67% women as non workers (Table-3).

Table 2: Work Participation Rates for Males and Females: Madhya Pradesh & India

Year	Madhya Pradesh		All India	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Men				
1993-1994	57.2	47.1	55.3	52.1
1999-2000	53.6	48.8	53.1	51.8
2004-2005	54.4	52.5	54.6	54.9
Women				
1993-1994	41.0	14.2	32.8	15.5
1999-2000	38.2	13.4	29.8	13.9
2004-2005	36.6	15.4	32.7	16.6

Source: NSS Rounds on Employment and Unemployment (50th, 55th and 61st Rounds)

Table 3: Main, Marginal and Non Workers by Gender and Location in Madhya Pradesh

	Men			Women		
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
Main Worker	45.1	43.61	44.7	20.55	8.7	17.45
Marginal Worker	7.89	3.8	6.79	20.16	3.27	15.75
Non Worker	47	53	48	59	88	67

Source : Census of India, 2001

Table 4 Distribution of Workers by Sector and Location: MP

Location	Gender	Cultivators	Agricultural Labour	Household Industries	Other Workers
Rural	Men	54.55	27.67	2.85	14.91
	Women	46.85	43.22	4.19	5.72
Urban	Men	5.59	3.50	4.29	86.60

Source: Census of India, 2001

In Madhya Pradesh women workers are concentrated in agriculture. For the state as a whole, while 83 % of men workers in rural MP are cultivators or agricultural labourers, 90 % of women are so located. While 28 % of men rural workers are agricultural labourers, 43 % of women are so classified. 3 % of men and 4 % of women are in household industry in rural areas (Table-4).

Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy, and most farm operations are rain-fed and characterized by extremely low output and productivity. For the state of Madhya Pradesh, there has been a sharp increase (nearly 100 per cent) in the number of small and marginal landholders, coupled with stagnation in agricultural productivity².

Clearly, therefore, the well being of women is bound up with the availability of reasonable returns from agriculture and casual wage work. Prevalence of gender wage gaps needs to be removed. The NREGA promises to provide some support to households dependent on agriculture. As per the official website, currently the percentage share of women in total work days is 44 % in the state, which exceeds the suggested one-third reservation. Attention needs to be given to improve the implementation of the NREGA from a gender perspective, ensuring for example that equal wages are paid; work is such as to build up skills; the choice of works reflects development concerns of both men and women; crèche facilities are provided on work sites, along with other facilities such as water and shade.

There is a high prevalence of home based work for example bidi making. While the latter is a sign of poverty, it has also led to mobilising and organizing of women. Thus SEWA MP has been able to assist in members in accessing benefits through the Bidi Workers Welfare Fund.

Madhya Pradesh was the first state in the country to set up a commission to investigate the situation of informal workers leading to the creation of a welfare fund for unorganized workers (2005).

Wage/Salary Earning by Gender:

The next important issue for women is wage discrimination in Agricultural occupation, casual labour employment as well as regular employment. As regards wage rates in agricultural occupations gender gap is quite evident in Madhya Pradesh but is relatively less as compared to national averages (Table-5).

As per the 2004-05 NSS survey results, gender gap in earnings exists. The wage earnings are lower for females than males in casual employment both on public works as well as non public works.

Table-5 Average Daily Wage Rates in Agricultural Occupations in Rural India during April, 2005

States		List of Activity										
		Ploughing	Sowing	Weeding	Trans-planting	Harvesting	Winnowing	Threshing	Picking	Herdsmen	Well digging	Cane crushing
MP	Men	53.61	49.26	43.39	@	46.01	42.11	44.71	37.14	33.97	51.61	50

² Shah, M. and P.S. Vijayshankar, 2002, 'Land Reforms in Madhya Pradesh: redefining the Agenda' in P. Jha (ed), Land Reforms in India .New Delhi: Sage Publications

	Women	@	40.28	38.33	*	39.86	34.62	37	33.57	30.89	42.5	@
India	Men	74.05	67.87	59.16	63.08	62.4	55.53	59.14	55.73	42.47	82.29	61.42
	Women	38.52	47.6	47.99	52.33	51.53	44.94	46.61	42.56	32.44	47.24	41.19

*Not Reported

@Number of quotations is less than five

Picking indicates picking of cotton bolls/seed pods, jute stalks and tea leaves.

Source: www.Labourbureau.gov.in

The wage gap between women and men is worst in rural Madhya Pradesh. It is much higher as compared to national averages in case of regular employment as well as casual works in public work. Gender gap has widened for casual workers in rural areas both in public works and non-public works despite the legislations of minimum wage (Table-6).

Table 6 -Gender Gap in Earnings in Regular Employment, Casual works in Public and other than Public Works

State/Locations	Average per day Earnings in Regular Employment		Average daily wages for Casual Workers in Public Works		Average daily wages for Casual Workers in Works(Non Public Works)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Madhya Pradesh (R)	103.16	31.49	85.86	38.00	38.58	30.53
		0.31		0.44		0.79
Madhya Pradesh(U)	184.07	104.78			51.55	42.02
		0.57				0.82
India (Rural)	144.93	85.53	65.33	49.19	55.03	34.94
		0.59		0.75		0.63
India (Urban)	203.28	153.19			75.1	43.88
		0.75				0.58

Source: NSS Report No 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Migration and Trafficking

An area of concern relates to trafficking. Data shows that the number of women migrants is more than three times the number of men migrants in the state. In the absence of adequate facilities for registration of migrants and services such as information, counseling and support, women migrants are vulnerable to trafficking and to HIV/AIDS.

Table 7 shows the data on migration and the male/ female distribution of migrants. While more women than men are recorded as migrants in the all India data as well, the ratio is more skewed towards women in Madhya Pradesh. Within the district, the ratio of females to males is 4.4. (and this movement may reflect marriage related movement); between districts the ratio is 2.5; and between states the ratio is 1.95. As the distance of movement increases, so does vulnerability; even if on paper a large part of this migration is shown to be for 'marriage' women will still look for work and would be under pressure for survival

reasons to do so. Thus the link between migration (for whatever purpose), work, and vulnerability needs to be uncovered more carefully.

Table 8 gives reasons for migration as per the Census. Though the percentages are small, the absolute numbers of women who report moving for 'work' or 'business' is high – over 200,000 – and as mentioned above, women who migrant initially for other reasons are also often subsequently engaged in work with all the vulnerabilities that this implies.

Table 6: Number of Migrants by Gender, MP

	India			Madhya Pradesh		
	Person	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Inter State Migration	41166266	19098082	22068183	2169350	736366	1432984
		46.3%	53.6%		33.9%	66%
Inter District Migration	74626322	24241706	50384616	4809590	1362964	3446626
		32.4%	67.5%		28.3%	71.6%
Intra District Migration	193592938	47337924	146255014	11185337	2057434	9127903
		24.4%	75.5%		18.3%	81.6%

Source: Census of India, 2001

Table 7: Reasons of Migration by Gender, Madhya Pradesh

Reasons for Migration	Madhya Pradesh		
	Persons*	Male **	Female**
Work/Employment	1,728,881	1509822	219,059
	9.48	87.3	12.6
Business	63,822	47,018	16,804
	0.35	73.67	26.32
Education	203,936	153,240	50,696
	1.11	75.14	24.85
Marriage	10,945,019	120,222	10,824,797
	60.06	1.09	98.90
Moved after birth	480,658	287,192	193,466
	2.63	59.74	40.25
Moved with household	2,559,892	1,031,894	1,527,998
	14.04	40.31	59.68
Others	2,239,474	1,038,298	1,201,176
	12.29	46.36	53.63
Total	18221682	4187686	14033996

Source: Census of India, 2001

*Column percentages

** Row percentages

Trafficking of tribal girls:

Concern has been expressed on the volume of trafficking that may be taking place especially of tribal girls who look for work in other places, given lack of work or reasonable earnings in rural, forested, tribal areas (as well as the attractions offered by the agencies or persons who facilitate migration for work). As per the 2001 Census, Mandla district has 1,002 females per 1,000 males, while Balaghat has 1,022 females per 1,000 males. "Despite the government offering several schemes for tribals in this area, they do

not get enough work due to corruption. Consequently, daughters are sent off to work and their families immediately get anywhere between Rs.1,200 to Rs.3,500. This is reported in a study by Nirman, a Mandla-based voluntary organisation.

The National Institute for Women, Child and Youth Development (NIWCYD), based in Dindori, reports that it has become common practice to take away girls on the pretext of work and then force them into prostitution in these poor districts Mandla, Belaghat and Dindori.³

Girl Child Labour

From the data it also seems that MP has a higher percentage of working girls in the age group 10-14, with implications for their ability to go to school and acquire other skills. Table-8 indicates that the risk is greater for girls from rural MP than boys (but more for boys in urban areas). The census 2001 data indicates that Madhya Pradesh has a large number female workers in the age group of 10-14 years. The total female workers are higher than the national averages (Table-9).

Table 8: Percentages of Workers among Children: Madhya Pradesh & All India

	Women		Men	
	5-9	10-14	5-9	10-14
Rural				
Madhya Pradesh	0	6.9	0.1	4.2
All India	0.1	4.9	0.2	5.4
Urban				
Madhya Pradesh	0	1.8	0	2.9
All India	0	2.4	0.2	4.4

Source: NSS Rounds on Employment and Unemployment (61st Round)

Table 9: Distribution of workers (5-14 years) by Sex

State/India	Total Workers			Main Workers			Marginal Workers		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
India	12666377	6804336	5862041	5778991	3696904	2182087	6887386	3207432	3679954
		53.71	46.28	45.62	29.18	17.22	54.37	25.32	29.05
MP	1065259	533917	531342	388265	234631	153634	676994	299286	377708
		50.12	49.88	36.45	22.02	14.42	63.55	28.09	35.45

Source: ILO, 2007: Child Labour Facts & Figures: An Analysis of Census 2001.

4. Social profile

Population and Health Indicators of Madhya Pradesh

Population and Health Indicators for the state suggest a performance somewhat below the country average. The Total Fertility Rate of the State is 3.6. The Infant Mortality Rate is 76 and Maternal Mortality Ratio is 379 (SRS 2001 - 03) which are higher than the National average (see Table 10).

³ www.indiatogether.org/2007/jun/wom-traffic.htm

Table 10: Population indicators of Madhya Pradesh State as compared to All India figures

S. No.	Item	MP	India
1	Crude Birth Rate (SRS 2006)	29.8	24.1
2	Crude Death Rate (SRS 2006)	9.2	7.5
3	Total Fertility Rate (SRS 2004)	3.6	2.9
4	Infant Mortality Rate (SRS 2006)	79	58
5	Maternal Mortality Ratio (SRS 2001 - 2003)	379	301
6	Sex Ratio (Census 2001)	920	933

Source: <http://mohfw.nic.in/NRHM/State%20Files/mp.htm#sp>

Reproductive and Child Health (RCH):

The Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) programme that has been launched by Government of India (GoI) in 1996-97 is expected to provide quality services and achieve multiple objectives. The district being the basic nucleus of planning and implementation of the RCH programme, it was decided to undertake District Level Household Survey (DLHS) under the RCH programme in the country. The Round I of RCH survey was conducted during the year 1998-99 in two phases (each phase covered half of the districts from all states/union territories) in 504 districts. In Round II, survey was completed during 2002-04 in 593 districts⁴ as per the 2001 Census.

Table 11 below presents some key health indicators for the state. The data shows a marked gap in awareness between men and women regarding HIV/AIDS and between urban and rural areas.

Table 11: Health Indicators by Gender, MP

	NFHS-III	Urban	Rural
Marriage and Fertility			
Women age 20-24 married by age 18 (%)	53.00	31.10	62.00
Men age 25-29 married by age 21 (%)	54.00	27.40	64.10
Total fertility rate (children per woman)	3.12	2.58	3.34
Anaemia among Children and Adults			
Children age 6-35 months who are anaemic (%)	82.60	75.20	84.90
Ever-married women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	57.60	48.30	61.00
Pregnant women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	57.90	44.30	62.40
Ever-married men age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	24.40	15.70	27.50
Knowledge of HIV/AIDS among Ever-Married Adults (age 15-49)			
Women who have heard of AIDS (%)	45.30	74.10	35.00
Men who have heard of AIDS (%)	68.30	94.80	58.80
Women who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	35.70	63.30	25.70
Men who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	61.90	91.30	51.40

Source : <http://www.nfhsindia.org/pdf/MP.pdf>

The data (Table 11) suggests that in parts of the state age at marriage is well below the legal age of 18 years. There are districts where girls are getting married at the age of

⁴ http://mohfw.nic.in/INDIA%20RCH%20REPORT_Pdf/7.%20CHAPTER-1.pdf

15/16years, specifically, Dewas, Satna, Sidhi and Tikamgarh. Young age at marriage is associated with low birth weight of children, and can lead to weakness and poor health for the mother if adequate care and nutrition is not provided. Moreover, early marriage also implies low levels of education thus denying the woman opportunities that could be accessed through education and training.

The RCH data indicate a low prevalence of institutional deliveries, and that about 50-80 percent deliveries take place at home. In Sidhi district (north east of the state, predominantly tribal), institutional deliveries are only 6 % of all deliveries, including both government and private facilities. This naturally means a higher risk of maternal mortality as medical care cannot be provided in time in case of complications during delivery. There is a very high prevalence of women not availing antenatal checkups – as much as 69.5 % in Sidhi⁵. This may be due to lack of access to public health facilities.

The level of awareness on RTI/ STD and HIV/AIDS is low, and varies considerably across the districts. In Sidhi, only 0.9 reported awareness; the highest level is 61.6 % in Neemuch. Similarly, awareness on HIV/AIDS is only seen for 8.6 % in district Sidhi and going up to a maximum of 73.5 % in Indore⁶.

A summary picture of on-going health programmes for adolescent girls and women in the state is given below.

Health related programs for adolescents' girls and women⁷

Districts	Activities	Implementing Agency
Satna, Rewa, Sidhi, Panna, Chattarpur	The adolescent programme focuses on providing adolescents with practical information on sexual and reproductive health. Key strategies include building a supportive environment at the policy and community levels; informing adolescents on health/SRH; building their life skills and promoting service linkages on a pilot basis.	UNFPA
Bhind, Gwalior, Jhabua, Bhopal, Hoshangabad, Harda, Jabalpur, Narsimhapur, Chhindwara, Balaghat	The Elementary Education Programme supports the Government's SSA initiative by making efforts to: (1) reduce gender disparities; (2) promote access and quality education for children from disadvantaged groups; (3) enhance learning achievements by improving the quality of education; (4) improve and expand educational data and analysis and (5) deliver and document quality education.	UNICEF
Jhabua, Barhwani	WFP programmes support the Government's Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS). Interventions focus on increased coverage of children under three and malnourished expectant, as well as nursing mothers.	WFP

Educational Status

⁵ <http://www.rchindia.org>

⁶ *ibid*

⁷ <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipec/responses/india/mp.htm>

Madhya Pradesh was among the educationally backward states in India in the mid-nineties and has improved its status within a decade with literacy rate presently **64.11** % (source: Census 2001), which is close to the national literacy rate of 64.8 %. While the female literacy has considerably improved over the last decade, a great disparity still persists in the literacy rates of males and females. Some blocks such as Alirajpur, Karhal, Jhirniya, Sendhwa, Jobat and Bajna have literacy rates below 35%. The female literacy is below 20% in two blocks i.e. Karhal (15.1%) of Sheopur district and Alirajpur (19.9%) of Jhabua district.

After passage of 73rd Amendment Act, in 1994, Madhya Pradesh became the first state which enacted new panchayati raj system in the state and made it clear that it sees mass education as the most important objective in addressing its agenda of political decentralization. After formation of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), state government gave several powers and duties to PRIs and education was one of such areas. In 1997, the Government of Madhya Pradesh pioneered a community centred and right-based initiative to universalize primary education called Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS). Education of the child is presented as a right that the state has to ensure working together with society and citizens.

In the area of basic education, the rights-based framework has been carried over into the area of ensuring quality for elementary education through the Madhya Pradesh Jan Shiksha Adhiniyam (Madhya Pradesh People's Education Act).

Literacy:

Table 4.1 shows that there is still a wide variation. The literacy level for tribal women is just over 28 % while for women as a whole it is over 50 % and for tribal men it is 53 %.

Table 12: Status of Literacy Pertaining to Different Categories in the State:

Category	Literacy rate (2001)	
	M.P.	National
SC Female	43.2	41.9
SC Male	72.3	66.6
Total SC	58.6	54.7
ST Female	28.4	34.8
ST Male	53.6	59.2
Total ST	41.2	47.1
Female	50.3	53.7
Male	76.1	75.3
Total	64.1	64.8

Source: Census of India: 2001

Elementary Education Status:

The status of elementary education in terms of major educational indicators is described below. The school facilities available in Madhya Pradesh are shown in Table 4.2. In addition to the formal schools, alternative primary education facilities have been started to ensure that the children who are out of the ambit of formal education, also get an opportunity to avail the education facility that will ultimately lead to their mainstreaming

in the formal education system. These alternative facilities are Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya(KGBV), Girls Hostel, Shiksha Ghar.

Table 13: School facilities in Madhya Pradesh:

S.N.	School Facilities	Numbers
1	Government Primary schools	81550
2	Aided Primary schools (Private)	933
3	Unaided Primary schools (Private)	15862
4	Government Upper Primary schools	24765
5	Aided Upper Primary schools (Private)	394
6	Unaided Upper Primary schools (Private)	11936
7	Ashram Shala (Elementary level)	908

<http://www.ssa.mp.gov.in/educationalprofile.htm>

Enrollment

Over the years there has been increase in the enrollment of girls in schools at both primary and upper primary level. But there continues to be a sharp drop at upper primary enrollment. The upper primary enrollment for boys is 25 % that at primary, and 20 % for girls. (2006-7). (Table 14)

Table 14: Comparative Enrolment (Figures in lakhs)

LEVEL	ENROLMENT 2004-05			ENROLMENT 2005-06			ENROLMENT 2006-07		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary	54.9	48.6	103.5	59.4	53.3	112.7	62.0	56.1	118.1
Upper Primary	21.6	16.7	38.3	23.7	18.8	42.5	24.8	20.2	45.0
Elementary	76.5	65.3	141.8	83.1	72.2	155.3	86.8	76.3	163.2

<http://www.ssa.mp.gov.in/NPEGEL.htm>

There has been a significant increase in the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) of girls. The gap in GER of boys and girls has also narrowed, which is indicative of the fact that girls' enrolment has increased in the past years (Table 15). Drop outs rates for girls have fallen, but continue to be high (Table 16).

Table 15: Reduction in Gender Gap (%)

Category	2000-01		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	GER of girls	Gender gap	GER of girls	Gender gap	GER of girls	Gender gap	GER of girls	Gender gap	GER of girls	Gender gap
Primary	94.30	3.60	102.30	1.30	103.00	1.1	103.8	0.3	104.5	0.2
Upper	64.60	10.10	79.70	4.70	85.00	4.10	88.7	2.8	94.39	1.7

Primary										
Elementary	86.50	4.60	95.80	1.90	98.10	1.30	99.4	0.4	101.62	0.5

<http://www.ssa.mp.gov.in/NPEGEL.htm>

Table 16: Reducing drop out rate

Dropout Rate	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Primary	20	21.8	19.1	20.6	16.9	18.4
Upper Primary	20.4	22.7	17.8	20.8	14.3	18.3

<http://www.ssa.mp.gov.in/NPEGEL.htm>

While the State has made progress in terms of providing universal access to all habitations and universalizing enrolment, retention and achievement of children; more intensive efforts are required to improve the status of retention and learner achievement in the State. The specific need-based programs that are being implemented address the issues of equity through National Program for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL), Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidhyala (KGBV) Yojana and Mid Day Meal (MDM) programs.

A recent evaluation⁸ of the KGBV programme recommended certain changes in the programme such as detailed micro planning at village-cluster and block level to guarantee that the neediest eligible children get the KGBV opportunity, counseling of parents and of the girls as they near completion of the Std 8 so that the path forward is assured for them, continuous planning for academic guidance of KGBVs girls and teachers, incorporation of life –skills, gender issues in the curriculum of the KGBV. The evaluation also calls for improvement in the primary & upper primary schools ratio.

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya are residential schools which cover hard to reach girls especially the deprived ones belonging predominantly to the SC,ST,OBC community and minority groups. This is an intervention for girls residing in small and scattered habitations far off from the nearest school. The objectives of the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya scheme are to: facilitate retention of girls, ensure greater participation of girls in education, develop and promote facilities to provide access to girls belonging to disadvantaged groups like SC and ST, improve quality of education stress upon the relevance and quality of girls' education for their empowerment

Madhya Pradesh is following Model 3 of GOI guidelines in which residential facility for girls is provided to existing middle schools.105 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya are functional currently and 5368 girls are enrolled in the KGBVs. Of these, 76% belong to BPL families. Another 80 KGBVs are sanctioned by GOI for operation in 2007

Girls as a group need special attention as far as enrolment and retention issues are concerned. Girls are disadvantaged as they still do not enjoy parity with boys in society. This has a bearing on their overall development, education not being an exception to this. Rural girls are specially disadvantaged as many of them are engaged in household chores as well as paid and unpaid work, e.g. in work related to fuel, fodder, water, sibling care. It is impossible to achieve Universal Elementary Education unless concerted efforts are

⁸http://ssa.nic.in/girlseducation/NationalEvaluationReport_KGBV/MP/MADHYA_PRADESH_FINAL_22_Mar_ch.pdf

made to reach out to the girl child. In order to enhance their participation and performance, necessary support services need to be provided (for example, child care facilities will relieve older girls of the responsibility of caring for siblings; piped water would reduce time spent in fetching water; availability of other fuel would reduce time spent fetching firewood).

Violence against Women in Madhya Pradesh:

The incidence of crimes committed against women in Madhya Pradesh indicates that molestation being the highest followed by eve-teasing, cruelty by husband and relatives and rape (Table-17). As far as age of the rape victims are concerned 18-30yrs appears to be a significant one. The highest number of rape victims belongs to this age group (Table-18).

Table: 17 Incidence of Crimes Committed Against Women During, 2004

Crimes	Madhya Pradesh	(%)	India	(%)
Rape	2710	15.2	15078	8.14
Kidnapping Abduction	568	3.1	14895	8.04
Dowry Deaths	628	3.5	19701	10.6
Cruelty by husband & relative	3161	17.7	48343	26.1
Molestation	7069	39.6	31836	17.2
Eve-teasing	3609	20.2	41145	22.2
Importing of girls (up to 21 yrs)	9	0.05	112	0.06
Sati prevention act	0	0	1	0
I.T.P. Act	12	0.06	7763	4.2
Indecent representation of women	34	0.19	3390	1.8
Dowry prohibition act	36	0.20	2827	1.5
Total	17836		185091	

Source: <http://nrcw.nic.in/statistic%20tables/rape-case-victim.html>

Table: 18 Distribution of Rape Cases by Age Groups, 2002

India/State	No. of cases Reported	Number of Victims					
		Up-to 10 yrs	10-14Yrs	14-18Yrs	18-30Yrs	30-50Yrs	50 Yrs & Above
Madhya Pradesh	2891	80	185	252	1549	811	14
India	16373	411	854	1325	10730	2992	66
		2.51	5.21	8.09	65.51	18.27	0.4

Source: India, Ministry of Home Affairs, National Crime Records Bureau, 2004

5. Political Participation:

Political participation has been important aspect of empowerment of women. The performance of women contestant in Madhya Pradesh shows 9.5% got elected. However

in Madhya Pradesh 33% reservations for women in three tiers Panchayati Raj system is followed.

Table: 19 Performance of Women Candidates in Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha General Election-2003

Total No.of Seats	Total Female Contestants	Elected Female Members	Defeated Female Members	Deposited Forfeited
230	199	19 (9.55%)	33 (16.58%)	147 (73.87%)

6. Innovative Livelihood Projects:

a. Sustainable Livelihoods for Women Entrepreneurs based on Handmade Paper Technology and Handcrafted Paper Products

One such initiative taken up, jointly, by the Government of Madhya Pradesh (through Rajiv Gandhi Gramudyog Mission) and Development Alternatives was under the TREAD (Trade Related Entrepreneurs Assistance for Development) program. Under the program two major projects were designed and successfully implemented within a framework of one and a half years whereby groups of women were identified, trained and registered as independent legal entities.

The first project involved identifying a group of tribal women from below poverty line households, in Tikamgarh District of Madhya Pradesh, who were to be imparted training in manufacture of handmade paper products. Previously these women were earning their livelihoods through marginal labor on agricultural land and construction sites and, their average earnings per annum were less than Rs.3500. Technical training to the group was provided on manufacture of handmade paper products identified through a comprehensive market survey, thereby, ensuring a ready market for the finished products. The women were also trained on organizational, financial and marketing aspects of managing an independent enterprise. Simultaneously they were encouraged to adopt a regular savings habit. The convergence of the above factors led to the formation and registration of a co-operative society which would be responsible for self managing day to day issues of production and financial management. Literacy classes were also provided to help women manage the co-operative more efficiently. Today the average income of a woman is Rs.12, 000 more than thrice the income from alternative sources of livelihood. Currently, a total of 23 women have been registered with the co-operative⁹.

The second project involved setting up of a handmade paper unit in Khargone District of Madhya Pradesh in association with a local NGO, Ashagram, which is involved in manufacturing and supply of artificial limbs to the poor. A total of 60 people were chosen, mostly women from around the region. Today the unit has been registered as an independent society providing a consistent source of livelihood and producing good quality handmade paper.

b. Establishment of a Technology Resource Centre in Niwari Block of Tikamgarh

⁹ <http://www.devalt.org/da/tsb/active.htm>

(Madhya Pradesh)

This is a UNDP sponsored project wherein Development Alternatives is entrusted with the task of setting up of a Technology Resource Centre (TRC). It is envisaged that TRC will act as an information hub for providing up to date information on various parameters (social, economic, health, technological) of the block to State Government or any agency interested in development of the block¹⁰

The second phase of the program aims to introduce at least two technologies identified in phase one for promoting sustainable livelihoods. A complete technology package will be delivered which will include the financial assistance component. The total project period is of two years.

c. Women Run Cow-Shed: Alternative Source of Income

Cows have been the harbingers of hope for the women of Aarti Self Help Group (SHG), which manages a gau-shala or cow-shed at Jawali village of Babai block in Hoshangabad district of Madhya Pradesh. Aarti SHG enjoys the privilege of running the first cow-shed of Madhya Pradesh which is managed exclusively by women. It has 22 cows and 10 buffalos. Shortly, 10 more buffalos would be added. The group gives 20 litres of milk per day to the sale-counter of Madhya Pradesh State Milk Federation at Sohagpur,

Impressed with the commitment and entrepreneurship of these women, the Jawali Gram Panchayat has provided ten acres of land to the Aarti Self Help Group. The SHG came into being barely two years ago as a response to the state government's announcement to promote dairy farming at the micro level through gau-shalas. Under the state government's Godan Scheme, poor families of villages are supposed to get cows in the name of female members in their families. The scheme has been received well across the state. The purpose of the Gokul Gram Yojana, according to the Director, Rural Employment, is to generate rural employment and ensuring faster development¹¹.

d. Improving livelihoods in Madhya Pradesh:

Oxfam Trust focuses on working with small and marginal farmers to increase food availability and to provide alternative livelihood options in remote rural areas through skill training and micro-finance initiatives.

For the tribal population of Betul in Madhya Pradesh, agriculture is the main source of livelihood. Their land is dry with no irrigation facility except for the infrequent and unreliable rain. The land yield is just enough to meet food requirements of the families for about three to four months of the year. During the lean season many farmers migrate to other districts for employment, where they work as agricultural laborers in farms owned by others, where they are often exploited. The Oxfam Trust¹² has helped an Integrated Tribal Development and Empowerment project. Some of the outcomes of the project are as follows, farm bunding completed in 540 acres of land, double cropping has been done in seven villages through water conservation strategies, gram fund and seed bank formed in 20 villages, seasonal migration has been reduced. Livelihoods and food security advocacy helps to address the depletion of natural resources by educating communities on better resource management and environmentally-friendly farming techniques. Oxfam Trust also lobbies with the government to invest more in the agricultural sector.

¹⁰ ibid

¹¹ http://www.ibef.org/artdisplay.aspx?cat_id=60&art_id=8319&in=68

¹² <http://www.oxfamint.org.in/livelihoods.htm>

District Poverty Initiative Project has been effective since 2001. It is being sponsored by the World Bank. The project is based on the needs and demands of the community. The project has manifold objectives to empower active groups of disadvantaged people, create income security opportunities for the rural poor, promote more effective and accountable village institutions including the Gram Panchayats and encourage effective demand based approaches for development

The project targets socially and economically disadvantaged people and specifically women, SC/ST households and marginalized farmers, in the selected relatively backward blocks and villages of 14 districts. The criteria of selection of the disadvantaged households within the selected villages would focus on SC/ST households; households migrating seasonally for labor; households without permanent dwellings or living in temporary shelters and all women headed households.

Program activities are implemented by community village organizations in 2900 villages spread over the poorest 53 blocks in 14 districts in northern and northwestern MP. This is to maximize demonstration impact at the district level.

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List of NGOs in MADHYA PRADESH

BHARATIYA GRAMEEN MAHILA SANGH (1961)

173, Silver Oax Colony Anapurna Road, Sudhama Nagar, Post Indore

Tel: 482974, 482409

KASTURBA GANDHI RASHTRIYA SMARAK TRUST (KGRST) (1944)

P.O. Kasturbagram, Indore-452020

Tel: 2874553

Email: kasturbatrust@indiatimes.com

KASTURBA VANVASI KANYA ASHRAM (1953)

Nivali, Nimad Dist.

MAHILA JAGRAN SAMITI

E. Ghamapur, Nirmala School Compound, Jabalpur-482001

MAHILA MUKTI MORCHA

(Chhattisgarh Mines Shramik Sangh) III A198, Rajhora Township, Dist. Durg - 491228

MAHILA SAMITI

50 New Colony, Parma Road, Chattarpur, Madhya Pradesh 471001

Tel: 07682 246084

SANGINI

Flat No. 11, Shalimar, Jiwandeep Apartments, E- 6/98, Area Colony, Bhopal 16, Madhya Pradesh Tel: 0755- 5276158

SEWA Bhopal

C/o Rukmani Bhargava, Shyamala Hills, Gandhi Bhawan, Bhopal-462002

Orissa

1. Context

Orissa, known as "Kalinga" in ancient times, is located on India's northeast coast. It neighbours the Bay of Bengal in the east and the states of West Bengal in the northeast, Bihar in the north, Madhya Pradesh in the West, and Andhra Pradesh in the south. The capital of Orissa is Bhubaneswar. Bhubaneswar is also the most populated city in Orissa. Cuttack and Puri are two other cities with high populations. The state can be divided into four distinct geographical regions, each with different and unique characteristics i.e., Coastal plains, Eastern hills, the Central river basin and the Northern plateau.

The state water supply emanates from the rivers Mahanadi, Brahmani, and Vaitarani which flow in the south-eastern direction before merging into the Bay of Bengal. These rivers and their tributaries provide the state with rich alluvial tracts.

Orissa holds extensive plateau land in the interior with coastal plains in the foreground. The state is also rich in minerals with several private firms attempting to tap such resources in the tribal belts. These moves have been greeted with varied grassroots agitation such as those witnessed against the Korean firm POSCO. The state contains huge deposits of iron ore in these predominantly tribal regions. Besides iron ore (32.9 per cent of the country's reserves), Orissa has bauxite (59.95 per cent), chromite (98.4 per cent), coal (24.8 per cent) and manganese (67.6 per cent).

Orissa's per capita income for 2003 was Rs 12,388 against the all-India average of Rs 23,359. In percentage terms, Orissa's poverty rate for 1999-2000 was the highest among all States at 47.15 per cent. In a survey of 15 States in 2001, the Human Development Index ranking for Orissa was 11th.

The State's farm sector has shrunk, as the -6.8 per cent growth of State-wise Gross State Domestic Product from agriculture for the period 2000-01 to 2001-02 (at 1993-94 prices) indicates. The yield of foodgrains (kg/hectare) for the 1990-91 to 2000-01 period declined, at -0.54 per cent, against the all-India average of 1.79 per cent. The State Domestic Product, which officials claim, grew at 8.4 per cent (real growth) for the above period actually grew 4.28 per cent for 1993-2003 at constant prices (1993-94) against the all-India average annual growth rate of 6.20 per cent.

There is also simple pattern of change in sectoral composition of NSDP : a decline of about 16 percentage points in the share of 'Agriculture and Animal Husbandry' sector between 1980-81 and 1999-2000, which has been entirely taken up by a corresponding increase in the share of the tertiary sector from 30.5 per cent to 46.0 per cent, with the secondary sector's share remaining more or less stagnant (ODR 2001)¹.

¹ Orissa State Development Report 2001, available on planningcommission.gov.in/plans/stateplan/sdr_orissa/sdr_oriexe.doc

2. Demographic and Socio-economic Profile

Orissa is a predominantly rural state. The share of rural population is 85.03%. . 38.5% of the population in the state falls within the ST or SC category. Women accounted for 49.29 per cent of the total population in Orissa in 2001.

Table 1: Demographic and Socio-economic Profile

S. No.	Item	Orissa	India
	Total population	36,804,660	1,028,737,436
	Male	18,660,570	532,223,090
	Female	18,144,090	496,514,346
	Scheduled Caste	6,082,063 (16.5%)	166635700 (16.20%)
	Male	3,073,278	86088780
	Female	3,008,785	80546940
	Scheduled Tribe	8,145,081 (22%)	84326240 (8.20%)
	Male	4,066,783	42640829
	Female	4,078,298	41685411
	Rural Population	31,287,422 (85.03%)	742490639 (72.17%)
	Male	15,748,970	381602674
	Female	15,538,452	360887965
	Urban Population	5,517,238 (14.97%)	286119689 (27.81%)
	Male	2,911,600	150554098
	Female	2,605,638	135565591
	Sex Ratio	972	933
	Female Headed Households (Percentage of total hhs)	776,322 (10%)	19987858 (10.35 %)
	Decadal Population growth (%)	16.25	21.54
	Population below poverty line (%)*	46.40	27.50
	Total disabled population	1,021,335 (2.8%)	21,906,769 (2.1%)
	Male	568,914	12,605,635
	Female	452,421	9,301,134

Source: Census of India, 2001; * Planning Commission (2007) Poverty Estimates of 2004-05 (<http://planningcommission.nic.in/news/prmar07.pdf>)

Compared to the all-India level, the state reports a favourable sex ratio of 972 females per 1000 males. This reduces to 950 females per 1000 males in 0–6 year age group of population. Further, district level data suggests that the situation is worse in the case of developed coastal districts and also in the central tableland districts of Dhenkanal and Angul. Recent HDR reports (2004) cite improved access to sex determination tests through ultrasound and amniocentesis techniques resulted in female infanticides during early stages of pregnancy as key causes.

The districts of Khurda, Cuttack and Angul have the weakest sex ratios of 901,938 and 941 respectively. Gajapati, Rayagada and Kendrapara report the highest sex ratios of

1031, 1028 and 1014 respectively. A review of data available on the districts within the state suggests that areas with higher ST population tend to display higher sex ratios. However, there are 11 districts which have sex ratios lower than the state average and 10 of these districts also have weaker juvenile sex ratios.

3. Poverty and Access to Economic Opportunity

Orissa has been historically plagued with natural disasters and poverty.

Women's Work in the state

According to the 1991 census, only 27.28 per cent of total workers in Orissa are women. This has decreased to 24.62% in 2001. LFPR as per the usual status² in Orissa for rural males is 60.4% and 35.1% for women. Men in urban areas report LFPR of 55.3%, while urban women report a weaker LFPR of 20.2%.

Table 2: Labour Force Participation Rates for Men and Women: Orissa and India, 2004-05*

	Orissa		India	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Men	60.4	55.3	55.5	57.0
Women	35.1	20.2	33.3	17.8
Men & Women Combined	47.6	38.6	44.6	38.2

Note: * usual status ps+ss

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

The main workers and the marginal workers among females constitute 58.2 per cent and 41.8 per cent of the total female workers respectively. The unorganized primary sector accounts for as much as 82.7 per cent of the total female workers. The share of women in organized sector employment has shown an increasing trend, increasing from 8.78 per cent to 12.41 per cent between the period 1990 and 2000

Table 3: Main, Marginal and Non Workers by Gender and Location in Orissa (in percent)

	Men			Women		
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
Main worker	6,677,417 (42.3%)	1,327,323 (45.6%)	8,004,740 (43%)	1,394,582 (9%)	189,947 (7.3%)	1,584,529 (8.7%)
Marginal Worker	1,696,278 (10.7%)	100,988 (3.4%)	1,797,266 (9.6%)	2,818,692 (18%)	71,261 (2.7%)	2,889,953 (16%)
Non Worker	7,375,275 (47%)	1,483,289 (51%)	8,858,564 (47.4%)	11,325,178 (73%)	2,344,430 (90%)	13,669,608 (75.3%)

Source: Census of India, 2001

The Census data from the state reveals that close to 75.3% women are non workers. This estimate is very high in urban areas where 90% women report not working. In rural areas,

² including subsidiary status

73% women are reported as non-workers. While 18% women are marginal workers in rural areas, 9% are engaged as main workers. In urban areas, the pattern reverses as 7.3% women are engaged as main workers while 2.7% are marginal workers.

Table 4: Location and Sector-wise Participation of Men and Women Workers in Orissa

Location	Gender	Cultivators	Agricultural Labourer	Household Industries	Other Workers
Rural	Men	39.5	30.3	3.4	26.8
	Women	21.2	56.5	8.6	13.7
Urban	Men	3	3.3	2.7	91
	Women	2.6	11.2	7.7	78.5

Source: Census India, 2001

Female Wage Rates

Table 5: Average Wage/Salary earnings per day received by regular wage/salaried employees

(in Rupees)

	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	F:M	Male	Female	F:M
India	144.93	85.53	0.59	203.28	153.19	0.75
Orissa	139.93	93.81	0.67	211.93	144.30	0.68

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Data on average earnings for regular work also highlights the wage and salary gap between men and women in both rural and urban areas.

Table 6: Average daily wages for casual workers of age between 15-59 years engaged in works other than public works

(in Rupees)

	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	F:M	Male	Female	F:M
India	55.03	34.94	0.63	75.10	43.88	0.58
Orissa	42.29	29.65	0.70	54.41	33.00	0.60

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Table 7: Average daily wages for rural casual workers of age between 15-59 years engaged in public works

(in Rupees)

	Rural		
	Male	Female	F:M
India	65.33	49.19	0.75
Orissa	37.48	33.34	0.88

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Men spend close to 40.12 hours per week while women put in 17.07 hours in market oriented activities (HDR 2004) in the state. Women in the rural areas put in more hours of work (19.03 hours per week) than the women in the urban areas (8.37 hours per week).

Assets: Land and Finance

Data from the 1994 NSS , shows that the total number of operational holdings held by women number 0.53 lakh (1.34% of the total holdings), accounting for 0.64 lakh hectares of land (1.24% of the total area). Marginal holdings held by women number 0.31 lakh (59% of the women cultivators) covering 0.15 lakh hectares (23% of the total land held by women). Small holdings held by women number 0.13 lakh (24.5% of the women cultivators) covering 0.18 lakh hectares (28.2% of the total land held by women). Semi-medium, medium and large holdings held by women constitute respectively 12.5%, 3% and 0.5% of the women cultivators.

The state government, with assistance from the Central government, has launched Swayamsiddha. This scheme aims at capacity building of women SHGs to take up different income generating activities.

Female Child Labour

Orissa houses 377594 children between the ages of 5-14 years who are working. Girls comprise a relatively larger section of these children than boys. The total population of the persons, aged 5-14 years in the State is 8634215. Out of this, 4411995 (52%) are males and 4222220 (48%) are females. In this age group, 4.3 percent are workers.

According to Census 2001 data, the incidence of child labour (5-14 years) is lower than the national average of 5.0 percent. (See Table: 8). The incidence of girl child labour is higher than male child labour in Orissa, especially amongst marginal workers. In Orissa, 4.6 percent girl children aged between 5 and 14 are workers against 4.85 percent, the all India average. Among the boys 4.1 percent boys are workers. In Orissa close to 3.6 % of the girl child population is engaged in marginal work which is a percentage point higher than the male child labour share.

Table 8: Distribution of workers (5-14 years) by Sex

State/India	Total Workers			Main Workers			Marginal Workers		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
India	12666377	6804336	5862041	577899	36969	2182087	6887386	3207432	3679954
(percentage in the age group)	5.00	5.14	4.85	2.28	2.79	1.81	2.72	2.43	3.04
Orissa	377594	183270	194324	109760	69401	40359	267834	113869	153965
(percentage in the age group)	4.3	4.1	4.6	1.2	1.6	0.95	3.1	2.6	3.6

Source: Census of India, 2001

Migration and Trafficking

The Census data from 2001, suggests that the patterns of migration within the state mirror national trends. Orissa houses 10,862,866 migrants, where close to 78% are female (8,447,803). The dominant stream is intra district and between rural areas. 6,173,106 migrants move within districts from one rural area to another. The largest chunk of female migrants also falls within this category. Close to 5,592,090 women migrate between rural areas within their districts. Female migration decreases as geographical boundaries increase. The state receives maximum migrants from neighbouring West Bengal, Orissa and Bihar. Close top 79% of female migration is due to marriage. Only 1.3% migrate in search of employment

Table 9: Number of Migrants by Gender, Orissa

	India			Orissa		
	Men	Women	F:M	Men	Women	F:M
Inter State Migration	19098082	22068183	1.16	267,675	395,125	1.5
	46.4%	53.6%		40.4%	59.6%	
Inter Dist. Migration	24241706	50384616	2.08	860,350	1,591,627	1.85
	32.4%	67.5%		35%	65%	
Intra Dist. Migration	47337924	146255014	3.09	1,330,121	6,562,694	4.93
	24.4%	75.5%		17%	83%	

Source: Census of India, 2001

Table 10: Reasons of Migration by Gender, Orissa

Reasons for Migration	Orissa		
	Persons	Male	Female
Work/Employment	780,836	666,287	114,549
	7.06	26.83	1.34
Business	169,262	149,204	20,058
	1.53	6.01	0.23
Education	141,648	100,611	41,037
	1.28	4.05	0.48
Marriage	6,852,181	102,736	6,749,445
	61.99	4.14	78.75
Moved after birth	113,081	64,342	48,739
	1.02	2.59	0.57
Moved with household	1,353,633	598,698	754,935
	12.25	24.11	8.81
Others	1,643,561	801,547	842,014
	14.87	32.28	9.82
Total	11,054,202	2,483,425	8,570,777

Source: Census of India, 2001

Environment and Sustainable Development

Mining and disaster related degradation of forest is creating the impetus for afforestation, plantation, and regenerating the environment in the state to reduce drudgery, and time spent by forest dwellers, particularly women, on non-timber forest produce (NTFP) related activities to earn a livelihood. One study (HDR 2004) finds that around 23.71 per cent of total man-days of work of a household was spent for collection of forest produces in 1995 and this has increased to 24.92 per cent by 2000.

Disaster Management

Women are the worst sufferers during natural disasters. Women are vulnerable on account of many factors. They faced discrimination in relief and rehabilitation after a natural disaster like the 1999 Super Cyclone³. Out of around 50 lakh coconut trees in the coastal Orissa almost 45 lakh were uprooted sustaining a loss of Rs.4500 crore. Other fruit-bearing trees like guava, banana, betel vine, jackfruit were also severely damaged. The Super Cyclone uprooted nearly 9 crore of trees and seasonal plants, which cannot be regenerated in coming 50 years. It equally affected the livestock resources, which took away 52,973 bullocks, 13,464 buffaloes, 1,56,424 goats, 90,232 calves and almost 11,51,245 poultry birds. The collection of milk per day by Orissa Milk Federation (OMFED) after the Super Cyclone was substantially reduced to 25,000 litres from 65,000 litres. The large-scale destruction of dwelling houses and rural infrastructure brought about many inconveniences to women in their day-to-day activities like bathing, washing, and defecation. Thus, the transient poverty of women, particularly after natural disasters, is comparatively more.

During the Ninth Plan period the State has continuously suffered from severe calamities. On the eve of the Tenth Plan i.e., 2002-03 the entire State of Orissa is again under the grip of a severe drought. The total loss of livelihood and damage of capital stock of the State due to the calamities from 1998-99 to 2001-02 is Rs.13, 230.47 crore (*Tenth Plan Document*, Government of Orissa 2002-07). The natural calamities have severely devastated the major livelihood sectors of the State and the income level of the households.

The National Disaster Management Cell, a State office is functioning at Bhubaneswar since 1996. It provides training to workers both in Government and non-Government organizations; organizes workshops to find out different strategies to control disaster situations in Orissa.

4. Social Profile

Age at Marriage

Average household size in Orissa is 5. The majority of women are married at the age of 18-19. This is followed by those who have been married between 16-17 years. 1.59% report being married below the age of 10 years. Close to 38.1% of females in the state marry below the age of 18.

³ http://planningcommission.nic.in/plans/stateplan/sdr_orissa/sdr_orich14.doc accessed in Nov 2007

Table 11: Age at Marriage India and Orissa

		Currently married persons of all durations		
	Age at Marriage	Persons	Male	Female
India	All ages	468,593,016	231,820,399	236,772,617
	Below 10 years	10,316,817	3,232,370	7,084,447
		2.20	1.39	2.99
	Below 18 years	127,771,010	24,892,828	102,878,182
		27.27	10.74	43.45
	18 years and above	327,372,502	200,168,923	127,203,579
		69.86	86.35	53.72
Orissa	All ages	16,518,353	8,172,008	8,346,345
	Below 10 years	204,072	71,403	132,669
		1.24	0.87	1.59
	Below 18 years	3,457,879	278,848	3,179,031
		20.93	3.4	38.1
	18 years and above	12,658,314	7,694,700	4,963,614
		76.63	94.16	59.5

Source: Census of India, 2001

Only 3.4% men get married below the age of 18, while 94.16% marry after 18 years of age.

Health Indicators of Orissa

The Infant mortality and maternal mortality ratio reported in Orissa is far higher than the national estimates.

Table 12: Demographic, Socio-economic and Health profile of Jharkhand State as compared to India figures

Indicator	Orissa	India
Crude Birth Rate (SRS 2006)	22.7	24.1
Crude Death Rate (SRS 2006)	9.6	7.5
Total Fertility Rate (SRS 2004)	2.6	2.9
Infant Mortality Rate (SRS 2006)	77	58
Maternal Mortality Ratio (SRS 2001-03)	358	301

(Source: <http://mohf.nic.in/NRHM/State%20Files/orissa.htm> accessed in Jan 2007)

Female life expectancy at birth (for the year 2001–02) in Orissa (59.71 years) is slightly lower than that for the males (60.05 years) and much lower than the all-India average. (63.87 years for males and 66.91 years for females). On the other hand, infant mortality rate per 1000 live births in Orissa for males (for the year 2000) is 98 and for females 92, whereas these are respectively 67 and 69 at the all-India level.

According to NFHS-3 (2005-6), 40.5 per cent of the women in the state are dealing with nutritional deficiency, with a body mass index (BMI) which is below normal. This estimate is close to 10 percentage points more than the 32.1% share of the male population whose BMI is below normal in the state. The prevalence of anaemia among the married women of 15–49 year age group is twice the share of men in the same age group who are anaemic. Apart from low BMI and nutritional deficiency in case of women, the incidence of malnutrition is very high among both male and female children of Orissa.

Table 13 : Population and Health Indicators of Orissa from NFHS-3

	Orissa	Urban	Rural
Marriage and Fertility			
Women age 20-24 married by age 18 (%)	36.3	24.3	38.7
Men age 25-29 married by age 21 (%)	22.2	13.2	24.4
Total fertility rate (children per woman)	2.37	1.89	2.48
Anaemia among Children and Adults			
Children age 6-35 months who are anaemic (%)	74.2	63.2	75.8
Ever-married women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	62.8	56.4	64
Pregnant women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	68.1	46.2	71.3
Ever-married men age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	37	26.7	39
Knowledge of HIV/AIDS among men and women aged between 15-49			
Women who have heard of AIDS (%)	62.1	83.7	57.8
Men who have heard of AIDS (%)	72.6	91.9	68.7
Women who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	30.5	55.5	25.5
Men who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	59.4	84.5	54.3
Indicators related to Maternal Health and RH			
Any Antenatal Care (%) in last 3 years	87	95	86
Mothers who had at least 3 antenatal care visits for their last child birth (%)	60.9	79.2	58.0
Institutional Delivery (%)	39	65	35
Births assisted by a health personnel	46.4	68.9	42.9
Contraceptive Use (%) Married women 15-49	51	59	49

Source: NFHS-III Fact Sheet – Orissa (Provisional Data) National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3) 2005-2006, Min. of Health and Family Welfare, GOI and IIPS, Mumbai

Literacy and Education

Orissa has an overall literacy rate of 63.08 %. As per the 2001 Census data, only half the female population is literate. Female literacy rate is 50.51%. This is very low compared to male literacy rate pegged at 75.35%. Female illiteracy is a serious concern amongst tribals, where female literacy rate is lowest at 23.37% compared to male tribal literacy rate at 51.48%.

Table 14: Literacy Rates 1991 – 2001 (Orissa and India)

Census Years	In percentage					
	Orissa			India		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1991	48.55	62.37	34.40	52.19	64.20	39.19
2001	63.1	75.3	50.5	64.8	75.3	53.7

Source: Census of India 1991, Final Population Tables, Series-I, Paper 2 of 1992; http://www.censusindia.gov.in/Census_Data_2001/Census_Data_Online/Social_And_Cultural/Literates_Rate.aspx

Table 15: Rural Urban difference in the Literacy Rates of Orissa, 2001

	Rural	Urban
Male	72.9	87.0
Female	46.7	72.9
Persons	59.8	80.8

Source: Census of India, 2001

The male-female gap is stark amongst SC communities where the male literacy rate is 70.47% and the female literacy rate is a meager 40.33%. Female literacy rate is the highest (71.06 per cent) in Khorda district and the lowest (21.02 percent) in Nawarangpur district. The female literacy rate is very low in the highland and tribal districts. The districts of Malkangiri, Rayagada and Nawarangpur report weakest ST female literacy rates of 7.5%, 10% and 11% respectively.

Table 16: Gross Enrollment Ratio, Orissa and India

School Enrolment Ratio	Primary (Classes 1-5)		Middle (Classes 6-8)	
	India	Orissa	India	Orissa
Girl	85.18	97.25	49.66	44.33
Boy	104.08	133.52	67.15	67.03
Total	94.9	115.64	58.79	55.89

(Source: India, Registrar General and Census Commissioner 2001)

Table 17: Drop Out Ratio, Orissa and India

Drop Out Ratio	India	Orissa
Girl	58	64.75
Boy	51.96	57.30
Total	54.53	60.70

(Source: India, Registrar General and Census Commissioner 2001)

Gross enrolment and drop out ratios show that gender based disparity in education continues to prevail, through at the reduced rate. Enrollment for boys and girls in primary schools has increased from 28.0 and 1.0 in 1947–48 to 125.7 and 91.5 in 1999–2000. Similarly, in upper primary schools, gross enrolment ratios have respectively increased from 6.0 and 0.4 to 66.6 and 43.8 during the same period. The rates of dropouts are marginally higher in the case of girls in upper primary schools. However, over the period 1973–2001, the rate of dropouts declined from 75.3 per cent for boys and 81.1 per cent for girls in 1973 to 42.3 and 41.4 per cent respectively in 2000–01, at the primary level. At the upper primary level, it declined from 84.2 and 90.2 in 1973 to 70.9 and 77.1 per cent in 2000–01 for boys and girls respectively. Close 62% women have heard of AIDS in the state. This share drops to 57.8% in rural areas. However, only 30% know that condom use can prevent the infection.

HIV and development

Table 18: Knowledge of HIV/AIDS among Ever-Married Adults (age 15-49) in Orissa

Particulars	Total	Urban	Rural
Women who have heard of AIDS (%)	62.1	83.7	57.8
Men who have heard of AIDS (%)	72.6	91.9	68.7
Women who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	30.5	55.5	25.5
Men who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	59.4	84.5	54.3

(Source: NFHS 3)⁴

Violence against women

Table 19: Incidence and Rate of Crime Committed against Women in Jharkhand and India, 2001

State	Incidence	Percentage contribution to all-India total	Rate of total cognizable crimes
Orissa	5357	3.7	14.6
India	143795	100	14.0

Source: <http://nrcw.nic.in> (National Resource Centre for women, National Commission for Women) based on data from Ministry of Home Affairs, National Crime Records Bureau (2003), Crime in India 2001. New Delhi p. 261

According to the NFHS-3, 38.5% women have faced spousal violence in the state. The total cases of violence against women have shown positive annual growth rate in all the 11 years between the period 1990 and 2000. Among the various forms of violence against women, the percentage of molestation is highest (35.23%) followed by dowry-related violence (25.37%).

⁴ <http://mohfw.nic.in/fact%20sheet%20XI/OR.xls> accessed in Nov 2007

Table 20: Incidence of Crimes Committed against Women during 2004

	Orissa	India
Rape	333	16078
Kidnapping and abduction	199	14895
Dowry Deaths	136	6655
Cruelty by husband and relatives	415	48343
Molestation	818	31836
Eve-teasing	71	13364
Importing of Girls (up to 21 years)	0	112
I.T.P. Act	2	5114
Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition)	3	3092
Dowry Prohibition Act	214	2546
Total	2191	142035

Source: <http://nrcw.nic.in> (National Resource Centre for women, National Commission for Women)

5. Politics and Participation

The 2004 Orissa Development report stated that the women candidates in Orissa constituted 34.74 per cent of the total candidates contesting for various offices of the different Panchayati Raj bodies. A greater percentage of women contesting from the districts where the literacy rate, particularly female literacy rate, was higher.

As per the State Elections Commission, in 2002, out of the total 100862 number of elected representative of the Panchayats, 36086 were women. Of which 2188 women are elected as Sarpanch (President of village Council). Orissa was the first state to implement the Constitutional Amendments related to Panchayati Raj and held elections in 1997. The State Commission for Women and Orissa Mahila Vikas Samabaya Nigam (MVSN) were set up as a nodal agencies for empowerment of women to undertake gender sensitization training women elected to Panchayati Raj Institutions⁵.

More than one-third (35.78 per cent) of the total seats are reserved for the women candidates. A higher percentage of seats is reserved for women in the case of SC seats (46.72 per cent) followed by ST seats (39.51 per cent) and OBC seats (37.96 per cent). As per the Orissa Panchayat Act 1994, one of the two top office bearers, i.e. Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson of all the three tiers (Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti, and Zilla Parishad) must be a woman.

Table 21: Women Panchayat Representatives in the Three Tiers during 2005

	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total
Orissa	31414	87547	2188	6227	296	296
India	838227	1630327	47455	72156	4923	4923

Source :India, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Central Statistical Organisation (2007). Women and Men in India 2006. New Delhi. P.116.

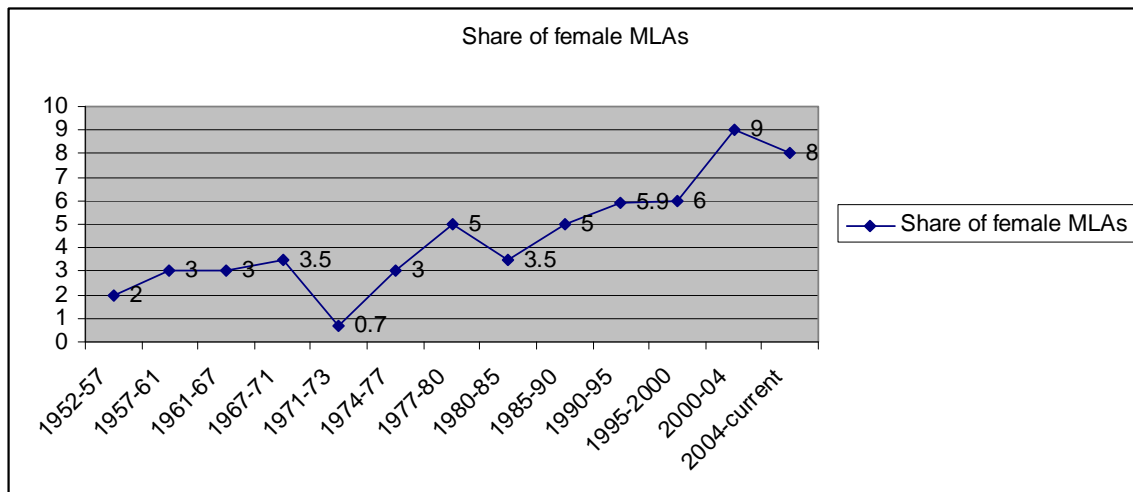
⁵ The Hunger Project, 30th March 2006, 'Elected women representatives of Orissa share their accomplishments with the media' available at http://www.thp.org/india/2006/or306_files/index.html, accessed in January 2008

As per government estimates, women comprise 35.9% of the Gram Panchayat leadership. This is followed by 35% who share power at the intermediate Panchayat level. Finally, 35% are part of the district Panchayat tier (see table).

Being the first state to have implemented the 73rd Amendment of the Constitution, it has entered the third year of the second term of elections for the Panchayati Raj System held in 2002. As per the last estimate provided by the Hunger Project, of the 100862 elected representatives, 36083 are women taking the percentage of women’s leadership at the grassroots to 36%.⁶

Out of the 21 Lok Sabha MPs from Orissa in 2004, only two are women (9.5 per cent); and out of the ten Rajya Sabha MPs from the State, only two are women (20 per cent). The representation of women in the Orissa Legislative Assembly is less than 10 per cent of the total number of seats. To increase the number of women in public services, 30 per cent of the vacancies in the state government departments arising in a year in Group-B, Group-C, and Group- D services/posts to be filled up by direct recruitment have been reserved for women candidates. The share of women government employees has increased to 15.30 per cent in 2002 from 10.4 per cent in 1991.

Diagram 1: Share of Female MLAs in Orissa State Assembly



(Source: Orissa Government Portal⁷)

⁶The Hunger Project, 2006, The Hunger Project’s Work in Orissa available at <http://www.thp.org/india/orissa/index.html> accessed in January 2008

⁷<http://ws.ori.nic.in/ola/statistical1.asp>, accessed in January 2008

Table 22 : Share of Female MLAs in Orissa State Assembly

Year and Assembly	No of MLAS	No of Female MLAS	Share
1985-90	149	8	5
1990-95	153	9	5.9
1995-2000	163	10	6
2000-04	151	14	9
2004-current	149	12	8

(Source: Orissa Government Portal)

Amongst the current 30 Zilla Parishad presidents, 11 are female. This implies close to 37% of the elected officials at the Zilla block are women. The 314 Panchayat Samiti's in the state have 117 female chairmans and 186 female vice chairmans.

6. Programmes

Women's Economic Programme (WEP)-Swablamban (NORAD)

This Scheme is in operation through Mahila Vikas Samabaya Nigam on the Nodal Agency since 1997-98. The objectives of the scheme are to provide assistance to projects sponsored by Public undertakings/ Corporations, Women's Development Centre of Universities & Autonomous Organisations/ Voluntary Organisations for setting up of employment and income generating training-cum employment-cum-production units for women and identification of ancillaries required by these enterprises.

Women's Empowerment Programme (Mission Shakti)

Empowerment of women is one of the key development initiatives identified by the Government of Orissa. A Mission approach has been adopted for this purpose through launching of 'Mission Shakti' aimed at promotion of Women's Self-Help Groups. Launched in March 2001, the mission had been entrusted with the task of forming 1,00,000 Women's Self-Help Groups by 2005 @ 25,000 Groups annually over and above the 36,000 odd WSHGs already existing in the State prior to the launching of the Mission. During 2005-06, 35,373 number of WSHGs have been formed and 24,710 number have been credit linked. This brings the cumulative achievement under Mission Shakti to formation of 1,90,785 SHGs with 24,03,482 members having a saving of Rs.170.62 crores.

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NGOs Working on Women's Issues in Orissa

AINA

N-6/298, Jayadev Vihar, Bhubaneshwar-751 015, Orissa
Tel: 2550100

BIDYUT PRAVA NARI KALYAN SAMITI (1965-66)

Haladiapo, Via Bajapur, Khurcla, Dist. Puri

CHILD RIGHTS RESOURCE CENTRE OPEN LEARNING SYSTEMS

Plot No. G3-All, Gadakhana Mouza, RO.
Mancheshwar Railway Colony, Bhubaneshwar- 751017, Orissa
Tel: 2301626

FRIENDS ASSOCIATION FOR RURAL RECONSTRUCTION,
P.O. Muniguda, Distt. Rayagada- 765020, Orissa
Tel: 277787

INDIRA SOCIAL WELFARE ORGANSIATION (ISWO)
Kunjakanta,(Chandia5ahi), Po/dist, Denkanal 759 001 Orissa
Email: puspanjaliiswodkl @ hotmail.com

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
D-4, Maruti Villa, Bhubaneshwar
Email: isd_bbsr@rediffmail.com

JAGYNASENI ANTI TRAFFICKING CAMPAIGN IN ORISSA
D-49 Maintree Vihar, Bhubaneshwar
Tel: 2303418

MAHILA VIKASH SAMABAYA NIGAM
A/5, Unit- V, Bhubaneshwar
Tel:2406787/ 2401852

MANAV KALYAN PRATISHTAN,
P.O. Anand Ashram, Hirakud Colony, Dist. Sampalpur, Orissa
Tel: 2410067

NARISHAKTI
Ramgarh, Kanika Chhak PO., Tulasipur, Dist. Cuttak, Orissa

NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF WOMEN
N-6/474, Jaydev Vihar, Bhubaneshwar- 15
Email: nawo_orissa@rediffmail.com

NATYA CHET NA
N 3/230 Nayapalli, Lottery Plot, Bhubaneshwar, Orissa
Tel: 2555400

OPEN LEARNING SYSTEM
G-3A/1 Gadakana Colony, Mancheshwar Railway Colony, Bhubaneshwar, Orissa

NATYA CHETNA
N 3/230 Nayapalli, Lottery Plot, Bhubaneshwar, Orissa
Tel: 2555400

RUCHIKA SOCIAL SERVICE
3731A Sriram Nagar, Near Samatarpur Square, Old Town, Bhubaneshwar
Tel: 10920/2536688

SAKHIGOPAL MAHILA INDUSTRIAL COOPERATIVE SOCIETY (1948)
PPO Sakhigopal, Dist, Puri

SAMAJ MANGAD SAMITI (1962)

Rajgangpur, Sundergarh Dist,

SANSRITI ORISSA- ASHA HANS

P-11 Jyadev Vihar, Bhubaneshwar- 751023, Orissa

SODA

Indaphi, PO. Laxmi Posi, Dist. Mayurbhanj, Orissa

SOUTH ORISSA VOLUNTARY ACTION (SOVA)

A/P-Janiguda Dist.-Koraput- 764020

Tel: 250194

STATE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

Plot No. 697, Sahid Nagar

Tel:2547879

SWADHIKAR

95, Phase- 11, Kanan Vihar, Bhubaneshwar751013

Tel: 2725191

Email: isd-bbsr@rediffmail.com

TASKFORCE ON WOMEN AND VIOLENCE

Plot No. 738/13, Jayadev Vihar, Bhubaneshwar – 751013

Tel: 2360819

Email: taskforcebbsr@yahoo.co.in

WE CAN

N-6/298, Jayadev Vihar, Bhubaneshwar – 7501015, Orissa

Rajasthan

1. Context

The culturally rich state of Rajasthan has always been considered as lagging in terms of economic and social development indicators compared to the national scenario. The state was considered a 'BIMARU' or ill state because of a poor showing in development. Not only have the indicators of social and economic development been low, the indicators reveal a distinct bias against females. Rajasthan traditionally has been regarded as state that has been unfavourable to women. This view stems from the practice of sati and high incidence of female infanticide that have been practiced in the region for centuries. However, post-Independence the state has focused on over coming the unfavourable gender bias towards women through several government programmes that has resulted in lessening gender disparities. While traditional social problems like sati and female infanticide have declined, the female sex ratio i.e. number of women per '000 men remains one of the lowest in the country. On the other hand, the state has made substantial progress in increasing women's literacy.

The state of Rajasthan is the largest in terms of area among all states in India with a total geographic area of 3,42,239 sq. km. The state and comprises three distinct geographical and ecological regions. Forty percent of the state's area falls in the arid or semi-arid zone and thus agriculture is cannot be depended on for livelihood. The state has only one percent of the total water resources of the country and is the most water deficient state in the country. Nearly 40 out of the last 60 years have seen drought in the state which has severely affected the state's economy.

The state is characterized by very uneven distribution of assets and income. Agriculture and animal husbandry form the major sources of livelihood in Rajasthan. Very little manufacturing takes place in the state. The rate of economic growth of Rajasthan has been volatile due to recurrent droughts and severe resource constraints due to limited industrial base. In spite of this, Rajasthan has had an average growth rate of 5.4% per annum at constant prices in the last ten years. The state is however a front runner in terms of tourism. The Government of Rajasthan's Annual Plan for 2006-07 is proposed for Rs. 8361.74 crores. The highest outlay in this (37.78%) is for social and community services.

The state is divided into 32 administrative districts, with Jaipur as the capital. Jaipur district is the most populous district of the state and constitutes 9.3 percent of the state's population while Jaisalmer is the least populated contributing less than one percent of the state's population.

2. Demographic and socio-economic profile

The population of Rajasthan according to the 2001 census was 56,473,122 persons and comprises 5.5 percent of the population of the country. Of the entire population of Rajasthan females constitute 48 percent of the population. At the national level too, females comprise about 48 percent of the countries population. In Rajasthan, 76.6 percent of the population resides in rural areas, as compared to 72.2 percent for the country. Females constitute 48 percent of the

population in rural areas, 47 percent of the population in urban areas of the state. In two districts of Rajasthan – Dungarpur and Rajasmand – have slightly more women than men. In all other districts of Rajasthan, men out-number women.

In terms of density of population, the state has a low density of population of 165 persons per square kilometer, owing to the arid and semi-arid ecology of the state. The decadal growth rate of population in the past two decades has been 28.33 percent which is considerably higher than the national average decadal growth rate of 21.34 percent.

Table 1: Demographic and Socio-economic Profile

Item	Rajasthan	India
Total population	56,507,188	1,028,737,436
Male	29,420,011	532,223,090
Female	27,087,177	496,514,346
Scheduled caste	9,694,462 17.16%	166,635,700 16.2%
Male	5,067,679	86,088,780
Female	4,626,783	80,546,940
Scheduled tribe	7,097,706 12.5%	84,326,240 8.2%
Male	3,650,982	42,640,829
Female	3,446,724	41,685,411
Rural population	43,292,813 76.6%	742,490,639 72.2%
Male	22,426,640	381,602,674
Female	20,866,173	360,887,965
Urban population	13,214,375	286,119,689
Male	6,993,371	150,554,098
Female	6,221,004	135,565,591
Sex ratio	922	933
Sex ratio (0-6)	909	927
Female headed households (percentage of total households)	6.91%	10.3%
Decadal population growth	28.3%	21.3%
Population below poverty line*	22.1 %	27.5 %
Disabled population	1,411,979	21,906,769
Male (% of total male population)	840,650 2.8%	12,605,635 2.4%
Female (% of total female population)	571,329 2.1%	9,301,134 1.9%

Source: Census 2001; * Planning Commission (2007) Poverty Estimates of 2004-05
(<http://planningcommission.nic.in/news/prmar07.pdf>)

Caste and religious profile

Hindus, comprising 88.7 percent of the population, are the largest religious community in the state. The next largest religious category is Muslims who constitute 8.5 percent of the population. Sikhs comprise 1.4 percent and Jains are 1.1 percent of the population.

The scheduled castes (SC) comprise 17.16 percent of the population of the state of Rajasthan and the scheduled tribes (ST) comprise 12.5 percent of the population. Eighty percent of the SC population resides in rural areas, while over 95 percent of the ST population resides in rural areas. Among Scheduled castes, the Chamars are the largest group forming 25.4 per cent of the SC population, followed by Megh accounting for 21 per cent of the total SC population. The five major scheduled castes - Chamars, Megh, Bairwa, Thori, Balai - form 69.6 per cent of the total SC population. As per the 2001 census, the Scheduled Tribe (ST) population of Rajasthan is 12.6 percent of the total population of the State. 94.6 per cent of STs reside in rural areas compared to 76.6 per cent of the total population of the state live in villages. Most of the ST population is in the southern part of the district. The Mina is the most populous tribe constituting 53.5 per cent of the total ST population followed by Bhil and together these two constitute 93 per cent of the total ST population in Rajasthan.

Total number of households in Rajasthan recorded in the 2001 census were 9317675. Of these 8,651,886 (92.85) were male headed households and 644,547 (6.91) were female headed households. The mean household size is 6.0 persons. According to the 2001 census, 27,196 households are houseless and comprise a population of 143,497 persons. In Rajasthan 1,589,726 women were recorded as widowed as against 538,972 men. Widows comprise 5.8 percent of the total female population of the state. 48.7 percent (13,191,712) of the women in the state are married while the rest are never married, widowed, divorced or separated.

In Rajasthan 1,411,979 persons were recorded as disabled in the 2001 census. The disabled population comprises 6.4 percent of the total disabled population in the country. Of the disabled population in Rajasthan 840,650 are male and 571,329 are female.

Sex ratio

Rajasthan has traditionally been known for very adverse sex-ratios. The sex-ratio in the state has always been lower than the national average, but the gap between the nation and the state sex-ratios has been the least in the 2001 census. This gap has reduced because the national sex-ratio has been declining since 1901 and that of the state has shown an upward trend from 905 in 1901 to 922 in 2001.

Table 2: Sex ratio in India and Rajasthan

Year	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001
India	972	964	955	950	945	946	941	930	934	927	933
Rajasthan	905	908	896	907	906	921	908	911	919	910	922

Source: Census of India 2001, Provisional population totals, Census of India, Rajasthan, series 9, director of census operations, Rajasthan

Over all, the state has much better sex-ratios than in the previous decade. All districts in Rajasthan, except Sirohi have a higher sex-ratio than in the 1991 census. The number of districts with a sex-ratio less than 900 has reduced from 16 in 1991 to 13 in 2001. In the 2001 census, no district recorded a sex-ratio of less than 800, while Dhaulpur district had a sex-ratio of 795 in 1991.

The districts of Dungarpur and Rajsamand have a sex-ratio in favour of women in 2001. These two districts had the best sex-ratios in 1991 for the state and continue to maintain their position. Dungarpur recorded a sex-ratio of 1027 and Rajsamand has a sex-ratio of 1002 in the 2001 census. An analysis of the geographical distribution of the districts shows that the southern part of the state has on an average better sex-ratio. Apart from this nor discernable trend in the distribution of sex-ratios is visible.

The over all sex ratio of the Scheduled Caste population in Rajasthan is 913 females per 1000 males which is lower than the national average of 936 in respect of all SC population and also lower than that for the state as a whole. The Scheduled Tribes of the State have registered considerably lower sex ratio in comparison to those recorded by all STs at the national level, but much higher than that of the state. The over all sex ratio of the ST population is 944 females per 1000 males which is lower than the national average of 978 in respect of all ST population.

In terms of religious groups, the sex-ratio for Hindus is 920, which is just below the state average. The sex-ratio for Muslims is much higher at 929. The other two main religious communities are Sikhs who have a low sex-ratio of 892 and Jain have a sex-ratio of 960 females per 1000 males.

Table 3: Sex-ratio by rural and urban population, SC, ST and religious groups

Rural	920
Urban	889
Scheduled Castes	913
Scheduled Tribes	944
Hindus	920
Muslims	929
Christians	986
Sikhs	892
Buddhists	802
Jains	960

Source: Calculated from Census 2001

The picture is bleak when we look at the child sex-ratio in the 0-6 years age group. The child sex-ratio provides an indication to the future scenario. Rajasthan ranks fifth from the bottom, in terms of adverse child sex-ratios. The child sex-ratio has declined from the average of 916 in 1991 to 909 in 2001. All districts have shown a declining trend with regards child-sex ratio. In 1991, five districts had a child sex-ratio of more than 950, but in 2001 the number of districts has come down to three. Along with this the number of districts with less than 900 girls per 1000 boys has also gone up. In 1991 the number of districts with less than 900 girls was eight which

has increased to ten in 2001. In rural areas, the sex-ratio is 920 females per 1000 males while in urban areas the sex-ratio is 889 females per 1000 males.

The sex ratio among the SC children in Rajasthan in the age group 0-6 years is 919 which is lower than that of the Sc population at the national level (939). The sex ratio among ST children in the age group 0-6 years is 950. The lowest child sex ratio has been reported by Mina which is also the most literate ST group.

3. Poverty and Economic Opportunities

According to data from NSSO, 17.5 per cent in are living below the poverty line according to 2004-05 estimates.¹ In 1999-2000 15.4 percent of the population of Rajasthan was below the poverty line.²

In the NSS 61st round, female labour force participation rates show a huge gap between urban and rural areas with very low participation rates in urban areas. The NSS 61st Round shows that for urban areas female labour force participation rates are 18.8 while in rural areas it is 40.7.

Table 4: Labour Force Participation in India and Rajasthan – NSS 61st Round

	Rajasthan		India	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Female	40.7	18.8	33.3	17.8
Male	51.6	52.3	55.5	57.0
Combined	46.3	35.9	44.6	38.2

Source: NSS, 61st Round, NSSO

Table 5: Workforce participation rates – Census 2001

	Rural			Urban			Combined		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
India	41.97	52.36	30.98	32.23	50.85	11.55	39.26	51.93	25.68
Rajasthan	45.94	50.7	40.6	29.6	47.4	9.5	42.1	50.07	33.5

Source: Census of India 2001

According to Census 2001, work participation rates (WPR) for women in rural areas of Rajasthan is much higher than for rural women at the national level. But there continues to exist a huge gap between WPR in urban and rural parts of the state. The WPR of the scheduled caste population in the state is 41.6 per cent which is slightly higher than that of all SCs at the national level (40.4 per cent). Male work participation rate (48.5 per cent) has not registered any increase whereas female WPR (34.1 per cent) has shown an accretion of 5.2 per cent during 1991-2001. The work participation rate of the scheduled tribe population Rajasthan is 47.6 per cent which is lower than that of the national average of scheduled tribes (49.1 per cent). The male work participation rate has declined slightly from 51.8 per cent to 50.1 per cent whereas female WPR has increased from 40.6 per cent to 44.9 per cent during 1991-2001.

¹ <http://in.rediff.com/money/2007/mar/21poor.htm>

² http://planningcommission.nic.in/reports/articles/ncsxna/ar_pvrty.htm

In Rajasthan, the female workforce is predominantly rural. Over 90 percent of the female workers as percentage of total female workers in the state are in rural areas for both main and marginal workers. There are significant differences in the composition of workers in rural and urban areas. In rural areas female comprise 30 percent of the main workers compared to only 12 percent in urban areas. Women comprise 73 percent of the marginal workers in rural Rajasthan and 43 percent in urban areas.

Table 6: Workers- main, marginal and total workers by gender and location in Rajasthan

	Total workers			Main workers			Marginal workers		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Rural	19856423 (83.5%)	11379536 (77.4%)	8476887 (93.4%)	13962042 (80%)	9771540 (76%)	4190502 (91.2%)	5894381 (93.1%)	1607996 (86.7%)	4286385 (95.8%)
	(100%)	(57.3%)	(42.7%)	(100%)	(70%)	(30%)	(100%)	(27.3%)	(72.7%)
Urban	3910232 (16.4%)	3316266 (22.6%)	593966 (6.5%)	3474846 (19.9%)	3069778 (23.9%)	405068 (8.8%)	435386 (6.9%)	246488 (13.3%)	188898 (4.2%)
	(100%)	(84.8%)	(15.2%)	(100%)	(88.3%)	(11.7%)	(100%)	(56.6%)	(43.4%)
Rajasthan	23,766,655 (99.9%)	14,695,802 (100%)	9,070,853 (99.9%)	17,436,888 (99.9%)	12,841,318 (99.9%)	4,595,570 (100%)	6,329,767 (100%)	1,854,484 (100%)	4,475,283 (100%)
	(100%)	(61.8%)	(38.2%)	(100%)	(73.6%)	(26.4%)	(100%)	(29.3%)	(70.7%)

Source: Census of India 2001

Wage-rates

As in the rest of the country, women workers are paid less than male workers. Women in Rajasthan get between 79-86 percent of the wages of male workers for agricultural activities and 89 percent of the male wages for unskilled labour. But NSSO data shows that the difference between male and female wages is much larger in rural areas of Rajasthan than urban areas, as is in the rest of the country. The data also shows that casual female rural workers get 98 percent of the casual male rural worker salary in Rajasthan for those engaged in public works.

Table 7: Average Daily Wage Rates in Agricultural Occupations in Rajasthan during May, 2005

Agricultural activity	Male	Female	Female-male ratio
Plowing	79.33	Not reported	-
Sowing	86.29	Not reported	-
Weeding	60.20	Not reported	-
Harvesting	76.67	65.63	85.6
Threshing	70.00	55.20	78.8
Herdsmen	51.67	Not reported	-
Well-digging	106.11	Not reported	-

[http://labourbureau.nic.in/WRRRI-2004-05%20Table13\(a\).htm](http://labourbureau.nic.in/WRRRI-2004-05%20Table13(a).htm)

Table 8: Average Daily Wage Rates of unskilled workers in Rural India during October, 2004

Male	Female	Female-male ratio
72.85	64.90	89.0

[http://labourbureau.nic.in/WRRRI-2004-05%20Table6\(b\).htm](http://labourbureau.nic.in/WRRRI-2004-05%20Table6(b).htm)

Table 9: Average wage/salary earnings per day received by regular wage/salaried employees of age between 15-59 years

	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	Female – male ratio	Male	Female	Female – male ratio
India	144.93	85.53	59.0	203.28	153.19	75.35
Rajasthan	146.59	87.41	59.6	184.26	156.16	84.7

Source: NSS, 61st Round, NSSO

Table 10: Average daily wages for rural casual workers of age 15-59 years engaged in public works

	Male	Female	Female – male ratio
India	65.33	49.19	75.3
Rajasthan	52.37	51.13	97.6

Source: NSS, 61st Round, NSSO

Table 11: Average daily wages for casual workers of age 15-59 years engaged in works other than public works

	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	Female – male ratio	Male	Female	Female – male ratio
India	55.03	34.94	63.5	75.10	43.88	58.4
Rajasthan	64.33	52.03	80.9	69.15	48.26	69.8

Source: NSS, 61st Round, NSSO

In Rajasthan, 8.25 percent of the population in the 5-14 years age group are workers as compared to five percent at the national level. In Rajasthan, the percentage of workers for all ages is also about three percent more than the national average. In the 5-14 years age group, 27.6 percent of females and 35 percent of males are main workers, which is lower than the national average.

Table 12: Percentage of workers in respective population

	All ages	5-14 years
India	39.1	5.00
Rajasthan	42.06	8.25

Source: Census of India 2001

Table 13: Distribution of workers (5-14 years) by sex

	Rajasthan			India		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Main workers	390020 (30.9%)	195968 (35%)	194052 (27.6%)	5778991 (45.6%)	3596904 (52.9%)	2182087 (37.2%)
Marginal workers	872550 (69.1%)	364258 (65%)	508292 (72.4%)	6887386 (54.4%)	3207432 (47.1%)	3679954 (62.8%)
Total workers	1262570 (100%)	560226 (100%)	702344 (100%)	12666377 (100%)	6804336 (100%)	5862041 (100%)

Source: Census of India 2001

Migration

Rajasthan is in the third position in terms of Inter-state migration after Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. According to the 2001 census, 2,609,555 persons were recorded as Inter-state In-migrants of which 58 percent (1,515,575) were female. In Rajasthan women migrate in larger numbers than men. The main reason for migration for women is marriage. Eighty percent of women, who had migrated, reported marriage as the reason for migration. Men on the other hand reported employment as the reason for migration (32%).

Table 14: Migration by Gender, Rajasthan

Type of migration	Persons	Male	Female
Inter-district migration	3,764,879 23%	923,199 29.1%	2,841,680 21.7%
Intra-district migration	10,793,113 66.2%	1,710,480 53.5%	9,082,633 69.3%
Inter-state migration	1,741,411 10.7%	561,342 17.5%	1,180,069 9.0%
Total	16,299,403 99.9%	3,195,021 100.1%	13,104,382 100%

Source: Census of India 2001

Table 15: Table: Reasons for migration

	Persons	Males		Females	
		Total	Percentage	Total	Percentage
Work/employment	1,211,445	1,059,633 32.6%	87.47	151,812 1.1%	12.53
Buisness	45,875	33,707 1.0%	73.48	12,168 0.09%	26.52
Education	127,056	95,932 2.9%	75.50	31,124 0.2%	24.50
Marriage	10,603,299	56,938 1.7%	0.54	10,546,361 80.25	99.46
Moved after birth	442,654	265,938 8.1%	60.08	176,716 1.3%	39.92
Moved with household	1,823,379	738,342 22.7%	40.49	1,085,037 8.2%	59.51

Others	2,132,007	993,358 30.6%	46.59	1,138,649 8.7%	53.41
Total	16,385,715	3,243,848 100%	19.80	13,141,867 100%	80.20

Source: Census of India 2001

4. Social profile

Age at marriage

Marriage of girls before the legal age of 18 years is quite prevalent in Rajasthan. This is despite the fact that people are aware of the legal age of marriage. The NFHS -2 (1998-99) reports that the median age of marriage for women in the age group 20-49 years is 15.3 years. The age of marriage has been going up gradually in the state. Interactions from the field reveal that marriages of infants have reduced to a very large extent. A study conducted by ISST in Rajasthan showed that most girls tend to get married along with their older sisters. But the girls go to their marital home around the age of 14-16 years which is called *mukhlava* or *gauna*. Thus after marriage the young girls continue to stay with their parents and many also attend school till their *mukhlava*. Marriage was not seen as a deterrent to schooling as long as the girl was still living with her parents. In many communities, marriages are arranged after the death of an elderly person, when near and distant relatives and members of the caste group are invited for a feast in the dead person's honour called *mahabhoj*. At these times, as most kin members are already present, marriages are arranged and performed. This is practiced more among the well-off communities.

Table 16: Age at Marriage, Rajasthan

Age at marriage	Duration of marriage of currently married persons all durations		
	Persons	Males	Females
All ages	26,071,536	12,879,824	13,191,712
Less than 10	1,509,475 5.8%	445,322 3.4%	1,064,153 8%
Less than 18	9,763,789 37.4%	2,914,038 22.6%	6,849,751 51.9%
18 and above	14,381,683 55.2%	9,309,561 72.3%	5,072,122 38.4%
Age not stated	416,589 1.6%	210,903 1.6	205,686 1.5%

Table 17: Demographic and Health Profile of Rajasthan state as compared to India

Indicators	Rajasthan	India
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Total population (Census 2001) (in million)	56.51	1028.61
Decadal Growth (Census 2001) (%)	28.41	21.54
Crude Birth Rate (SRS 2006)	29	24.1
Crude Death Rate (SRS 2006)	7	7.5
Total Fertility Rate (SRS 2004)	3.7	2.9
Infant Mortality Rate (SRS 2006)	67	58
Maternal Mortality Ratio (SRS 2001 - 2003)	445	301

Health profile

Life expectancy at birth in Rajasthan has gone up from 53.5 in 1981-85 to 59.5 years in 1992-96. For women life-expectancy throughout this period has been slightly better than men, a situation that is found through-out the world. Women in urban areas fare much better than women in rural areas, and as compared to men, women in urban areas have a two year advantage over men. In rural areas, life expectancy of women is basically the same as for men. (National Human development Report, 2000)

The infant mortality rate (IMR) has been steadily declining in Rajasthan, but continues to remain higher than the IMR for the country. According to the SRS of 2006, the infant mortality rate (IMR) in Rajasthan was 67, in rural areas it is 74 and 41 in urban areas, which are higher than those for the country as a whole. For India the respective figures are 57 for the whole country and 62 in rural areas and 39 in urban areas. The negative bias against females is evident in the gap in the IMR of between females and males in Rajasthan in both urban and rural areas as is the case at the national level. In all other parts of the world, the IMR for males is higher, since more male infants die in the first year after birth than females due to genetic differences. A comparison with the IMR of the year 2000, shows that in 2006 the overall gap between males and females IMR had reduced in 2006. But there are other interesting differences in rural and urban areas. In rural areas, though the IMR for both males and females had reduced, it had reduced more in the case of males than females. As a result the gap between male and female IMR is more in rural areas of Rajasthan in the year 2006 as compared to the year 2000. On the other hand in urban areas, the difference between male and female IMR was very high in 2000 – 48 and 68 respectively, which has not only come down in numbers but the gap has also narrowed down considerably.

The NFHS-3 shows that infant mortality rates have declined substantially in Rajasthan since NFHS-2. The NFHS-3 estimates the IMR in Rajasthan to be 65 as compared to 80 in the NFHS-2, and there is very little gap in urban and rural areas. But gender disaggregate data is still not available to see the difference in male and female infant mortality rates. The findings of NFHS-2 provide insight into mothers' education and infant mortality. The infant mortality rate declines sharply with increasing education of mothers. It is highest (95 per 1,000 live births) for births to illiterate mothers and is 54 percent lower among live births to mothers who have at least completed high school. Children of women belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes have higher rates of infant and child mortality than children whose mothers belong to other castes/tribes. By caste/tribe, infant and child mortality rates are lowest among

children of women who do not belong to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and other backward classes. Infant and child mortality indicators decline substantially with increases in the household standard of living.

Table 18: Infant Mortality Rate

	Total			Rural			Urban		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
India, 2006	57	56	59	62	61	64	39	37	40
Rajasthan 2006*	67	65	69	74	72	76	41	40	42
Rajasthan 2000**	79	76	81	82	81	83	58	48	68

* SRS Buletin for 2006, Vol42, No.1, October 2007

** SRS Buletin for 2000, Vol36, No.1, April 2002

Child mortality in India in the year 2000 was estimated to be 19.5 which has come down from 42.2 in 1984. (Child mortality in the age-group 0-4 years per 1000 children) In Rajasthan, child mortality is 24.6, much higher than the national average of 19.5. Among the bigger states, child mortality rate in Rajasthan is better than only the states of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh. Rajasthan also shows the highest gap in male and female child mortality among all states.³

Maternal mortality ratio (MMR) is one of the most sensitive indicators in terms of human development. While different sources show different ratios, the MMR in Rajasthan according to all estimates is much above the MMR for the whole country. The Maternal Mortality Ratio according to SRS 2001-2003 is 445 as compared to 301 for the country as a whole.⁴ Another study conducted by ICMR estimated the MMR for Rajasthan as highest in the whole country at 677 while that of India as 400⁵.

The most significant issue has been the number of births attended by trained personnel and institutional births has been steadily increasing. Similarly, the number of women who had at least three ante-natal care visits has increased. But the gap between the rural and urban population remains.

Table 19: Key Health Indicators of Rajasthan from NFHS

	NFHS-3			NFHS-2	NFHS-1
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Total
Mothers who had at least 3 antenatal care visits for their last birth (%)	41.2	74.7	32.5	23.6	18.1
Births assisted by a doctor/ nurse/LHV/ANM/ other health personnel (%)	43.2	77.0	34.6	35.8	19.3

³ <http://health.nic.in/dofw%20website/Health%20&%20Poulation%20Indicators/hpi%20frame.htm>

⁴ <http://mohfw.nic.in/NRHM/State%20Files/raj.htm>

⁵ <http://www.icmr.nic.in/final/Final%20Pilot%20Report.pdf>

Institutional births (%)	32.2	67.7	23.3	21.5	12.0
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Immunization coverage in Rajasthan lags behind most states in India. Full-immunisation coverage is only 26.5 percent in Rajasthan, according to NFHS-3. Only Uttar Pradesh and Nagaland lag behind Rajasthan in this respect.

Nutritional status of women in Rajasthan shows a paradoxical picture. The percentage of anemic women in the reproductive age group in Rajasthan has gone up from 48.5 percent (1998-99) to 53.1 percent (2005-06) as per the NFHS data. The percentage of anemic women is higher in rural areas (54.9 percent), than in urban areas (48 percent). Similarly the percentage of pregnant women who are anemic has also gone up from 51.4 percent in 1998-99 to 61.2 in 2005-06. NFHS-3 for the first time also recorded anemia in men and found that 20.5 percent of men were anemic as compared to 53 percent women in the reproductive age group. Nutritional status measured in terms of Body Mass Index (BMI) shows that the number of women with a BMI below normal has decreased from 36.1(1998-99) to 33.6 (2005-06) and the percentage of overweight women has increased from 7.1 (1998-99) to 10.2 (2005-06).

Reproductive health

According to NFHS-3, 16 percent of the women in the age-group 15-19 years in Rajasthan were already mothers or pregnant. The percentage was more than double the percentage in rural areas (19.0 percent) than in urban areas (8.1 percent). The total fertility rate (TFR) for Rajasthan is higher than that of the country. The total fertility rate estimated by the SRS 2004 is 3.7 compared with 2.9 for India.⁶ The NFHS-3 estimates the TFR in Rajasthan to be 3.2.

Contraceptive use

Contraception usage among currently married women has been increasing in Rajasthan. Modern methods of contraception are the most commonly used methods. Contraceptive use has increased from 32 percent (NFHS-1) to 47 percent (NFHS-3). At the same time, the percent of unmet need has also reduced from 19.8 percent (NFHS-1) to 14.7 percent (NFHS-3).

Table 20: Contraceptive use in currently married women in age group 15-49 years

	NFHS-3	NFHS-2	NFHS-1
Any method	47.2	40.3	31.9
Any modern method	44.4	38.1	31.0
Total unmet need	14.7	17.6	19.8

Source: NFHS-3, Fact Sheet Rajasthan

HIV/AIDS in Rajasthan

⁶ <http://mohfw.nic.in/NRHM/State%20Files/raj.htm>

Rajasthan does not list in the states where HIV is highly prevalent, but the state is in a vulnerable position regarding its spread. Till March 2005 the estimated HIV cases in Rajasthan were 88560.⁷ Data indicates that in Rajasthan, HIV and AIDS is equally a rural as an urban epidemic. Rajasthan has thousands of people annually out-migrating to higher prevalence states such as Maharashtra, Gujarat, etc., and in turn, thousands in-migrate who work in the large numbers in various mines and stone quarries. Data from NFHS-3 shows that only 34 percent of ever-married women in the 15-49 age group had heard about AIDS as compared to 74 percent of men. In rural areas only 19 percent of the women had heard about HIV/AIDS.

Table 21: Percentage of ever-married adults men and women in the 15-49 age group who have heard of AIDS in Rajasthan, NFHS-3

Residence	Men	Women
Urban	97	73
Rural	65	19
Total	74	34

Source: NFHS-3, Fact Sheet Rajasthan

Literacy

A comparison of 1991 and 2001 literacy rates shows that the state has made a significant progress in the 90s decade. In the 2001 census the literacy rate was 61.03 percent, up from 38.55 percent in 1991. Female literacy rate has more than doubled from 20.44 percent in 1991 to 44.34 percent in 2001.

The tremendous increase in literacy rates in Rajasthan from 1991 to 2001 are due to initiatives of the state government in the 1990s such as the *Shiksha Karmi* Project, *Lok Jumbish* and DPEP programmes. The most well know is the Lok Jumbish Porject that made education accessible to people in far flung and remote areas of the state. Lok Jumbish or the people's movement, was initiated in 1989 to ensure education for all in Rajasthan by the year 2000, through mobilisation of the community. The Lok Jumbish project ended in 2004. Since a large number of children were out of school, the main aim of the project was to bring all children within the fold of primary education through alternatives to primary school in the form of non-formal education (NFE) centres. Attention was also paid to the improving the quality of education by improving school infrastructure, curriculum, teacher training, pupil evaluation and supervision. All this was done by involving the community in the project.

Table 22: Literacy rates for 2001

Country/State	2001		
	Total	Male	Female
India	64.8%	75.3%	53.7%
Rajasthan	60.4	75.7	43.9

Source: Census of India 2001

⁷ <http://rajswasthya.nic.in/WorldEconomicForum.pdf>

Table 23: Literacy in urban and rural areas

	Rural			Urban		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
India	58.7%	70.7%	46.1%	79.9%	86.3%	72.9%
Rajasthan	55.2%	72.2%	37.3%	76.2%	86.5%	64.7%

Source: Census of India 2001

The Scheduled Castes of the state have a literacy rate of 52.2 per cent which is slightly lower than the national average (54.7 per cent) in respect of all SCs. There has been a significant improvement in the rate of literacy during the decade 1991-2001. Male literacy has increased from 42.4 per cent to 69 per cent while female literacy has increased four times i.e. from 8.3 per cent to 33.8 per cent during 1991-2001. The Scheduled Tribes of the state have a literacy rate of 44.7 per cent which is lower than the national average (47.1 per cent) in respect of all STs. There has been a significant improvement in the rate of literacy during the decade 1991-2001 for STs in Rajasthan. The over all literacy rates which was merely 19.4 per cent at 1991 census has increased to 44.7 per cent at 2001, higher by 25.3 percentage points. Male literacy has gone up from 33.3 per cent in 1991 to 62.1 per cent which is higher than that of national average of 59.2 per cent for STs. On the other hand, though the female literacy has increased six times from 4.4 per cent at 1991 to 26.2 per cent at 2001, it is still lower than the national average of 34.8 per cent recorded by all tribal females.

In Rajasthan the biggest problem is the lack for female rural literacy rates. There is a huge gap between males and female rural literacy rate as well as between urban female literacy and rural female literacy. A study conducted by ISST in three districts of Rajasthan showed that lack of female literacy is dependent of a complex of factors. In remote areas, the distance to the school is considerable, even if the primary school was built in the political boundary of the village. Given the vast distance, girls tend not to go such far-off distances. The study also found a severe shortage of teachers, often one teacher looking after the whole primary school, which has severely affected the quality of teaching. Parents complained that the child was unable to read or write despite going to school, as nothing was taught. This has resulted in a serious disillusionment with the education system. The study also found that girls are more likely to continue going to school as long as the school is in the village, but tend to drop-out even if the school is in the neighbouring village. Thus many girls enroll in the primary school in the village, but drop out after class 5, if the upper-primary school is not in the same village.

Table 24: Enrollment in Primary and Upper Primary and Gender Parity Index (2005-06) in Rajasthan

Level	Enrollment		Gender Parity Index
	Boys	Girls	

Primary	4654172	4092774	0.88
Upper Primary	1811064	1119466	0.62
Percentage of enrollment in Primary Classes	53.21	46.79	-
Percentage of enrollment in Upper Primary Classes	61.80	38.20	-

Source: *Elementary Education in India: Analytical Report 2005-06*

Table 25: Percentage of girls in secondary and senior secondary levels (9-12 class) in all schools of Rajasthan (Figures in 100,000)

Year	Boys	Girls	Percentage of Girls	Total
2000-01	9.41	3.57	27.5	12.98
2001-02	10.36	3.97	27.7	14.33
2002-03	11.07	4.35	28.2	15.42
2003-04	11.82	4.75	28.7	16.57
2004-05	12.37	5.13	29.3	17.50
2005-06	12.99	5.67	30.4	18.66
2006-07	13.51	6.56	32.7	20.07

Source: *Balika Shiksha (Gender Budgeting)* <http://rajshiksha.gov.in/balikaeducation.pdf>, accessed 17 Dec 2007

Given the low state of educational status of females in Rajasthan, the state government has initiated educational grants to encourage female education. Girls studying in any class in government schools are exempt from paying educational fees and paying for text books. While many girls go to primary schools as they are situated in the village, very few girls go on for secondary or higher secondary education. In all schools in the state at the secondary and higher secondary level less than a-third of the students are girls. One of the biggest problems is that secondary and senior secondary schools are often at a considerable distance from the village. To facilitate physical access to school for girls in rural areas, the state government has a free bus-pass system for girls studying in 9-12 class in government school. This free bus-pass is applicable on state transport busses and was initiated in 2006. The state government has instituted aid for the purchase of bicycles for girls in class 10th who live in the range 2-5 kms. from the school. The girls have to contribute Rs.300 for the bicycle and the rest will be given by the state government. For girls in secondary/senior secondary level and who live beyond 5 km and do not have the facility of state run-transport buses, the government has decided to start a bus voucher scheme, where the student will be paid @ Rs.5 per school day for transport. In 2005-06, the state government launched an Economic Empowerment prize for girls who are hear, speech or visually disabled, under which girls receive an annual grant of Rs.2000.

Crime against women

Table 26: Incidence of reported crimes committed against women during 2004 in Rajasthan

Crime	Number	Percentage
Rape	1038	7.8
Kidnapping & Abduction	1881	14.2
Dowry deaths	487	3.7
Cruelty by husband & relatives	6781	51.2
Molestation	2825	21.3
Eve-teasing	44	0.3
Importing of girls (upto 21 years)	0	0
Sati prevention Act	0	0
I.T.P. Act	75	0.6
Indecent representation of women (Prohibition Act)	96	0.7
Dowry Prohibition Act	13	0.1
Total	13240	99.9

Women's empowerment

Education of women shows a positive relationship with women's empowerment in Rajasthan. Lesser percentage of women with higher education levels reported spousal violence compared to women with no education. Similarly a greater percentage of women with ten or more years of education reported that they participated in household decisions compared to women with no education. In Rajasthan more than 50 percent of ever-married women reported spousal violence. There was negligible difference in experience of spousal violence with regards to urban or rural residence. But residence has an impact on women's participation in household decision-making.

Table 27: Household Decisions by Women

	Total	Urban	Rural
Currently married women who usually participate in household decisions (%)	40.2	56.5	34.3
Ever-married women who have ever experienced spousal violence (%)	46.3	45.5	46.6

Source: NFHS-3

Table 28: Ever-married women who have ever experienced spousal violence by education (%)

	<i>Education</i>			
	No education	Less than 8 years complete	8-9 years complete	10 years and above complete
Currently married women who usually participate in household decisions (%)	38.4	37.6	40.6	58.3
Ever-married women who have ever experienced spousal violence (%)	50.4	45.7	41.6	20.7

Source: NFHS-3

5. Political participation

Women's lack of political participation as a group and as individuals has always been an issue that has generated a lot of debate. Many causes have been put forth for women's lack of political participation which include lack of time for politics due to their domestic obligations, their lack of socialization for politics, their lower social capital and weaker asset base than men, their marginalization within male-dominated parties, and their inability to overcome male and incumbent bias in certain types of electoral systems (Goetz,2004)

Goetz points out that the numbers of women in representative politics are not the best indicator of the extent and intensity of women's political participation because there is no necessary relationship between the two. In India with one-third reservation for women in panchayats, many women have been elected to panchayats, but many are mere rubber stamps for the families. On the other hand there is a strong women's movement in the state, with many women participating in women's groups. The number of women in representative formal politics however remains one of the most visible and easily measureable indicator of political participation. Studies at the gram panchayat level in Rajasthan show that when a woman is the chair of the gram panchayat, the percentage of village women attending the gram sabha rises.(Goetz)

In many developed countries, education has been viewed as strongly co-related with political participation. But in India the relation between the level of education and political participation is complex and paradoxical. With regards to election to state legislatures very little co-relation is seen between education and political activity. Kerala with over 86 percent female literacy does not have a significantly more proportion of women in state legislature than Rajasthan which has 44 percent female literacy and women in Rajasthan lead far more secluded lives with little mobility.

Table 29: Representation in State Assembly-Rajasthan

Year	Total	Male	Female	Female Percent
1998	200	186	14	7.00
2003	200	187	13	6.5

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

6. Programmes, Schemes and Initiatives by Rajasthan State Government for Women

The state government has initiated an economic empowerment award (Aarthik Sabalaa Puraskar) for visually, hearing and verbally impaired girls studying in special schools run by the government for the visually, hearing and verbally impaired. Each girl student is given an annual award of Rs.2000. This scheme was initiated in 2005-06

A monetary support award has been implemented by the Government of Rajasthan for physically handicapped girl's students under the Balika Shiksha Foundation. Under this scheme as per the mission of the Balika Shiksha Foundation, economic independence is provided to physically handicapped girl students. This scheme proposes to provide economic supports to

those girl students who are passing out of class 8th and 10th and would be going to the next class, and also for those girl students who are studying in class 11th and 12th.

Aap ki Beti scheme – The state government started this programme in 2004 for those girls whose households are below the poverty line and for those who have lost one parent or both. Girls from such families who get a 1st division and are studying from class 1-8th in government schools will be given a grant of Rs.1100 and those girls in class 9-12th will be given Rs.1500.

Nanhi Kalee Yojana – In Udaipur district, the state government in partnership with the K.C Mahendra education Trust has provided grants of Rs.1800 to Scheduled Tribe girls studying in class 1-8th in schools receiving aid from the government and in registered Madrsas.

The state government is providing free books to all girls studying in class 9-12 in government run schools. This is in addition to the free books being distributed to students from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and those students whose families are outside the income-tax purview.

Gargi Award- For Girls who have attained 75% or above in 10th class will be awarded Rs. 1000 per year in Class 11 and 12th.

Free bus-pass scheme for rural areas. The state government has initiated a free bus-pass scheme for girls in rural areas who are studying in classes 9 – 12th. This bus-pass is applicable in buses of the state road transport department.

Bicycle distribution – The state government is providing bicycle to girls living in rural areas, who have completed class 9th and have taken admission in 10th. The home of the girl student should not be less than two kilometers from the school and should not be more than five kilometers. The student will have to give Rs. 300 and the rest of the money for the bicycle will be paid by the government.

Transport voucher scheme – For those girls studying at the Secondary and Senior Secondary level and living at a distance of more than five kilometers from school in rural areas where the state transport service is not there, will be given a voucher for transport at the rate of Rs.5 per school day.

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List of NGOs, working on Gender Issues in Rajasthan

ANSTHAN UDAIPUR

39, Kharol Colony, Udaipur- 313004, Rajasthan

Tel: 2451348

Email: astha39@sancharnet.in

Website: www.astha.org

CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES DEPARTMENT OF ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

University of Rajasthan, Jaipur - 302004

CHANDRA BHANBARI

16 B, Old Fatehpura, Udaipur-313004, Rajasthan

Tel: 2451614

IDARA -WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

C-85, Ramdas Marg, Tilak Nagar, Jaipur - 302004

IFES and MAHILA ATYACHAR VIMO Andolan (MAVJA)

76, Shanti Niketan Colony, Kisan Marg, Jaipur

Tel: 9414075475

INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

8B Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur

Tel: 0141 2706457

LAXML MURTHY

283 Fatehpura, Near Old Chungi Naka, Off Bedla Road, Udaipur- 313004

Tel: 2451411, 2452092

MAHILA JAN ADHIKAR SAMITI

B-6, Datanagar, Jatia Hills, Ajmer

Tel: 0145-2643984/2626928

MAHILA MANDAL

Barmer Agor Near New Power House, Indira Colony, Barmer - 344001

Tel: 21446 Tel: 2982-21446

MAHILA JAN ADHIKAAR SAMITI

Vivekanand Colony, Behind Tahsildar's Office, Devli, District Tonk - 304804

MAHILA PUNRWAS SAMUH SAMITI

S-5, Bajaj Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan

MARUSHAKTI SANSTHAN

Near ITI College, Chhapar Road, Churu

MEENAKSHI PALIWAL,
H. No. 93, Nakoda Nagar, 2 Chittorgarh Road, Udaipur- 313004
Tel: 9214986548

MUKTIDHARA SANSTHAN MUKTI ASHRAM,
Virat Nagar, Jaipur - 303102

RAJASTHAN UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
C/o S.A.B. University of Rajasthan, Jaipur - 302015

RAIYA IDARA (MAHILA VIKAS) RAJASTHAN PRODH SHIKSHAN SAMITI
7-A, Jhalana Sansthan Kshetra, Jaipur- 302004, Rajasthan

SEVA MANDIR,
Purana Fatehpura, Udaipur- 313004,
Tel: 2450960,2452001, 2451041

TRIBAL WELFARE ORGANISATION RAJASTHAN KISAN SANGATHAN,
Post Office Ghahtali, via Khomera, Banswara Distt. Rajasthan - 327027

VISHAKA
9 Pratap Nagar, Near Glass Factory Tonk Road, Jaipur- 302018, Rajasthan,
Tel: 5172422

VIVIDHA
335, Mahaveer Nagar- 2, Maharani Farm, Durgapur, Jaipur
Tel:9829068744, 2762932
Email: vividha_2001@yahoo.com

Uttar Pradesh

1. Context

Uttar Pradesh (U.P.), situated in the Indo-Gangetic plain of northern India is often described as the “Hindi speaking heartland” of India. UP’s population is the highest in the country and it is the fifth largest State. On November 9, 2000, 13 districts of the Hill region as well as the district of Hardwar in the west were reconstituted into the new State of Uttaranchal. Presently Uttar Pradesh covers 240928 sq.kms. and accounts for 7.3 percent of total area of the country, while its share in country’s population is 16.2 percent. In U.P. during the first two years of the Tenth Plan, the actual growth rate has been 0.1% in 2002-03 and 5.9% for 2003-04 and thus, lagged far behind the envisaged growth rate of 8% per annum. Consequently, the reduction in the poverty in percent terms may not have been to the extent i.e. above 5 percent which was envisaged. As per quick estimates by the state Planning Commission for the year 2003-04 per capita income in U.P. is Rs.10,817/- as against all India figure of Rs.20,860. For the year 2002-03, U.P. ranks 12th among major states of the country in terms of per capita income.¹

UP is organized into 70 districts, 300 *tehsils* and 813 development blocks. There are 52028 village *panchayats* in the State covering 97134 inhabited villages. UP has had a long history of human settlement. The fertile plains of the Ganga have led to a high population density and the dominance of agriculture as an economic activity. Consequently, land is the most important resource for a very large number of people of the state. However, the Human Development Report of the state reports that per capita availability of land has been declining. It stood at a meager 0.10 hectare in 2001-02. The average size of land holdings in the State in 1995-96 was only 0.86 hectare, with nearly three fourth holdings falling below one hectare. Small land holdings continue to be a major obstacle in the development of capital formation and growth in agriculture and is one of the reasons for widespread poverty.²

2. Demographic and Socio-economic Profile

Population levels are closely related to poverty, growth and human development. UP’s population has more than doubled since 1951 putting tremendous pressure on resources and infrastructure.

UP’s demography is marked by an adverse sex ratio. However, there is an improvement since 1991. The overall sex ratio stood at 876 in 1991 which was climbed up to 898 in 2001. In 2001 census, the districts found with poor /lowest sex ratio were Mathura (840), Gautam Buddha Nagar (841), Shahjahanpur (842), Hardoi (844), Agra (844). Among total 70 districts, in 49 districts, sex ratio has been found below 900. However, in 4 districts, sex ratio was found more than 1000. These districts are Azamgarh (1020), Jaunpur (1014), Pratapgarh (1004) and Deoria (1002).³

¹ Annual Plan 2006-2007 Volume I, State Planning Board, Uttar Pradesh. Available at (http://planning.up.nic.in/annualplan0607/aplan0607_main.htm (accessed on December 16, 2007)

² Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Planning Department website: <http://planning.up.nic.in/> (accessed on Dec. 16, 2007)

³ Census of India 2001 at <http://www.censusindia.gov.in/> (accessed on December 16, 2007)

Table 1: Demographic and Socio-economic Profile

Item	UP	India
Total population	166,197,921	1,028,737,436
Male	87,565,369	532,223,090
Female	78,632,552	496,514,346
Scheduled Caste	35148377	166635700
	(21.15%)	(16.20%)
Male	18502838	86088780
Female	16645539	80546940
Scheduled Tribe	107963	84326240
	(0.06%)	(8.20%)
Male	55834	42640829
Female	52129	41685411
Rural Population	131658339	742490639
	(79.22%)	(72.17%)
Male	69157470	381602674
Female	62500869	360887965
Urban Population	34539582	286119689
	(20.78%)	(27.81%)
Male	18407899	150554098
Female	16131683	135565591
Sex Ratio	898	933
Female Headed households (percentage of total households)	2031752 (7.91%)	19987858 (10.35%)
Decadal Population growth (%)	25.85	21.54
Population below poverty line (%)*	32.80	27.50

Source: Census of India, 2001; * Planning Commission (2007) Poverty Estimates of 2004-05 (<http://planningcommission.nic.in/news/prmar07.pdf>)

The demographic composition of Uttar Pradesh (see table 1) shows that the state is predominantly rural. Almost 80 percent of people live in the rural areas. More than 21 percent of the population belongs to Scheduled Caste category, which is higher than the national average (16.20%). The Scheduled Tribe population in the state is minimal (0.06%). Almost 8 percent households in the state, according to the Census data run by women.

Children below 7 years constituted 19.03 percent of total population. The birth rate in UP was as high as 54.6 in 1971. It decreased to 39.6 in 1981 and further to 35.7 in 1991. It presently stands at the high level of 31.6.

3. Poverty and Access to Economic Opportunity

Women's Work in the State

2001 census reports only 16.3 percent of women workers against 47.3 per cent of men workers in UP. The number for the women is so low because of the definition used to measure work, does not include women's work to a large extent. Over the years, women's organizations have advocated broadening the definition of work so as to highlight the women's role in the economy and the society. In 1991 census, changes were made to

include unpaid work on family farms and family enterprises in the definition of work. Much of women's work falls in these unpaid or unrecognized categories.

The following table shows the differences in male and female work force participation rates as per NSSO data 61st Round 2004-05. It shows overall very low workforce participation by women both in rural and urban UP. An investigation of census 2001 data also helps to identify the districts with very low workforce participation rate in rural areas. These districts are Etawah, Firozabad, Mainpuri, Rampur and Saharanpur with only 7% of workforce participation. Districts like Chitrakoot, Kushinagar and Mahoba have highest workforce participation among rural women with 39%. Women's workforce participation is lower in the urban areas. Districts like Bijnour, Badaun, Kheri, Mainpuri, Saharanpur and Sitapur have lowest workforce participation with only 4 percent in the urban locations. Kannauj has highest workforce participation among women in the urban areas with 15%, according Census 2001 data.

Table 2: Work Participation Rates: Uttar Pradesh and India, 2004-05*

	Uttar Pradesh		India	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Men	49.9	54.2	55.5	57.0
Women	24.1	12.0	33.3	17.8
Men & Women Combined	37.3	34.2	44.6	38.2

Note: * Usual Status (ps+ss) Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Census data on main and marginal workers show more number of women workers in marginal category. The following table shows that percentage of women marginal workers is higher than that of men in Uttar Pradesh.

Table 3: Main, Marginal and Non workers by Gender in Uttar Pradesh (in percent)

	Men	Women	Total
Main worker	39.21	6.36	23.67
Marginal Worker	7.59	10.18	8.81
Non Worker	53.20	83.46	67.52

Source: Census 2001

In Uttar Pradesh women workers are concentrated in agriculture. In rural Uttar Pradesh while 76 percent of men workers are employed in agriculture either as cultivator or agricultural labourer, more than 81 percent of women are so employed. However, in case of men, only 24 percent of them are employed as agricultural labourer, whereas, more than 42 percent of women work as agricultural labourer. In rural UP, two districts have been found with relatively higher participation by women in Household industries. These are Kannauj (36%) and Farrukhabad (34%)

Table 4: Location and Sector-wise Participation of Men and Women Workers in Uttar Pradesh

Location	Gender	Cultivators	Agricultural Labourer	Household Industries	Other Workers
Rural	Men	52.25	24.01	4.09	19.65
	Women	38.91	42.52	6.92	11.65
Urban	Men	4.35	4.59	7.38	83.68
	Women	5.04	8.48	23.81	62.67

Source: Census India, 2001

In urban UP, the scenario is slightly different. Here almost 24 percent of women workers are employed in Household industries, whereas only 7 percent of men workers are employed in household industries. The women workers in household industries are high in a few districts namely Mau (75%), Kannauj (68%) and Jyotiba Phule Nagar (66%).

In the labour market, women generally get an unfair deal. Constrained by illiteracy, lack of skills, lack of organization and with little mobility, women have no bargaining power. We have already found a large concentration of women workers in agriculture in rural UP. However, they are highly discriminated as far as the wage rate is concerned. The following table shows the wage differences between men and women in agricultural jobs in the state.

Table 5: Average Daily Wage Rates in Agricultural Occupations in Rural U.P. during April 2005 by Sex (in Rupees)

Task	Men	Women	Woman to man ratio
Ploughing	62.19	Not Reported	N.A.
Sowing	59.20	52.07	0.88
Weeding	57.96	46.62	0.80
Transplanting	55.97	49.11	0.88
Harvesting	62.71	55.18	0.88
Winnowing	52.56	46.93	0.89
Threshing	69.14	56.07	0.81

Source: Wage Rates in Rural India 2004-05 at <http://labourbureau.nic.in/WRRI-2004-05%20Contents.htm> (accessed on December 18, 2007)

Women wage rates are lower than that of the men both for the regular salaried employees and casual workers in public and private works. The following tables indicates the lower wage rates received the women in India and Uttar Pradesh.

Table 6: Average Wage/Salary earnings per day received by regular wage/salaried employees

(in Rupees)

	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	F:M	Male	Female	F:M
India	144.93	85.53	0.59	203.28	153.19	0.75
Uttar Pradesh	122.40	100.16	0.82	177.27	149.48	0.84

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Table 7: Average daily wages for casual workers of age between 15-59 years engaged in works other than public works

(in Rupees)

	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	F:M	Male	Female	F:M
India	55.03	34.94	0.63	75.10	43.88	0.58
Uttar Pradesh	53.37	39.54	0.74	63.99	38.61	0.60

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Table 8: Average daily wages for rural casual workers of age between 15-59 years engaged in public works

(in Rupees)

	Rural		
	Male	Female	F:M
India	65.33	49.19	0.75
Uttar Pradesh	57.62	42.86	0.74

Source: NSS Report No. 515: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 2004-05

Female Child Labours in Uttar Pradesh

The total populations of the persons, aged 5-14 years in the state of UP is over 472 lakhs. Out of this, over 251 lakhs (53.24) percent are males and 221 lakhs (46.76%) are females. Among the persons in this age group, 19.28 lakhs (4.08 percent) are workers and rest 452.74 lakhs (95.92 percent) are non-workers. (see Table 9) The share of workers aged 5-14 years in the total work force of the state works out to be 3.57 per cent.

Table 9: Distribution of workers (5-14 years) by Sex

State/India	Total Workers			Main Workers			Marginal Workers		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
India	12666377	6804336	5862041	5778991	3696904	2182087	6887386	3207432	3679954
(percentage in the age group)	5.00	5.14	4.85	2.28	2.79	1.81	2.72	2.43	3.04
Uttar Pradesh	1927997	1195552	732445	801724	605111	196613	1126273	590441	535832
(percentage in the age group)	4.08	4.76	3.32	1.70	2.41	0.89	2.39	2.35	2.43

Source: Census of India, 2001

According to Census 2001 data, the ratio of child labour (5-14 years), which is 4.08 percent is lower than the national average (5.0 %). The incidence of girl child labour is again lower than the national average. The girl workers are mostly recorded as marginal workers in the state.

Migration and Trafficking

Uttar Pradesh has always a concern with migration and trafficking. Its physical proximity with Delhi and as parts of the state come under the National Capital Region, it attracts migrants from various parts of the country. Data shows that the number of women migrants is more than four times the number of men migrants in the state. Data from Census 2001, show that more than 70 percent of the migrants in the state are women. This has raised the vulnerability of women migrants in the state as far as trafficking and HIV/AIDS is concerned. Even within the state, the female migration is much higher than the male migration. The figures might be high due to the marriage related migration.

Table 10: Number of Migrants by Gender, Uttar Pradesh

	India			Uttar Pradesh		
	Men	Women	W/M Ratio	Men	Women	W/M Ratio
Inter State Migration	19098082	22068183	1.16	825083	1999663	2.42
	46.3%	53.6%		29.21%	70.79%	
Inter Dist. Migration	24241706	50384616	2.08	2104203	9254354	4.40
	32.4%	67.5%		18.53%	81.47%	
Intra Dist. Migration	47337924	146255014	3.09	4330085	22554204	5.21
	24.4%	75.5%		16.11%	83.89%	

Source: Census of India, 2001

The following tables give reasons for migration as per the census 2001. It shows a very high female migration for marriage in the state. However, it has been found that women migrate more than the men for business purpose in the state.

Table 11: Reasons of Migration by Gender, Uttar Pradesh

Reasons for Migration	Uttar Pradesh		
	Persons	Male	Female
Work/Employment	1,738,326	1,451,598	286,728
	4.22	19.86	0.85
Business	129,985	62,211	67,774
	0.32	0.85	0.20
Education	180,357	140,135	40,222
	0.44	1.92	0.12
Marriage	27,346,701	271,583	27,075,118
	66.35	3.71	79.85
Moved after birth	117,883	68,297	49,586
	0.29	0.93	0.15
Moved with household	2,973,495	1,130,181	1,843,314
	7.21	15.46	5.44
Others	8,730,519	4,186,684	4,543,835
	21.18	57.27	13.40
Total	41,217,266	7,310,689	33,906,577
	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Census of India, 2001

Trafficking

Human trafficking affects not only individual life of a family but the entire society. In most of the cases victims of trafficking are used as bonded labour, begging, domestic servitude, sex abuse, etc. In India, children and women are trafficked from the poor states. Several locations of Uttar Pradesh has become home for many of those trafficked children and women. The destinations for those victims are various industries like Sari weaving industry in Varanasi, Carpet industry in Sonebhadra, Bhodhi, and Allahabad, stone breaking, brick kilns, and various other activities both in formal and non-formal sectors. In addition, some of the women and children trafficked to other states from here.

A Protection Home called Snehashraya in Allahabad, has been opened to provide

shelters to many destitute women. This Protection Home is the part of a women empowerment project of DDWS which is led by Sahyog, an NGO based in Allahabad. After its establishment in 1998, this Home has provided its services to about 5,000 women and 105 children who stayed here. Most of the women staying in Snehasharya are trafficked after their dowry harassment and discrimination against the females. These are the most vulnerable lot of helpless individuals rejected by the society, their own parents, in-laws and their own community, who are being cared by the Home like its own children in a loving and caring family like environment.

Source: Conference on human trafficking and bonded labour available at <http://www.pucl.org/Topics/Industries-envirn-resettlement/2005/human-trafficking.htm>

4. Social profile

Age at Marriage

In India, legal age of marriage for girls is 18 years and for the boys its is 21 years. However, the law is not fully enforced in most of the states of India. In Uttar Pradesh, traditionally both boys and girls get married at early age. The incidences of early marriage have been coming down gradually in the state, but still almost 50 percent of the marriages for the girls took place before they attained the legal age for the marriage. RCH-II survey (2002-04) found Maharajganj with lowest mean age of marriage for the girls, 15.4 years. The survey found few other districts with low mean age at marriage like Balrampur (16), Shrawasti (16.1), Lalitpur (16.4).

Table 12: Age at Marriage India and U.P.

State / UT	Age at marriage	Duration of marriage of currently married persons of all durations		
		Persons	Males	Females
India	All ages	468,593,016	231,820,399	236,772,617
	Below 10 yrs.	10,316,817	3,232,370	7,084,447
		2.20	1.39	2.99
	Below 18 yrs.	127,771,010	24,892,828	102,878,182
		27.27	10.74	43.45
	18 yrs. and above	327,372,502	200,168,923	127,203,579
		69.86	86.35	53.72
U.P.	All ages	71,154,770	34,854,050	36,300,720
	Below 10 yrs.	2,433,645	886,803	1,546,842
		3.42	2.54	4.26
	Below 18 yrs.	25,104,124	7,151,625	17,952,499
		35.28	20.52	49.45
	18 yrs. and above	43,644,147	26,493,634	17,150,513
		61.34	76.01	47.25

Source: Census of India, 2001

Population and Health Indicators of Uttar Pradesh

Population and health indicators in the state of Uttar Pradesh are somewhat below the country average. Almost all the key indicators in the state are poor in the state. Total Fertility rate, Maternal Mortality Ratio and Infant Mortality Rates are alarmingly high in the state. (see Table 13, below)

Table 13: Demographic, Socio-economic and Health profile of Uttar Pradesh State as compared to India figures

S. No.	Item	Uttar Pradesh	India
1	Total population (Census 2001) (in million)	166.20	1028.61
2	Decadal Growth (Census 2001) (%)	25.85	21.54
3	Crude Birth Rate (SRS 2006)	30.8	24.1
4	Crude Death Rate (SRS 2006)	8.8	7.5
5	Total Fertility Rate (SRS 2004)	4.2	2.9
6	Infant Mortality Rate (SRS 2006)	72	58
7	Maternal Mortality Ratio (SRS 2001 - 2003)	517	301
8	Sex Ratio (2001 Census)	898	933

Source: <http://mohfw.nic.in/NRHM/State%20Files/up.htm#sp>

As its recorded, rural IMRs are much higher in UP compared to urban IMRs reflecting the relatively poor health of the rural population. The IMR among girl children has remained higher than the IMR among boy children, especially for rural UP where in 1982, IMR for girls was 162 and IMR for boys was 150. In 1999, the rural IMR came down to 91.1 for girls and 82.7 for boys.

The proportion of fully vaccinated children is higher in urban than rural areas. Only 16 percent of the children were fully vaccinated by age 12 months in rural areas, which mean that a fourth of the fully vaccinated children did not receive their vaccination within the given time frame of 12 months from birth. Girls with 19 percent full immunization received lower priority in vaccination as compared to boys (24 percent).

The health of women in UP, as seen from earlier indicators such as IMR, CMR and female life expectancy is much poorer than that of males. This is largely the result of lower social status and neglect of women in a patriarchal society

According to Sample Registration System of India (SRS), among the major states, the maternal mortality ratio (number of maternal deaths per hundred thousand children born) is the highest in UP. In 1997, there were an estimated 707 maternal deaths per 1,00,000 live births in UP. This was almost eight times higher than Kerala and 70 percent higher than the national average of 436.

The RCH survey of 1998-99 finds that number of maternal deaths is very high in Central, Western and Eastern UP. Kanpur Dehat, Saharanpur and Ghazipur record extremely high levels of maternal deaths.

The NFHS-3 shows a large gap between male and female sterilization in the state. NFHS-3 reports 17.3 % female sterilization against only 0.2 % male sterilization. The RCH –II survey (2002-04) identifies districts with high and low female sterilization. The highest percentage of female sterilization has been found in Jhansi district with 43.7. The male sterilization in the same district is only 0.3%.

National Family Health Survey-3 (NFHS-3) reports that in UP only 66.5 percent of all pregnant women get at least one antenatal care services. Only 22.5 percent births received antenatal check-ups by doctors. 43 percent pregnant women received antenatal care from ANM or midwife. In rural areas, as many as 36 percent births did not receive any antenatal care, while in urban areas the figure was much lower at 21 percent.⁴ The proportion of births which did not receive any antenatal care was highest in Western UP, followed by Bundelkhand, Eastern and Central UP. The former Hill region was the only region with more than 40 percent births having received antenatal care. RCH-II survey identifies three districts in Uttar Pradesh where more than 70 percent pregnant women do not get any antenatal care. These districts are Balarampur (77.8%), Chitrakoot (77.2%) and Shrawasti (74.3%).⁵

In Uttar Pradesh deliveries are traditionally taken place at home with or without the presence of any trained medical assistance. The RCH-II survey of 2002-03 reports the deliveries at home and hospitals. It shows several districts where more than 90 percent deliveries take place at home. These districts are Balarampur (93.6%), Kannauj (91.8%), Chitrakoot (91.2%), Banda (91.1%), Shrawasti (90.6%), Bareilly (90.4%), Pilibhit (90.3%), and Bahraich (90%). Both NFHS and RCH surveys show a poor state of institutional deliveries in Uttar Pradesh. NFHS-3 reports that only 22 percent of the deliveries in UP were institutional. The figure is higher in urban UP with 40% and lower in rural UP with 18%. These figures are very low as compared to the national average which is 41, 69 and 31 for total, urban and rural respectively. RCH-II survey identified districts with highest institutional deliveries like Lucknow (42%), Kanpur Nagar (36.8%) and Varanasi (36.5%). On the whole figures for percentage of institutional deliveries were very low in the state, even the highest not exceeding 42% percent.⁶

Severe malnutrition among women in the state declined from 12.7 percent in 1975-76 to 5 percent in 1995. Similarly, the incidence of moderate malnutrition declined from 51.8 percent to 30 percent during the same period. Prevalence of malnutrition is highest in the Eastern region. This region also reports the maximum number of cases of severe malnutrition. Rural women are more malnourished than urban women. The women of urban areas of the Western region have the lowest level of malnutrition. Bahraich (Eastern UP) shows the highest incidence of malnutrition among women, while Moradabad (Western UP) records the lowest. Health officials need to note that the region with the state capital (Central UP) shows one of the highest incidences of malnutrition amongst women.⁷

⁴ GOI (2007) *India 2005-06*, National Family Health Survey-3, Min of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi and IIPS, Mumbai

⁵ GOI (2004) Reproductive and Child Health Survey-2 (RCH-2) available at www.rchindia.org (accessed on December 12, 2007)

⁶ *ibid*

⁷ Govt. of Uttar Pradesh (2003) *Human Development Report of Uttar Pradesh*, Dept. of Planning, Lucknow

Table 14: A Few Key Health Indicators of UP from NFHS-3

	UP	Urban	Rural
Marriage and Fertility			
Women age 20-24 married by age 18 (%)	53.0	30.0	61.1
Men age 25-29 married by age 21 (%)	51.4	29.5	60.8
Total fertility rate (children per woman)	3.82	2.95	4.13
Anaemia among Children and Adults			
Children age 6-35 months who are anaemic (%)	85.1	82.5	85.7
Ever-married women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	50.8	50.7	50.8
Pregnant women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	51.6	51.3	51.7
Ever-married men age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	24.7	15.7	27.8
Knowledge of HIV/AIDS among men and women aged between 15-49			
Women who have heard of AIDS (%)	40.0	67.7	31.3
Men who have heard of AIDS (%)	74.3	88.2	69.1
Women who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	27.2	53.1	19.2
Men who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)	66.3	82.4	60.3
Indicators related to Maternal Health and RH			
Any Antenatal Care (%) in last 3 years	67	79	64
Mothers who had at least 3 antenatal care visits for their last child birth (%)	26.3	40.9	22.6
Institutional Delivery (%)	22.0	39.9	17.5
Births assisted by a health personnel	29.2	50.5	23.8
Contraceptive use (%) Married Women 15-49	44	56	40

Source: NFHS-3 Fact Sheet – Uttar Pradesh (Provisional Data) National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3) 2005-2006, Min. of Health and Family Welfare, GOI and IIPS, Mumbai

NFHS-3 reports that women's knowledge is poor in the state. Only 40% women reported to be heard about HIV/AIDS. In contrast 74.3 percent men heard about it. Women's knowledge about the use of condoms in order to reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS is as low as 27 percent in the state.

Literacy and Education in Uttar Pradesh

Between 1991-2001, UP recorded considerable improvement in literacy – the fifth highest in the country, but this rate was lower than that achieved by Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, MP and Andhra Pradesh. UP has the lowest overall literacy rate as well as female literacy rate in 2001 after Bihar, Jharkhand and Jammu and Kashmir. There are acute disparities between men and women, between social groups, between regions and districts. Although the gender gap in literacy in UP is smaller in 2001 than it was a decade ago, the State still has the third largest difference between male and female literacy – next only to Jharkhand and Rajasthan. The female literacy in UP is the third lowest among the states only above Bihar and Jharkhand. There is also a sharp difference in literacy rates between rural and

urban locations. The female literacy rate in rural UP is as low as 36.9 percent according to Census 2001. The female literacy rate in urban UP is 61.7 percent.

Table 15: Status of Literacy Pertaining to Different Categories in the State

	Literacy Rate (2001)	
	UP	India
All Female	42.2	53.7
All Male	68.8	75.3
All Persons	56.3	64.8

Source: Census of India, 2001

The Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) is one of the lowest in UP. A comparison of gender-disaggregated enrollment data between India and the state shows the difference. (see Table 16) On the other hand, drop out rates are high in Uttar Pradesh. (see Table 17) High drop out rates have been a matter of concern and various strategies were designed in the UPBEP and the DPEP to lower the level of drop out among children in primary schools.

Table 16: The Gross Enrollment Ratio in Bihar Schools as reported by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, as on 30 September, 2002

	School Enrollment Ratio 2002-2003 (Provisional)					
	Classes I-V (6-11 Years)			Classes VI-VIII (11-14 Years)		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
India#	94.90	104.08	85.18	58.79	67.15	49.66
UP*	75.76	88.94	61.54	42.66	54.08	29.93

Source: Govt. of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Education (2001). Annual Report 2000-2001*. New Delhi. P. 218; Annual Report 2003-2004#, p. 261.

Table 17: Dropout Rate Classes I-VIII (2001-2002)

	Total	Boys	Girls
India	54.53	51.96	58.00
UP	63.87	59.06	71.51

Source: Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Education. *Annual Report 2002-2003*. GOI, New Delhi

The number of female teachers at the secondary level is extremely low. In the State as a whole, less than one fifth of the total number of teachers are females. There are a few districts where the percentage of female teachers is comparatively high. In districts like Lucknow and Kanpur, the ratio of female teachers is above 40 percent. Agra and Bareilly have above 30 percent female teachers in the total number of teachers at the secondary stage, and Lalitpur and Hardwar are not far behind in this respect.(UP Human Development Report, 2003)

Crime against Women in Uttar Pradesh

Over 37 percent married women in the country were victims of physical or sexual abuse by their husbands at sometime in their lives, reports NFHS-3 survey. There are large variations among the states. Abuse ranges from a low of 6% in Himachal Pradesh to a high of 59% in Bihar. In Uttar Pradesh 42.4 % of women experienced spousal violence as

recorded by the survey. Survey says that lack of education is main reason behind it. Illiterate women have suffered more spousal violence in comparison to literate women. In UP, women in rural areas fared worse than those in urban areas. While 44.3 percent underwent the trauma in rural areas, it was 36.0 percent women in urban areas.⁸

Table 18: Incidence and Rate of Crime Committed against Women in U.P. and India, 2001

State	Incidence	Percentage contribution to all-India total	Rate of total cognizable crimes
UP	20227	14.1	12.2
India	143795	100	14.0

Source: <http://nrcw.nic.in> (National Resource Centre for women, National Commission for Women) based on data from Ministry of Home Affairs, National Crime Records Bureau (2003), Crime in India 2001. New Delhi p. 261

Table 19: Incidence of Crimes Committed against Women during 2004

	UP	India
Rape	1299	16078
Kidnapping and abduction	2278	14895
Dowry Deaths	1740	6655
Cruelty by husband and relatives	4714	48343
Molestation	1977	31836
Eve-teasing	2532	13364
Importing of Girls (up to 21 years)	1	112
I.T.P. Act	30	5114
Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition)	33	3092
Dowry Prohibition Act	83	2546
Total	14687	142035

Source: <http://nrcw.nic.in> (National Resource Centre for women, National Commission for Women)

5. Politics and Participation

The women can be empowered in real sense only when they are actively involved in decision making and have an equal say in issues of governance. The 73rd & 74th Constitutional amendments have had a definite impact on the participation of women at grass root level through the Panchayati Raj Institutions and local bodies. Through these amendments, one third seats have been reserved for women. However, the percentage of successful women candidates for the post of Gram Pradhan is almost 48% as women secured 24757 seats out of 52002 in recent Panchayat elections in the State. Out of 820 seats of Kshetra Panchayat Pramukh, 362 seats are reserved for women. Likewise against a total of 70 seats of Zila Panchayat Chairman, 32 seats are reserved for women.

In an attempt to wake up the electoral candidates to the needs of the women, a group of women representing over 24 women's groups and social organisations in U.P. had formed

⁸ NFHS-3 (2007) "Summary of Key Findings", Available at <http://www.nfhsindia.org/summary.html> (accessed on December 16, 2007)

a state coalition on gender issues and brought out a 'mahila goshnapatra' (women's manifesto), before the U.P. state assembly election 2007. The manifesto not only puts forth the contemporary demands of women, but also lists and analyses the failings of political parties with respect to women's issues and rights. However, the representation of women members in the state assembly is not very encouraging. In UP Vidhan Sabha (state assembly) presently has 403 seats in which only 23 are women (5.71 percent).⁹

6. Centrally and State Sponsored Programmes

The principles of gender equality and equity and protection of women's rights have been the prime concerns in Indian planning right since the attainment of Independence. Accordingly, the country's concern in safeguarding the rights and privileges of women found its best expression in the Constitution of India. While Article 14 confers equal rights and opportunities on men and women in the political, economic and social spheres, Article 15 prohibits discrimination against any citizen on the ground of sex, religion, race, caste etc; and Article 15(3) empowers the State to make affirmative discrimination in favour of women.

Similarly, Article 16 provides for equality of opportunities in the matter of public appointments for all citizens. Yet another Article 39 mentions that the State shall direct its policy towards providing to men and women equally the right to means of livelihood and equal pay for equal work. Article 42 directs the State to make provisions of ensuring just and human conditions of work and maternity relief. Article 51(A) (e) imposes a fundamental duty on every citizen to renounce the practices derogatory to the dignity of women. To make this de-jure equality into a de-facto one, special legislations have been enacted from time to time in support of women.

In the earlier phase of developmental planning, the concept of women's development was mainly 'welfare' oriented. Women's education, maternal and child health and nutrition, employment of women have been given priority in different Five Year Plans. Accordingly, priority was given to implementation of programmes for women under different sectors of agriculture and its allied activities of dairying, poultry, animal husbandry, handlooms, handicrafts, small scale industries etc. Recognizing the role and contribution of women in development, emphasis was given on training-cum-employment cum-income generation programmes for women with the ultimate objective of making them economically independent and self-reliant. The year 2001 was celebrated as women's empowerment year. The State is implementing various activities and programmes for social and economic empowerment of women.

Centrally sponsored Programmes

Employment and Income Generation:-

With a view to ensuring capacity building through training and up gradation of skills and provision of employment and income generation activities for women, a number of schemes are being implemented. Self Help Groups (SHG's), which supposed to act as the

⁹ Official Website of Uttar Pradesh Assembly
<http://uplegisassembly.gov.in/15thassemblypartywiselisthindi07-09-2007.htm> (accessed on Dec 16, 2007)

agents of social change for development and empowerment of women, have been associated with and encouraged in different schemes. The programmes of empowerment and women development included Swa-Shakti and Swayamsiddha schemes. Besides, under various poverty alleviation programmes viz. Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Swarnjayanti Sahari Rojgar, support for training and Employment Programme (STEP), Training cum Production Centre (NORAD) for women etc. too women are encouraged to form SHG's to enhance their capability and earning capacity. A brief description of these schemes is given below.

Mahila Samridhi Yojna

108. This scheme is implemented with the co-operation of National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation. Projects costing up to Rs. 25,000/- are financed to poor and unemployed scheduled caste women for their self employment wherein Rs. 10000/- is given as subsidy and Rs. 15000/- is given as a loan by National Corporation at the rate of 4% per annum. Projects are financed from the areas of Mat Weaving, Animal Husbandry, Beauty Parlour, Candle Making, Chemist Shop, Cosmetics shop, Vegetable shop, Embroidery shop, Hosiery shop, Ornament Polishing, Tailoring, Photostat, Typing, Lamination, Nursery School, STD FAX booths etc.

U.P. Women Dairy Extension Project

111. Women Dairy project was started in U.P. from April 1991 under STEP Programme with assistance from Department of Women & Child Development, Government of India. Up to March 2005, 6214 Women Dairy Cooperative Societies have been organised. 54205 women members are participating and getting employment. Out of which 9957 women members belong to SC/ST category. In the year 2005-06 up to Sept., 2005, 1245 Women Dairy Coop. Societies have been organized in functional districts. Up to Sept.'2005, 55710 women members got employment from the organized societies. Out of which 10123 women members are from SC/ST. At present approximately 41053 ltrs. per day milk is being procured from the functional societies and an average procurement price of @ Rs. 12.50 per ltr., Rs. 5,13,162/- are being paid per day directly to women members as a milk price payment. So approximately 12 lakh ltrs. per month of milk is being collected from these Women Dairy Coop. Societies against which Rs. 1.53 crores are being paid as milk price payment to these women members. Besides the aforementioned districts, separate projects have been submitted for 8 districts (Allahabad, Deoria, Etawah, Mathura, Basti, Gonda, Jalaun & Pilibhit) to Govt. of India for approval.

Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)

This scheme was started by Govt. of India from the year 1999-2000 by merging the six schemes IRDP, TRYSEM, DWCRA, Improved Tool kits programme, Ganga Kalyan Yojna & Million Wells Scheme. Funds under the SGSY will be shared by the Central and State Government in the ratio of 75:25. The objective & salient features of the scheme are given below :

1. Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana aims at establishing a large number of micro enterprises in the rural areas, building upon the potential of the rural poor.
2. The programme has been designed to provide proper support and encouragement to tap the inherent talents and capabilities of the rural poor. It will target the most vulnerable among them.

3. At least 50% of the Swarozgaris will be SCs/STs, 40% women and 3% disabled.
4. Subsidy under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana would be uniform at 30% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 7,500 (for SCs/STs it would be 50% and Rs. 10,000 respectively). For self-help group subsidy would be 50% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of 1.25 lakh. There will be no limit on the subsidy for the irrigation projects.
5. SGSY is conceived as a holistic programme of micro-enterprises covering all aspects of self-employment, viz., organisation of the rural poor into self-help group and their capacity building planning of activity clusters, infrastructure build up, technology, credit and marketing.

For the Tenth Plan period a physical target to benefit 22.50 lakh persons has been fixed. The total target includes 11.25 lakh SC, 1350 ST and 9.00 lakh women beneficiaries.

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Yojana (KGBVY)

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Yojana (KGBVY) is a scheme of setting up residential schools exclusively for girls belonging to deprived sections in educationally backward blocks. 32 KGBVs have been sanctioned by Govt. of India in Uttar Pradesh. Out of these, 25 KGBVs are located in DIET campuses. These are run by a committee constituted under the chairmanship of District Magistrate with Principal, DIET as the member secretary. 7 KGBVs are to be run by NGOs. 21 out of 25 KGBV have started functioning in DIET campuses and approximately 2000 girls are enrolled in these residential schools. Identification of NGOs to run KGBV is under process and these schools are likely to be started shortly. All KGBVs will be made functional in the year 2006-07.

Innovative activities for girl's education

Under innovation head of 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' provision of Rs. 15 lakh per district has been made for girl education. For the strengthening of girl education during the year 2004-05, 19,000 *Meena Manches* have been constituted in the State. Meena Manch is a forum of adolescent girls at upper primary school which provides them a platform for self-expression and decision making. Preferably, one lady teacher is nominated as facilitator to these Meena Manches. These facilitators receive training at district and block level. During 2006-07, activities under innovation head of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan will be continued with the grant of Rs. 15 lakh per district for enhancement of girls education

National programme of Education for Girls at Elementary level (NPEGEL)

746 educationally backward blocks of UP are covered under NPEGEL scheme. In this scheme there is a provision of developing a cluster school as model. These cluster school are provided with child friendly elements as swings, cycles and other sports materials. Libraries are also established in these cluster schools. Uniforms to all girls at primary level are being provided. Other activities as teacher training, remedial teaching are also proposed for the year 2005-06. These activities will be continued during the the year 2006-07

State Sponsored Programmes

Kanya Vidya Dhan Yojna

To bridge gender gap and to encourage education of girls belonging to all sections of society, Government of Uttar Pradesh has launched the "**Kanya Vidya Dhan Yojna**" in 2004-05. Under this scheme, a sum of Rs. 20,000/- is given to each girl after they pass the intermediate examination from UP Board and if they belong to a poor family. An outlay of Rs. 300 crore has been proposed in the annual plan for the year 2006-2007.

Medical & Health Services

56 District women Hospitals are fully functional and 16 District women Hospitals are expected to commence functioning during this financial year. In addition, 133 Female dispensaries and 7 Maternity Homes are also working in the State. Rs. 47.76 cores have been allotted to provide special Medical facilities at 42 State Female Hospitals. The department is providing equipments to strengthen the pathology and radiology units so as to diagnose breast and cervical cancers at an early stage and treat thereafter. Total budget allocated for this purpose is 50 crore. Rs. 30 Crore has been sanctioned for renovation & extension of existing building so as to provide quality services.

Poverty & Social Monitoring System (PSMS) Project

Poverty and Social Monitoring Systems (PSMS) was initiated by the State Government to assess the impact on the poor and weaker segments of society in the year 1999-2000.

Residential facilities for working women : This scheme provides well maintained protected and cheap residential facilities to working women. These working women's hostel are run by NGO's which are located at Azamgarh, Jaunpur, Meerut, Firozabad, Bareilly, Gaziabad, Hamirpur, Jhansi, Shahjahanpur, Aligarh, Kanpur, Basti, Allahabad and Lucknow. U.P. Women Welfare Corporation is also running such hostels in Agra, Allahabad, Varanasi, Gorakhpur, Faizabad, Lucknow & Kanpur.

7. NGOs Working with Women's Issues in Uttar Pradesh

Lucknow

Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives (AALI)

407, Dr. Baijnath Road, New Hyderabad Colony,

Lucknow -260007

Tel: 2782060

Email: rc@aalilegal.org, aali@aalilegal.org, aalilegal@yahoo.co.in

Website : www.aalilegal.org

Action Aid

1/21, Vivek Khand, Gomti Nagar

Lucknow-226010

All India Mahila Federation

C/o CPI, 22, Qaiserbagh

Lucknow-226016

All India Progressive Women's Association

B- 2198, Indira Nagar

Lucknow - 226016

BETI (Better Education Through Innovation)

C-842, Sector- C, Mahanagar
Lucknow

Janwadi Mahila Samiti

D-122, South city, Ambedkar University,
Raibareilly Road, Lucknow
Tel: 2228829

Humsafar (Women's Support Centre)

27, New Berry Road, Gulzar Colony, Lucknow -1
Tel: 0522-2205215, 0522-4011629
Email: humsafar25nov@yahoo.com

GUDIA

Janwadi Mahila Samiti, D-122, South City,
Ambedkar University, Raibareilly Road, Lucknow, U.P,
Tel: 2228829

IPTA

22, Qaiserbad
Lucknow

Kriti Resource Centre

A-240 Near Nachathra Apartment,
Indira Nagar, Lucknow
Tel: 2310747, 2341319
Website: www.sahayogindia.org/kdtirc.htm

Mahila Samakhya, UP

3/8-9 Patrakar Puram, Gomati Nagar
Lucknow-226010
Tel:2391394, 2397062, 2395151
Email: msup@rediffmail.com

Oxfam (India) Trust

1 Dalibagh Butler Road,
Lucknow- 226010
Tel: 2204784, 2204785

Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra

Behind Police Fire Station, Chhatamil, Sitapur Road
Lucknow

Self-Employed Women's Association

474/1 KA/4, Brahm Nagar
(Near Shia PG College) Sitapur Road
Lucknow - 226007

Tel: 2369025, 2369134
Email: sewa_lko@rediffmail.com

Upvan

10, Satyalok Colony,
Mohibullapur, Madiyaon, Sitapur Road
Lucknow- 226021

Vatsalya

C -377, Chruch Road, Indira Nagar
Lucknow-226016
Tel: 2351130

Vigyan Foundation

D-3183, Munshi Puliya, Indiranagar
Lucknow-226016
Tel: 2359583
Email: vigyanfoundation@yahoo.com

Saharanpur

Disha Social Organisation

Sultanpur, Chilkana Dist, Saharanpur - 247231
Saharanpur
Tel: 2696224

Gorakhpur

Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG)

P.O. Box 60, M.G. College Road,
224 Pudilpur, Gorakhpur-273001
Tel: 339774

Allahabad

Mahila Samkhya

83/63- A.R.B Ramcharan Das Road,
Balrampur House, Allahabad
Tel: 2440724

SAHYOG

SAHYOG Sadhana Sadan
1 Tashkand Marg
Allahabad- 211001
Tel: 2613213

Diocesan Development and Welfare Society (DDWS),

Sadhan Sadan, 1, Tashkent Road
Allahabad 211 001

Nari Adhikar Sangathan
69/1, B.K. Bannerjee Marg
Allahabad - 211016

Mahoba

Mahila Shakti Vikas Kendra
Grammonati Sansthan,
Laghanpura
Mahoba-210427
Tel: 254097

Jhansi

Saman Sashakat Mahila Anadolan
803/6, PNT Colony, Gwalior Road,
Jhansi
Tel: 2447598

Varanasi

Mahila Mukti Morcha
C/o Saghan Shetra Vikas Samiti Sevapuri
Varanasi-221403

Social Action And Research Centre (Sarc)
147, Vindhyavasini Colony, orderly Bazaar
Varanasi
Tel: 09415225665,
Email:sarc@rediffmail.com

Aligarh

MAHILA SAHAYAK SANGH
28, MIG, Awantika, Ramghat Road
Aligarh

Kanpur

SAKHI KENDRA
78/2, Site No.1, Colony Kidwai Nagar
Kanpur-209001

Chitrakoot

VANANGANA
Near Mahindra Tractor Agency, Purani Bazaar
Karvi, Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh- 210 205,
Tel: 05198-236985
Email: vanangana@rediffmail.com

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