Chapter-4

Profile of the Study Area

In attempting to understand the impact of poverty alleviation programmes, it is very important to explain the study area and personnel profile of the selected respondents in the study area. It is rightly pointed out by Galbraith that the causes of poverty can be identified by distinguishing between ‘case poverty’ and ‘area poverty’. In his view, ‘case poverty’ is largely a product of the personal characteristics of effected persons. Some persons have been unable to participate in the nation’s prosperity because of old age, illiteracy, and inadequate education, lack of job skills, poor health, inadequate motivation, or racial discrimination. ‘Area poverty’ is a product of economic deficiency relating to a particular sector of the nation\(^1\). Hence, it is essential to study the profile of the study area and personal characteristics of the respondents.

In the present chapter, an attempt is made to analyze the profiles of the study area and it is divided into two sections. The first section deals with historical overview of the district along with the geographic; and socio-economic and political conditions. The second section describes the profile of the selected mandal and the four selected villages.

I. Section

Historical Outlook of the District

The District historically derives its name from the ruler of Bijapur i.e. Ali Adil Shah. The district was ruled at different periods by various dynasties, namely the Mouryas, Satavahanas, Vakatakas, Chalukyas of Badami, Rashtrakutas, Chalukyas, Yadavas, Kakatiyas, Bahmanis, Imad Shahis of Berar, Nizam Shahis of Ahmednagar, Mughals, Bhosle Rajas of Nagpur and Asif Jahis, besides the Gond Rajas of Sirpur-Tandur and Chanda. Originally, the district was not a full fledged district but a sub-district named Sirpur-Tandur which was created in A.D. 1872 with Edlabad (Adilabad), Rajura and

Sirpur as its constituent taluks. In 1905 the status of this sub-district was raised to that of an independent district with its head quarter at Adilabad\(^2\).

During the year of 1913-14, the headquarter of the district was shifted to Asifabad owing to administrative exigencies and it continued to be the district headquarter till 1940-41 and Adilabad was once again made the district headquarter. Under the state Reorganization Act of 1956, the district lost the Marathi-speaking taluks of Rajura and Kinwat and the Islapur circle of Boath taluk of erstwhile Bombay State but gained Mudhole taluk of Nanded district\(^3\). In the Year 1985 on 25th May, the (11) taluqs with 48 revenue circles (Firkas) were reorganized and made into (52) Revenue Mandals and Mandal Parishads, with Mandal Revenue Officers and Mandal Parishad Development Officers. In the year 1987 and 1989 two revenue divisions, Utnoor and Mancherial respectively were formed carving out of the existing three revenue divisions.

**Geographical Area of the District**

The district stands fifth in the state with a total geographical area of 16128sq.kms which account for 5.90% of the total area of the State. It is however, the second largest district in the Telangana region. There are 1745 Revenue villages out of which 1574 are inhabited and remaining villages are uninhabited. There are (11) urban towns and the district is administered through (5) Revenue Division consisting of (52) Revenue mandals. The district of Adilabad is situated between the 77\(^0\) 47’ and 80\(^0\) 0’ of the eastern longitude and 18\(^0\) 40’ and 19\(^0\) 56’ of northern latitudes\(^4\). Moreover, Adilabad is a northern district in the Telangana region of the Andhra Pradesh as recognized in 1956. The district is surrounded by Yeotmal and Chandrapur district of Maharashtra towards North, Chandrapur in the East, by Karimnagar and Nizamabad in the South and by Nanded district in the West. Adilabad as a head quarter of the district, is located at 360 km. far away from state capital of Andhra Pradesh, i.e., Hyderabad.

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\(^3\)  Ibid

\(^4\)  Ibid
Population

According to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics 2002-03, the Population of the district is 24,88003 which accounts for 3.13% of the total population of the State. Of the total, the rural population accounts for 18,27986 constituting 73.47 per cent, while the urban population accounts for 660017 forming 26.53 per cent of the total population. The female population is less namely, 980 females for every 1000 males. The density of population per sq. km is 155 as against the State average of 277 persons per sq.km. The increase in population at the end of 2001 over 1981 is 26.85%, which is higher than that of the state. However it accounts for only 3% of the population of Andhra Pradesh.

The literacy of the district is 52.7 per cent and it is comparatively less than the state’s average i.e., 60.5 per cent. The difference of the literacy rate between the state and the district is 7.8 per cent. The male and female literacy rate is 61.86 per cent and 38.13 per cent respectively. The female literacy percentage is very low when compared with the male literacy rate in the district. It is also noticed that the district’s female literacy rate is less than the state’s female literacy rate (50.4 per cent). It is obvious that the literacy percentage of the women is comparatively less than the state’s literacy rate. It is also noticed in the district that the rate of the literacy has increased from 18.79 per cent in 1981 to 27.80 per cent in 2002. Moreover, the district’s major challenges are heavy tribal dependence on natural resources, high poverty area, high levels of illiteracy (up to 85% among tribes), growing land and resource pressure from migrants, increasing tribal landlessness and lack of rights to forest resources and degradation of upland watershed

Of the total population of the district, 4.61 lakh people are Scheduled Castes and 4.16 lakh people are Scheduled Tribes forming 18.53% and 16.74% of the total population respectively. The total numbers of workers are 1123248 constituting 45.14% of the total population as against the state average of 45.27% out of the total main workers; cultivators are 13.71% and Agricultural labourers’ are 13.80%. It is significant to note that labour also have ceased to be the predominant factors of growth in Indian agriculture.

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5. Ibid. p.21.
The percentage of population within the age group of 15 to 59 years of age [considered to be the labour force] is 55.31 that indicate broadly the magnitude of the problem of providing gainful employment to the employment seekers. The population of the rural areas (18.2 lakhs) is comparatively higher than the urban area of the district (6.6 lakhs).

**Agro-Economic factors**

‘Agriculture accounts for one-third of national income in India and about two-thirds of of India’s workforce is directly engaged in agriculture for its livelihood. It still accounts sizeable export earnings. Nearly 80 per cent of India’s poverty population lives in rural areas and directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture’.

In view of that, focusing on agriculture in this study is essential and moreover, agriculture and poverty has close relations in India.

As regards to the district of Adilabad, there are 3.41 lakh cultivators and 3.43 lakh workers are actively working in the agricultural sector. The total cultivable land in the district is 5.46 lakhs hectares, of which net area sown is 5.30 lakhs hectares and 7350 hectares of cultivable land is sown more than once for the agricultural production. From the physical point of view, the pattern of land utilization is influenced by the extent of cultivable area, the type of soil and access to irrigation sources.

The soils of district consist of black cotton chalka, sandy loams, and red loams of saline and alkaline. Adilabad is also rich in mixed red and black soils and medium black soil. The soils are further classified in to clayery and loamy soils. The black soils are predominant in the areas of Khanapur, Lakshettipet, Sirpur and Ut noor. In the southern part of the district the mixed red and black soils largely predominate. The latter, known for a high level of water retention, is being fertile and suitable for the cultivation of rain-fed crops such as jowar, bajra, cotton, and tobacco and ground nut. Irrigated crops grown on such soils include paddy and sugar cane. The presence of red and black soils makes an area rich with agricultural potential.

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Forest

The forest area of the district is 6,89,517 hectare and constitute nearly 42.6 per cent of the total area. It is obvious from the government resources that the forest area in the district nearly 50 per cent. Adilabad district is the most dominated in the physical area of the state of Andhra Pradesh. The district’s accessible forest in the plains as well as gentle slopes is under intensive management and is exploited systematically under different silvicultural systems suitable for the local utilization. Conversion of natural forests into Teak, Eucalyptus and Bamboo plantations is achieved under the forest management system. The forest has different types of vegetation such as Teak, Nallmaddi, Chirmanu, Ippa, Jilladi etc along with eucalyptus and other forests types.

In the state of Andhra Pradesh, the area of the forest is estimated at 23.18 per cent of total geographical area which is considerably less than the proportion required for maintaining ecological balance (which is around 33%). The types of forests found in this district are of the tropical moist and dry deciduous variety. The main species of the forest types are raised wood, satin wood, teak, red sandalwoods and maddi.

The minor products of forest include fruits, resins, tamarind, beedi leaves and fodder. In various terms, Adilabad ranks second in the state for total value of minor forests produce (Warangal is in first place). Of the total value of the minor products, the beedi leaves accounts for more than three-fourth of the sum. The district is also having sufficient resources of flora and fauna for fuel and timber as it is useful for fossil fuel. The rich coal-seams and the unequalled animal fossil find in Luxettipet, Chennur, Asifabad and Sirpur of erstwhile taluks. Thus, the entire district is covered by the southern tropical dry deciduous forests.

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8. Ibid, p.4.
Climate and Rain fall

The district’s climate is characterized by a hot summer and is generally dry except during the South-West monsoon season (i.e., from June to September). The district’s temperature on plains is between 38.1 and 31.3 in degree Celsius and on hill stations between 22.9 and 7.1 degree Celsius. Rain fall of the district is dependant based on two different monsoons. Rain fall of the north east monsoon at normal 432.4 in mm and actual rain fall is 305.7 in mm. South West monsoon’s normal rain fall is 270.8 mm and actual rain fall is 197.8 mm. Moreover, 85 per cent of annual rainfall is received from south-west monsoon only\(^{10}\).

Source of Irrigation

Irrigation is one of the major components for the development of agriculture and poverty alleviation in rural areas. It is also visible and clear in mid-1960s that the potential for agricultural growth from the investments made in irrigation. The main focus of the Government of Andhra Pradesh is on development of irrigation facilities for agriculture to boost the sector and enhance the agriculture economy in the state under the programme of Jalayagnam. Thus, the focus is on the sources of irrigation are also an essentia in this study area. The irrigated area in the district is 1.85 lakhs acres, which is very limited when compared with the other districts which accounts of 13% of the total cropped area. The irrigation facilities available in Adilabad District are canals, tanks, tube wells and other traditional wells.

Table 4.1. Pattern of Irrigation Sources in the district

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Irrigation source</th>
<th>Irrigated land (in Hec)</th>
<th>% of irrigated land</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Canals</td>
<td>23,600</td>
<td>30.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Tanks</td>
<td>19,967</td>
<td>25.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Tube wells</td>
<td>16,678</td>
<td>21.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Other wells</td>
<td>14,700</td>
<td>19.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Other resources</td>
<td>2,079</td>
<td>0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>77,024</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


\(^{10}\) Census 2001, Adilabad District Profile, p 3.
According to Statistical Abstract of Andhra Pradesh 2000, the total irrigated area is 96,579 hectares of which 23,600 hectares (30.63 per cent) of the irrigated land under the canal resources and 19,967 hectares of (25.92 per cent) land are under the village’s owned tanks. The source of irrigation under the individual’s Tubewell is also occupied a prominent position with a 16,678 hectares of land (21.65 per cent). The proportion of irrigated land under traditional wells and other resources are 19.08 per cent and 0.02 per cent respectively. It is obvious from the existing data that the irrigated area under the canal system is higher than the Tanks, Tube wells (also known as submersible pump sets) and other resources. It is also noted that the irrigation source of tanks and other traditional wells for the agriculture has been drastically reduced.

The major irrigation resources of the district are Kadem Project at Lakkipet, Vattivagu Project on Vattivagu, Satnalavagu project on Rallavagu, and Chelamalavagu project on Chelamalavagu at Ekkapally village and Gaddenna vaagu. Pochampadu Reservoir on river Godavari caters the water supply to the farm fields\(^\text{11}\). Even the district having a large size of the Godavari river drain, the district’s irrigation is very poor as per as the river is concerned. Along with the Godavari River, there are other rivers also in the district such as Kadam and Pen ganga. These are other tributaries of the Godavari. Besides these, there are also rivulets like the Satnala, the Swarna vaagu, and the Sudda vaagu at Bhainsa which drain in the district. However, these are all dependent on rainfall to a considerable extent.

**Land Utilization**

Utilization of agricultural land has direct connection with the concept of poverty and alleviation in India. In this relation, studying the land distribution and utilization under various types of land is essential. Moreover, agriculture is the main occupation of most of the rural families of the district. About 70 percent of the working population is engaged in agricultural sector. The presence of mixed red and black soils and fertile lands makes

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Adilabad an area with rich agricultural potential. Thus, the district’s populace is dependent hugely on this sector as farmers and labourers and other related workers.

Table 4.2. The pattern of the land utilization in the district

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Pattern of Land Used</th>
<th>Area (in hectares)</th>
<th>% of the total land</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Forest</td>
<td>689,517</td>
<td>63.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Barren and uncultivable land</td>
<td>43,919</td>
<td>4.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Land put to non cultivable</td>
<td>60,674</td>
<td>5.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Cultivable waste land</td>
<td>15,484</td>
<td>1.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Permanent pastures &amp; other grazing land</td>
<td>14,228</td>
<td>1.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Under Miscellaneous tree crops</td>
<td>9,315</td>
<td>0.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Current follows</td>
<td>152,241</td>
<td>4.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Other follow lands</td>
<td>93,953</td>
<td>4.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Net area sown</td>
<td>541,050</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


According to Statistical Abstract of Andhra Pradesh 2000, the total forest area is 689517 and it is accounted the 68.88 percent of the land and 43919 hectors of (4.06 per cent) land is under the Barren and uncultivable land. The cultivable waste land accounted with 15484 hectors of land (1.43 per cent) and the permanent pastures and other grazing land is in 14228 hectors (1.31 percent). The area under miscellaneous tree crops is in 9315 hectors and current follow land is in 152241 hectors (4.10 percent). The other follow land is spread with an area of 93953 hectors. And, the net area sown in the district is 541050 hectors.

Thus, the major area of the district is covered with the forest and followed by net area sown, current follow land, and other follow lands, non cultivable lands, barren and uncultivable land and cultivable waste lands and permanent pastures and grazing land and finally very low area covered under the miscellaneous tree crops. It is clear from above data that the net area sown is comparatively less than the forest lands. It is also noticed that the waste lands largely occupied even there are huge irrigation sources in the district.
But, the coverage of the grazing lands are very less even the district has large size of the livestock.

**Distribution of the Agriculture Land**

**4.3. Table Showing the Distribution of the Agriculture Land**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agriculture Land</th>
<th>In Hectors</th>
<th>In %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Net Irrigated Area</td>
<td>87698</td>
<td>16.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Net Area Sown</td>
<td>530067</td>
<td>97.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Gross Irrigated Area</td>
<td>93534</td>
<td>17.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Total Cultivable Area</td>
<td>546325</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


According to the Report of Directorate of Economic and Statistics Glimpses of the District (2002-03), total cultivable area is 5.46 lakhs hectors and of the total, the district’s gross irrigated area is 93534 hectors and net irrigated area is 87698 hectors only. It is very clear from the existing data on irrigated area that there wide gap between the gross irrigated area and net irrigated area (5836 hectors and gap with a 1.06 per cent). Of the total cultivable land, net area of the sown is 530067 hectors (it is accounted 97.02 per cent of the total cultivable land). It is also noted that there is also extensive gap between the net area sown, total cultivable land and irrigated area. However, of the total, the net area irrigated constitutes only 16.05 per cent.

It is also obvious that the district’s fertile lands for agriculture are not fully developed in to cultivable lands. The cultivable waste land is accounts for 15484 hectors which constituted 1.43 per cent of the total land of the district. The 60674 hectors (which is accounted 5.62 percent of the total land) of the land is placed to non cultivable in the district. It is evident from the available data that there is need to strengthen the agriculture sector through improving the waste lands and non cultivable lands in the district. It can also improve the employability of the agricultural dependent labourers. Thus, there is
significant gap between available cultivable land and net area of the cultivated land in the district’s agricultural scenario.

**Size of Land Holdings**

Pattern of land holdings is also one of the prominent parameter in measuring the development of rural areas in India. Moreover, development of the family of the farmer and nation’s capital is also largely dependent on the size of the land holdings in India. In this connection, pattern of size of the land holdings in the district analyzed based on the available data of Government of Andhra Pradesh, Statistical Abstract, 2000. The district’s 70 percent of the rural populace dominantly dependent on agriculture and it is noted that 3.41 lakh cultivators and 3.43 lakh workers engaged in this sector.

**4.4. Table Showing the Details on Size of the Land Holdings in Adilabad District**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Size of Holding (in hectares)</th>
<th>% Distribution of Holdings</th>
<th>% Land Holding operated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Below 1.0</td>
<td>43.13</td>
<td>11.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1.0-2.0</td>
<td>24.93</td>
<td>20.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>2.0-4.0</td>
<td>21.92</td>
<td>31.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>4.0-10.0</td>
<td>9.02</td>
<td>26.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>10 and above</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>8.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The data presented in the table detailed the size of the land holding pattern indicated that 43.13 per cent of the farm families are holding the below one hectare with the 11.34 percent of the total agricultural land. The size of the land between 1-2 hectares constitutes 24.93 percent of farmers with 20.19 percent and 2-4 hectares constitute 21 percent with 31 percent of district’s operated agricultural land respectively. But, the large size land holdings (4-10 hectares) are represented only 9.02 percent of the farm community. And it is also visible, based on the existing official data, that the 10 and more hectares of the land
owning communities are very less i.e., only one percent in the district with operated land under this category is about 8.05 per cent of the total land operated in the district. According to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Statistical Abstract, 2000, the total numbers of operational holdings are 4.39 for all social groups. Of the total, the number of holdings and area operated for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is 69673 holdings and 88292 and 90529 holdings and 1,73067 hectors respectively. It is obvious from the above analysis on the size of the land holding is that there is major chunk of the farm community comprises only with the small size of the land holding i.e., with below one or 1-2 hectors.

It is also noted by Ch. Hanumantha Rao in his work titled ‘Agricultural Growth, Farm Size and Rural Poverty Alleviation in India’ (2005) that the ‘smallness’ of the size has not proved a particular deterrent to capital construction through the application of surplus labour. Thus, it is proved that the nature of small holdings as the insufficiency of inputs, particularly labour, and the consequent low productivity per acre among larger farms. ‘Sen’s argument would imply that the excess of labour input per acre among smaller farms over larger ones belongs to a range where marginal net product of labour is less than the ruling wage rate’.

Again, Sen’s labour-based explanation points that the ‘losses’ in farm business shown to have been incurred by the small farmers and the increase in profit per acre with the size of holding are attributable only to the imputation of wage rates to the family labour. Sen clearly implies here that the decline in the proportion of family labour inputs per se explains the decline in the element of ‘losses due to the imputation of wage rate’. Thus, Sen proved that the rate of losses in farm is comparatively higher in small holdings than the large size holdings. It is seen that there are invisible profits or losses in the studied

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12. Ibid, p.5.
15. Ibid, p.240.
16. Ibid.
17. Ibid.
villages. Because, most of the cases in small farming is dependent on families’ own labour based or exchange of labour between the small farming families.

**Cropping pattern**

Cropping pattern is one of the significant factors determining the income levels of rural agricultural and agri-labourer families. In consequence, role of cropping pattern in food security id visible in India. Accordingly, it is possible to raise the level of rural income by inducing desired changes in the cropping pattern of the district. It is obvious that the cropping pattern can be an effective means of achieving the development in rural areas. The cropping pattern is varied from district to district. In the district of Adilabad the principal crops are Rice, Cotton, Jowar, Bajra and Maize. The principal commercial crops of the district are Cotton, ground nut and sugar cane. The crop of cotton occupies the highest place in cultivated area with an average annual production of 171538 tonnes and which is accounted 28.6 per cent of the total production of the crops. Further, the crops of jowar and rice are the predominant in sowing and cropping area (in hectors) after the crop of cotton in the district. This district is much behind in production per acre of land compared with the adjacent district of Nizamabad in the commercial crop production such as Maize and rice.

**Table 4.5. Cropping Pattern of the District**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Major Crops</th>
<th>Area (in hectors)</th>
<th>Production(in tones)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>76794</td>
<td>121898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Jowar</td>
<td>92321</td>
<td>84380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Bajra</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Cotton (Bales)</td>
<td>162008</td>
<td>171538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>28305</td>
<td>68877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Ground nut</td>
<td>2618</td>
<td>2783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Sugarcane</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Turmeric</td>
<td>6250</td>
<td>26538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Mangoes</td>
<td>3258</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Cereals &amp; millets</td>
<td>117044</td>
<td>58782</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, published in 2002-03, the total cropped area in the district is 63 per cent with the prominent food crops, and 37 per cent under non food crops. Among the food crops, jowar accounts for 23.2 per cent of the total area followed by rice with 13.5 per cent while pulses account for 15.6 per cent. Among non food crops, cotton occupies 28.6 per cent of the area, followed by sesaman (2.8%) and ground nut (0.8%). Thus, it may be seen that Jowar and cotton together account for more than sixty per cent of total cropping area.

From the above table, it is clear that production in terms of pulses, the red gram occupied the highest place and black gram occupied second place. Cow gram is placed in last place in production when compared with other pulses. The productivity of principal crops in the district in terms of tones per hectare is very low, mainly due to inadequate agricultural technology, traditional farming, inadequate agricultural information and poor knowledge in using fertilizers and pesticides and more importantly using fault seeds. The district is also continuing cotton as principal crop in terms of land cultivation with 162008 hectors.

Livestock

Livestock is an important part of agricultural development in Rural India. Moreover, India possesses the world’s largest livestock population of 485 million, which accounts for 13 percent of the global livestock population. It has 57 per cent of the world’s buffalo and 16 per cent of the cattle population. It ranks first with respect to cattle and buffalo population, second in goat, third in sheep and camel, and seventh in poultry population. Almost every rural household in India, whether landed or landless, owns livestock. Thus, rich livestock is also considered as very good income source for the rural people in India. The district has also good number of livestock. Most of the rural communities are living with their own livestock to get additional incomes. It is also a traditional income generation source in Indian villages.

Table 4.6. Profile of the Livestock of the District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Name of the Livestock</th>
<th>In. No.s</th>
<th>In %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Cattle (White)</td>
<td>9,52,738</td>
<td>28.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Buffaloes</td>
<td>3,52,240</td>
<td>10.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>5,57,734</td>
<td>16.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Goats</td>
<td>2,31,915</td>
<td>06.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>12,19,903</td>
<td>36.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Others</td>
<td>11,122</td>
<td>00.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>33,25,652</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, 2002-03.

According to the livestock statistical data of Directorate of Economics and Statistics 2002-03 (presented in table no.4.10), the cattle population is 9.52 lakhs which accounts for 28.64 per cent of the total livestock in the district and buffalo population is 3.52 lakhs which accounts for 10.59 per cent. As regards poultry, it is regular source of additional incomes for poor families in rural areas. The data, presented in above table, is also substantiated with the argument. Furthermore, according to Directorate of Economics and Statistics (2002-03), the livestock of poultry has accounted 12.19 lakhs (36.68 percent) which is higher than all other kinds of livestock of the district. It is also obvious from the data that most of the poor families depend on the livestock for their livelihoods along with the families of landless, small and medium size land holdings. Further, the district comprises of a rich number of buffaloes, sheep and goats and poultry.

**Livestock Development Infrastructure**

In India, about 75 percent rural households are those of small and marginal farmers, who own 56 percent of the large ruminants and 62 percent of the small ruminants (World Bank 1999). In most of the drylands and hill regions, livestock farming is a major player, as more than 70 percent of family income is derived from livestock (GOI 2002). The Government of India has recognized the livestock development as an important tool for poverty alleviation. However, most of the technical service oriented livestock projects
have had little impact on livelihood of the poor (Ashley et al 1999) and adoption of technology by the resource poor has been low (Francis and Sibanda 2001; Parthasarathy Rao et al 2005). The two major reasons indicated for this failure are lack of poverty focus and institutional framework being incompatible with the systems and conditions in which poor farmers stay. The institutions implementing the projects are probably unable to select appropriate interventions and approaches to reach poor farmers in an effective manner (Ashley et al 1999; Rangnekar 2006). Thus, development of infrastructure is an essential component for the effective livelihood promotion for the poor is also recognized by the Government of India and state governments. Therefore, efforts are made to improve the livestock in the district. In this direction, the district has different veterinary institutions. There are five veterinary hospitals and 29 veterinary dispensaries. But most of the rural areas are dependent on the private services for protection of the livestock resources of the people.

4.7. Table Showing the Livestock Development Infrastructure of the District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. Veterinary Institutions</th>
<th>(In Nos.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Veterinary Hospitals</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Veterinary Dispensaries</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Clinician Centers</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>II. Poultry Development</th>
<th>(Lakh Nos.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Chiks produced in hatcheries</td>
<td>4.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Birds sold for table</td>
<td>4.82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Dairy Development

Dairy market has become a cottage industry providing employment opportunity in rural areas, particularly to the women folk thereby supplementing the family income. Dairy Development Programmes were implemented in IRDP as a sub-scheme. At present, in the state of Andhra Pradesh, the dairy development scheme is being implemented under the Velugu project as sub-scheme to provide more additional income generation for the rural poor.
According to the Dairy Development Department in the district, there are 3 milk chilling plants and one dairy with the milk production of 60.62 liters in flush season and with 494 lakhs liters production in lean season. There is no mention about the actual number of people dependent on the dairy sector in the district.

4.8. Table shows the details of the District Dairy Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dairy Development</th>
<th>In numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Dairies</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Milk Chilling Plants</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milk Production (lakh litres)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Flush season 60.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Lean season 494</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Transport and Tourism

Historically, Road Transport Services were established in 1932 under Nizam's state control with 27 Buses having 284 Miles (454 km) of routes in Nizam state. The Road Transport Department (RTD) of Nizam Government started operating in the district in 1950-51 with 18 buses on the road covering 334 miles (538 Kms) from two Buses depots at Nirmal and Asifabad. Rural tourism comprises rural society, culture and traditions in their original form. It signifies the tourists' interest in the customs of the rural indigenous. Rural tourism is community-based and participatory economic activity by creating local products and marketing by rural people to improve economic and social standards of rural people.

In rural parts generally following kinds of products are available viz. historical, heritage, natural based’, medication based, religious based, cultural based and man made. These have got a great potential with respect to the development of tourism. Also, if certain constraints are removed this could be developed to the fullest capacity and there are certain great examples and certainly few countries that were willing to show public and
political will made these things possible. All of the religious and historical types of rural tourism products are given much space for rural development\textsuperscript{19}. As indicated above, this is an emerging economic opportunity for rural people and they can produce inherent and indigenous rural production in terms of handcrafts, food items and other works. All these can contribute to feed the rural economy. In this context, it is important to account existing tourism places in the district.

The tourist places in the district are Pranahita, kawal and Sivaram Wildlife Sanctuary, Kadam Dam, Pochera and Kuntala water falls. Pilgrimage Centers in the district are Basara, Utnoor and Keshlapur temples. There are also famous handcraft centers in the district such as Nirmal Paintings and Toys and Bell Metal Craft and so on. According to the Report of Glimpses of the District 2002-03, tourist arrivals to the district visit are 3.91 lakhs and the state’s arrivals are 7.74 crores\textsuperscript{20}. The district’s arrival is 5.04 percentage of the state total. The adjacent district’s i.e. Nizamabad tourist arrivals are 28.13 lakhs with 3.63 percent\textsuperscript{21}. Thus, the district’s economy and employment is also produced by the tourism sector.

\textbf{Education}

Education has intrinsic value in terms of social and cultural ethos. Besides, it improves household health status by influencing nutritional and health care practices, reduces fertility, infant and child mortality and improves child's schooling performance. The economic outcomes of education determine qualitative human capital which translates itself into higher incomes. Better income, in turn, provides better opportunities for achievements in health and education. This is important, especially for the poor for their most important asset is labour. Education for the poor offers the greatest opportunity for employment and economic returns and so reduces poverty. Thus, the importance of


\textsuperscript{20} Directorate of Economics and Statistics, 2002-03. p.23.

\textsuperscript{21} Ibid.
education goes beyond expected horizons\textsuperscript{22}. As a result, Education is often included, as an important factor, in the poverty reduction strategies\textsuperscript{23}. Hence, it is significant to understand the existing educational facilities in the district. According to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Statistical Abstract of Adilabad District 2000, there are 2773 primary schools, 386 upper primary schools, 326 high schools and 1 higher secondary school and 2 special schools for deaf under the management of central government in the district. As far as the higher education is concerned, there are twenty six degree colleges, five Engineering and Technology institutes, two colleges for special education and five schools for professional education in the district.

### 4.9. Table showing the Details of the District’s Educational facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Name of Educational Institute</th>
<th>No. of. Institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Universities</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Degree Colleges</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Engineering and Technology Institutes</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Colleges for Special Education</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Schools for General Education</td>
<td>4350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Junior Colleges</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Schools for Professional Education</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Health**

In the district, according to 2001 census report, 14 hospitals, 48 primary health centers, 312 health sub centers and beds in hospitals and dispensaries 840 and 272 doctors and 434 nurses are functioning at present in the district. Along with these facilities, there are 14 old hospitals and 14 primary health centers working in the health sector of the district.


\textsuperscript{23} Kenneth King (Ed), Special theme on Education and Training out of Poverty? A status report, Norrag News No. 37, May 2006.
There are even large numbers of health centers that are working in the district; still there are inadequate health facilities and these are severely prevailing especially in the rural areas.

The existing health infrastructure is not sufficient to the present population conditions. There are 1729 villages in the district with the population of 18.27 lakhs. Compared to the existing village population, the available facilities are very low. The already set up primary health centers are 48. There is no proper data on the working and non-working PHCs in the district. The document is not mentioned in the village level PHCs. Moreover, the status of working health assistance in the villages of the district is invisible.

4.10. Tables Showing the Health Facilities of the District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Health Facilities</th>
<th>In Nos.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Hospitals</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Primary Health Centers</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Health Sub Centers</td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Beds in Hospitals and Dispensaries</td>
<td>840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Doctors</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>434</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Adilabad District Census Report 2001.*

Social Welfare

In the process of economic development of the district, the implementation of the social welfare schemes are also important to reduce the poverty conditions. Being the district with high incidence of poverty, especially in rural areas, social welfare schemes such as old age pensions, aid for marriage for the poor, aid for persons with disability, aid for others and women and children development centers and so on are being implemented in the district. According to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, District’s Statistical Abstract, 2000, there are 19433 Old Age Pensioners, beneficiaries of Aid for marriage are 12, Aid for Handicapped are 1111, Aid for others are 40 and Women Development Centers are 1160 in the district. It is obvious that there are the highest number of old age pensioners in the district.

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Financial Institutions

From the beginning of the planned economy in India, the banking financial institutions in rural areas are playing an important role in supporting the development of agriculture. But, even after 62 years of India’s independence, the financial institutions in rural areas are inadequate with low network coverage, financial supply and competition in agricultural loans. In this connection, the focus was given on the profile of financial institutions in the district.

4.11. Table Showing Detailed Data on Financial Institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Name of Financial Institutions</th>
<th>No.of Institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Primary Land Development Banks</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>District Central Co-operatives</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Urban Banks</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Primary Agri. Credit Societies</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Housing Cooperative societies</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Employees Co-op Societies</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Weavers Co-op Societies</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Industrial Co-op societies</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Primary Co-op Societies</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: *Adilabad District Census Report 2001.*

The details of financial institutions in the district are primary Land Development Banks (6), District Central Co-operatives (1), Urban Banks (4), Primary agricultural Credit Societies are 198, Housing Co-Operative societies are 25, Employees Co-operative societies 56, Weavers co-operatives 42, Industrial co-operatives 7, Khadi and Village industry societies are 35 and primary co-operatives are 13. Thus, it is observed that there are more agricultural credit societies than other societies.

Transportation

Rural India’s traditional means of transport is bullock cart and in the evolution of modernizing the rural transport, the consecutive elected governments in India have
developed transport and communication system in rural areas. Even though rural transport is given importance; most of the rural India is still not connected with the mainstream developmental system.

Development of transport and communication is a basic required infrastructure for achieving rapid economic development in any country or nation. This is crucial for the development of rural areas to attract investment and is also essential for marketing of agricultural products and enabling the farmers to get a fair price. Rural connectivity has been identified as one of the basic minimum services for development of agriculture and the rural economy. The selected district has some what better transport facilities. In the district, the total length of the roads is 8017\textsuperscript{25} kms. Of the total 1941 kms are under R&B department which accounts for 24.21 per cent to the total existing road and 6076 kms are under Panchayati Raj Departments which accounts for 75.78 per cent. The panchayati Raj road includes zilla parishad and mandal parishad roads. It also comprises with the village connectivity roads.

**Electrification**

Un-interrupted and adequate power supply is essential for economic development, particularly in the sectors of agriculture and industry. Even today, 63% of all rural households in India do not have electricity and use kerosene for lighting. Even for those rural areas, which are electrified, there is a tremendous shortage of power supply. As regards to the selected districts, there are 28 electrical sub-stations with the capacity of 6412 kwts. Of the total villages, 1566 villages have been electrified which accounts for 99% and 17614 agricultural pump sets are energized for the purpose of agriculture activities\textsuperscript{26}. The direct impact of rural electrification is visible in the form of pump sets energized. Since the main occupation of the villages is agriculture, energization of pump sets is a definite support factor for advancement of agricultural scenario of the area.

\textsuperscript{26} . Ibid, p.21.
**District Administration**

In the interest of better administration, the district is divided into 5 divisions and 52 Revenue Mandals and Mandal Parishads, with Mandal Revenue Officers and Mandal Parishad Development Officers as its heads in place of age-old Tahsildars and Block Development Officers. The district has also large number of revenue villages. The revenue villages again divided into 1586 inhabited and 143 uninhabited villages. It has also 15 towns of which 6 are municipalities. The mandals/blocks are formed by the then state government under the stewardship of N.T. Rama Rao from the erstwhile 11 taluks. The formation of the mandals is to bring administration closer to the people.

**Political Outline of the District**

Since independence, the Indian National Congress party has had a strong hold over the district political activity till 1980-81. In 1982, when a regional political party-the Telugu Desam was established, political allegiance shifted towards this newly formed regional party. Telugu Desam secured an overwhelming majority in the panchayat, assembly and parliament elections. Besides these political parties, there are other trade unions. Communist and Marxist oriented groups are also effectively working as pressure groups. There are 2 Member of Parliament (MP) constituencies and 10 MLA constituencies with strong political parties’ associations in the district.

The Telangana Rashtra Samiti (TRS) emerged as a new political party in 2004 elections with the concept of separate Telangana state-hood. The other parties like Indian National Congress Party, Bharathiya Janatha party; Communist Party of India, CPM, and CPM (ML) also have influence in this district. Various Naxalite groups’ activities have been spreading rapidly in the past 30 years in the district. There are also several student and youth organizations, which are working actively in the district politics.
Section-II

In this section, an attempt is made to analyze the profile of the selected mandal and field villages such as Nagar, Gadchanda, Pipri and Rajura. The profile of the mandal is drawn based on the official document of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Directorate of Statistics and Economics 2002-03. Some of the data regarding the mandal profile such as road and caste composition and current irrigation facilities for the purpose of agriculture is also taken from the Mandal Parishad Development Office and Revenue Office. The selected village’s profile has analyzed based on the filed data and also presented the village data from the office of respective Grama Panchayats. The data on caste composition and existing rural occupations for livelihood is captured by observing the day to day activities of the rural people.

Profile of the Mandal

The basic criterion for the selection of this mandal is its underdevelopment, so as to provide the effectiveness and shortcoming of the ongoing poverty reduction project in the mandal. Keeping the above criteria in view, the four villages were selected on the basis of the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with high poverty incidence, working labourers in different fields including agriculture, literacy and lack of natural resources for the further development in rural areas of the Lokesharam mandal. The selected villages are Nagar, Rajura, Pipri and Gadchandha. The selection of these villages was also made on similar procedure as was adopted for mandal selection.

Population

According to the Report of the Directorate of Economic and Statistics 2002-03, the mandal’s total population is 3119727, of these male 14924, female 16273 constituting 47.83 per cent and 52.16 per cent respectively. Of the total population, SCs 7190 (23.04 %), STs 2179 (6.98 %) and others constitute 21828 including BCs and other socially advantaged communities. The literacy rate in the mandal is 42 per cent compared with

27. Ibid, p. 33.
the district which is 52.7 per cent. It is to be noted that the literacy rate is very less than
the district average. The total work force of the mandal is 18763, of the total cultivators
are 5379 (24.66 %), agri-labours are 4475 (23.85 %), other workers are 3031 (16.15 %)
and household workers constitute 5858 (31.22 %)\(^2\). The mandal consists of the highest
number of household workers followed by the agricultural labourers with the second
position.

**Land Holdings and Utilization**

The total numbers of land holdings are 11884 with an area operated of 16137 hectors for
the agriculture in the mandal. According to the data documented by Directorate of
Economics and Statistics 2002-03, 5895 holdings belong to the families of below one
hector which accounts to 49.60 per cent and the area operated under this section is 3032
hectors which accounts to 18.78 per cent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Size of holding</th>
<th>No. of Holdings</th>
<th>Area Operated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Below 1 hecto</td>
<td>5895</td>
<td>3032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1.00-2.00</td>
<td>3584</td>
<td>5173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>2.00 – 4.00</td>
<td>2102</td>
<td>5555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>4.00 – 10.00</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>1285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>10.00 and above</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>1092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11884</td>
<td>16137</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Land Holdings Patterns of the SCs ad STs in the Mandal**

Of the total land holdings of the mandal, SCs and STs constitute 18.28 per cent and the
operated area under these communities constitutes 14.68 per cent. The total population of
these communities is 30.02 per cent. But the land and utilization under these communities
is very less compared to the available data with other communities. It is very important to

\(^2\) Ibid, p.35.
note that the category of 10 hectors and above land holdings is not in the hands the scheduled communities.

4.13. Table Showing the Size of the Land Holdings of the SCs and STs of the Mandal

(In Hectors)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Size of holding</th>
<th>No. of Holdings</th>
<th>Area Operated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>ST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Below 1hector</td>
<td>1049</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1.00-2.00</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>2.00 – 4.00</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>4.00 – 10.00</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>10.00 and above</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1663</td>
<td>510</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Principal Crops

The principal crops in the mandal are rice, jowar, bajra, maize, cotton and sunflower. The area under the cultivation of the principal crops like rice is in 2421 hectors (25.08%); jowar is in 155 hectors (1.60%), bajra is in 181 hectors (1.87%), maize is in 1766 hectors (18.29%), Cotton is in 2595 hectors (26.88%), sunflower is in 14 hectors (0.14%) and oil seed is in 624 hectors (6.46%).

There are also other crops such as vegetables and different grams for instance, green gram, black gram, red gram, pulses, turmeric, chillies, onions, sugar cane, fruits and ground nut.29 The total cultivable land in the mandal is 9651 hectors which accounts to 46.71 per cent of the total land of the mandal. Even, cotton is producing very less profits, though people are still habituated with the cotton and moreover, the crop is also considered as very huge cost crop in the district. The district average in cropping pattern

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of cotton is very high. Even there is lack of irrigation facilities, the rice has occupied as second highest position in terms of cultivable operations of the land.

**Irrigation sources**

There are only minor irrigation sources such as tanks, tube wells and surface water for the agricultural purposes. Under the tanks the irrigated area of agriculture is 440 hectors, tube wells 4692 hectors, dug wells 211 hectors, tube wells 2626 hectors and under surface flow is 1189 hectors\(^{30}\).

**Drinking water**

Drinking water is essential for the public health. It is also one of the main development indicators and high priority has been given in Bharat Nirman\(^{31}\). It is observed in the mandal that there is lack of hygiene and purified drinking water facilities. The major resources for drinking water at the village level are submersible pump sets with water tank connection to the individual taps. The number of taps under grama panchyat is 3845, hand pumps 2484; and tube wells 674 and wells are 121\(^{32}\).

**Livestock**

The mandal has also rich account of the livestock. As it is stated earlier in the research work that livestock is one of the main income generation resource in the rural area of the mandal. The mandal’s livestock is as follows cattle (10991), buffaloes (5645), sheep (19187), goats (4726), pigs (262), dogs (1005) and poultry (12950). Mandal’s total


\(^{31}\). Government of India has been launched the ‘Bharat Nirman’ to build rural infrastructure in 2005. Drinking water has been given much more importance in Bharat Nirman as its one of the six components. Other five components of the Bharat Nirman are bringing additional one crore hectare of land under assured irrigation, road connectivity, construction of additional houses for the poor, electrification for 2.3 crore households, telephone connectivity to all villages. It has been given priority for addressing the water quality problem, Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations. For more details see in Source: http://ddws.gov.in/bharatnirman/water.html and http://www.bharatnirman.gov.in/; access date: 30/1/2009.

\(^{32}\). Ibid.
livestock including poultry is 54776. It is noted that most of the families of poor depend on the livestock for the livelihood in villages of the mandal. It is also observed in the field study that some of the families of SCs in selected villages have depended on the selling of local poultry for their livelihood. They sell the poultry in weekly local markets. Some of the ST families are dependant on the exchange of buffaloes in the same local markets. Families of Nakapodu, a sub-caste of STs, are highly dependent on the grazing of the goats.

**Education and Development Scenario of the Mandal**

There are no industries and other large size companies. The economy of the mandal is highly dependent on agriculture and allied activities. Most of the rural youth, work in the field of agriculture. Some of the youth and women folk involve in the activities of beedi making labour. Education is also very less in the mandal. There is not even a Degree College in the mandal. For this purpose, people have to go nearby towns such as Nirmal or Bhainsa. These towns are very far, nearly 40 kms from this mandal head quarter. There is not even proper transportation facility. Unfortunately, even today, the mandal head quarter is lacking with the proper telecommunications and roads. Even though the state government has proposed and recommended to establish Engineering College in every mandal, this mandal is neglected in this direction. Some of the youth are interested to go to gulf countries for their employment. Even though the programmes of central sponsored schemes and state run developmental programmes are being implemented, the effective utilization of the programme is highly lacking. The lack of proper implementation of programmes has led to migration to the gulf countries for the employment of youth is highly influential.

Moreover, the mandal, as a sub-district administrative unit, has been implementing the developmental programmes of the state and central governments such as MGNREGA scheme, National Social Assistance schemes like Old Age Pensions, widow pension, maternity benefit schemes, and pensions for persons with disability and PDS and youth

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33. Ibid, p.86.
empowerment scheme under SC Corporation, ST Corporation, Indiramma housing scheme and Velugu (IKP). Velugu (IKP) has a separate administrative building and it has been implementing and coordinating the developmental activities with the help of support staff like Community Coordinators and other related functionaries.

Profile of the study villages

Social Research especially in academics, studying the villages’ profiles helps in understanding the prosperity and vulnerability of the rural areas and setting of poor people especially their livelihoods and opportunities. In policy research studies, when targeting at the grass roots, it is inevitable to focus on the rural areas. It is also imperative to understand the rural employment and livelihood pattern of the people, especially people living with vulnerable conditions. In rural areas, most of the rural society depends upon labour opportunities for their livelihoods in their local settings. There are different rural economic resources to reduce the risk of livelihood failure. Diversified livelihoods can also help to reduce seasonality in labour demands and consumption, offset the impacts of natural risk factors on staple food availability, add activities with higher returns to the household livelihood portfolio, provide cash resources that enable


household assets to be built up, and help people to hold onto the assets they already possess\(^\text{38}\).

Developing rural opportunities and utilizing the existing resources from diversified income sources helps households to combat poverty in terms of instability in income and thereby increases the standards of their maintaining livelihood. Poor people build diversification strategies sensitive to their context and livelihood strategies. In actual project design, the *Velugu* project is also targeted to develop the rural people through utilizing local resources by building their capacities with the concept of community participation. The community participation is brought into reality with the help of local level community organizations popularly known as SHGs.

People in rural Andhra Pradesh depend for their living and livelihood on various activities. But the options that they can explore are limited by caste. In the context of ongoing poverty reduction programme, it may change the socio-economic conditions for their livelihood or other changes in terms of rural infrastructure, health and education and so on. In addition to changes in the availability of natural resources and other sources of livelihood, policy and the institutional environment may also affect peoples’ livelihoods and livelihood security. Focusing on such changes provides scope for an improved understanding of household livelihoods and presents an opportunity to provide important inputs into the policy-making process\(^\text{39}\). Only via effective policy can the best action be taken to support the diverse livelihoods of the rural poor and to enable them to cope with uncertainty and adversity.

Keeping all these rural issues, the state government intends to enhance the living standards of the rural people especially poorest of the poor families. A study of four villages is taken up to understand the impact of the velugu project. They are Nagar, Pipri, Gadchanda and Rajura. The following paragraphs deal with the profile of the villages.


i. Village Profile - Pipri

Population and Social Composition

Pipri is a large size village situated at distance of about 5 km from Lokeshwaram, the mandal head quarter. The total geographical area of the village is 25 acres\textsuperscript{40}. According to the Grama Panchayat’s Household Record, there are 416 households and the total population is around 2231. Of the total population, SCs are 415, STs 35 and others (including BCs and OCs) are 1781. The village has different castes such as Mala, Madiga, Lambada, Tenugu (fruit sellers), Kammari (goldsmith), Shaala (tailoring), Chaakali (washer man), Gouds (taddy tappers), Gundla (fisherman), Komati (traders), Mangali (barbers), Kaapu and Velma.

Amenities

The village was electrified in 1978. All the main roads of the village had street lights. Of the total, 90 per cent of the houses were electrified and all the electrified households had television sets; there were also two tractors for agricultural purposes. The tractors were bought by the communities of munnuru kaapu. Most of the village agricultural lands were dependent on the submersible pump sets. The number submersible pumps in the village is 42. Thus, access to electricity proved to be a great asset for this village.

Welfare Programmes

According to the Velugu’s participatory poverty survey, the total numbers of poor families in this village are around 73. This is accounted to 48.3 per cent of the total families. But the white card holders of the village are 403, Antyodaya Anna Yojana cards are 47 and Annapurna cards is only one and pink card holders in the village are 54. The identification of the poor families is followed by the method of participatory poverty identification in the presence of Grama Sabha and the method is adopted by the Velugu project.

\textsuperscript{40} The information is taken from the office of the village’s Grama Panchayat Secretery during my field visit i.e, on.
Agriculture

The total geographical area of the village is around 575 acres, of which only 25 acres of land has been used for village settlement and 550 acres of the land used for agriculture purposes (including waste land). The main sources of irrigation for the agriculture are submersible pump sets. About 60 acres of land is not cultivable because of lack of irrigation facilities. The major crops of the village are cotton, paddy, maize and turmeric and other oil seeds.

Political Outline and Administrative Structure

The village administration is located at Grama Panchayat and it is an administrative office of all the activities including collection of taxes, implementation of developmental programmes and selection of the beneficiaries for all the programmes including current state’s own project popularly known as Indiar Kranthi Patham. The office of the grama panchayat is administered by the elected Sarpanch, ward members and village secretary (appointed by the State Government) and Assistant. Political parties i.e., Congress, Telugu Desam Party, Telangana Rashtra Samithi are playing lead role in the village. There are also caste based organizations playing very important role in village politics under the caste headmanship. The caste headmanship changes every year with other persons form their respective castes. Besides, there are seven women self-help groups in the DWCRA; men are organized into “Rythu Mithra Sangam’s”, these groups work for social and economical development of the village.

Development and Infrastructure

In the respect of the village development, there are own Grama Panchayat buildings, combined high school and primary school buildings, Drinking water tanks managed by the Grama Panchayat, village drainage system is not properly constructed, 70 per cent of the village roads are constructed with CC (Cement and Concrete, most of the CC roads are in dalit habitations) and there are social security beneficiaries under the different

41. Assistant can be called as Karobar in local language.
schemes such as National Old Pension, Pensions for Persons with disabilities. There are even other developmental schemes of state and central governments that have been in operation in the village, but the outreach is hardly reaches to the needy people.

Recently, Indiramma Houses\textsuperscript{42} were also sanctioned to some beneficiaries and all the ration card holders got the health security cards under the scheme of Rajeev Arogya Sree. Of the total only 12 SHGs groups have availed the loans under the scheme of Rs. 0.25 interest (Pavala Vaddi Runalu). But, the village is not benefiting even a single acre of land under the scheme of ‘Jalayagnam’ inspite of the fact that the village is located at the bank of the Sriram Sagar Project. The village is getting the advantage of getting the benefit from the scheme of ‘Rice for Rs.2/Kg’. It is highly subsidized scheme\textsuperscript{43} of Government of Andhra Pradesh. The village of Pipri also got benefits through the central scheme of debt relief to the farmers.

In spite of a number of programmes that are implemented in the village; still there is high gap between the poor and out reach of the benefits. The field based survey and perceptions of the people in this village have given the picture on developmental programmes and its implementation process. Local people said that the welfare schemes are reaching to those who are giving bribes, having contacts with leaders of the political parties and officials. The project of Velugu is concerned; the rate of corruption is very low when compared to other programmes. The project’s benefits are loans from Group’s Savings, Bank Linkages and others such as Rice Credit Line, Training for the Skill Development, Community Marketing under the SHG or Village Organization. In this context, the mal practices in this project operation are quite stumpy.

\textsuperscript{42} The scheme of the Indiramma is Indiramma is a mass housing scheme for the homeless. In the first phase, the Government has completed 10.50 lakh houses. Under this scheme, the total 80 lakh houses are targeted to construct for the poor. A unique feature of the programme is supply of housing material like cement, sand and steel to the beneficiaries at subsidized prices. The information is accessed from http://www.thehindubusinessline.com, dated 21/1/2009.

\textsuperscript{43} The background of the subsidized rice scheme is explained in detail in the second chapter of this research thesis.
ii. Village Profile – Nagar

Population and Social Composition

Nagar is a medium size village and it is about 3 km from the mandal head quarter i.e., Lokeshwaram. The total geographical area of the village is 61 acres. According to the Grama Panchayat’s Household Record, there are 151 households with a population of 1361. Of the total 650 males and 711 females; Scheduled Castes are around 335 (males 164 and females 171) and the Scheduled Tribes consist around 668, where male population is 238 and females 263; the most numerically dominant caste in this village are the community of Scheduled Tribes. The rest belongs to other castes including Backward Communities, Other Castes and Muslim minorities comprises 425 of which males consist 148 and females 277.

Most of the houses in this village are Semi-pucca i.e., 73 per cent, pucca houses are 21 per cent and remaining 16 per cent of the houses are Kutchha houses. Of the total households in the village only 7 families (i.e., 4.63 per cent) are living in rented houses. The total number of poor families is in this village around 73. This is accounted to 48.3 per cent of the total families.

Welfare Programmes

The identification of the poor families is followed by the method of participatory poverty identification in the presence of Grama Sabha. Moreover, the method is also adopted by the Velugu project. The total ration cards holders in the village are 565, of whom white card holders are 478, Antyodaya Anna Yozana card holders are 50. There is only one Annapurna card holder and Pink card holders are 36 in number. All the families of the ration card holders are availing the food grain facility under the Public Distribution system of the scheme of the central government.

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44. The information is taken from the office of the village’s Grama Panchayat – Nagar.
45. Pink cards can not avail the subsidized rice scheme, because the holders of the Pink Ration Cards considered as above poverty line, earlier these cards were availed the facility of sugar and other oil products in the public distribution centres.
Agriculture and Employment

The village is also having different. The total gross cropped area of the village is 283 acres. The source of irrigation for agriculture is highly dependent on submersible pump sets. Even, the village’s workforce is highly dependent on agricultural labour, the village’s stamina in producing agriculture labour employment is very low because the cultivators of such areas have a paucity of water. Most of these villages’ youth still prefer to go gulf countries for the employment. There is high demand to enhance other non-employability activities along with crop productivity.

Development and Infrastructure

In the context of the village development, there is Grama Pnachayat building for regular activities constructed by the funds of Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY). There is also a high school and primary school buildings, Drinking water tanks constructed by the financial assistance of the JRY and district panchayat office, Adilabad. It is observed in the village that the drainage system is not properly constructed. It is found that there are social security beneficiaries. Recently, Indiramma Houses\textsuperscript{46} were also sanctioned to some beneficiaries and all the ration card holders got the health security cards under the scheme of Rajeev Arogya Sree. The village is getting the advantage under the scheme of ‘Rice for Rs.2/Kg’. It is highly subsidized scheme\textsuperscript{47} of Government of Andhra Pradesh. The village has also got benefits through the central scheme of debt relief to the farmers.

Political and Social Outline

In this village, the Congress party is playing a major role, in terms of numerical strength, comparatively than other parties such as Telugu Desam Party, Telangana Rashtra Samithi. It is also found that the Praja Rajyam Party has, also to some extent, has the

\textsuperscript{46} The scheme of the Indiramma is explained in previous page in this chapter only.

\textsuperscript{47} The background of the subsidized rice scheme is explained in detail in the second chapter of this research thesis.
support of the youth in the village. There is also caste, occupation based such as Beedi Making Labourer. There are other unions and they are playing as pressure groups in village electoral politics. There is still dominant position of caste and village headmen ship equivalent with grama panchayat.

iii. Village Profile - Rajura

Population and Social Composition

The village is situated at a distance of 8 km to the interior of mandal head quarter. The village has a link road to mainstream with the mandal head quarter. The total population of the village is 2954 comprising 1450 males and 1504 females. It is obvious in the village that the population of the female is higher than the male population. In terms of social hierarchy, Scheduled caste’s population is 404, STs 123 and other includes BCs, OCs and minorities 2427. The total geographical area of the village is around 1215 acres, of which only 45 acres are used for village settlement; of the settled area, 913 acres of the land used for agriculture purposes and remaining land is uncultivable, waste land and mostly used for grazing the village livestock.

Most of the families in the village are dependent on agriculture and other agri-related activities. The main sources of irrigation for the agriculture of this village also mostly dependent on submersible pump sets. There are two tanks in the village for agricultural purposes and it is hardly useful in heavy rain season only. But, the village tanks are useful for the village fishermen community. The fishing community utilizes the tank in summer season only.

Welfare Programmes

The village has facilities like electricity, community drinking water system under the grama panchayat and it also has public buildings including school, community halls and Indira Women building. There are total 835 ration card holders getting benefits under the scheme of Public Distribution System and state government’s scheme of subsidized rice
scheme. Of the total, white cards are 478, AAY are 50, Annapurna is only 01 and Pink cards are 36. There is strong demand from the village community that there should be an awareness programme on the schemes being implemented in villages. In the absence of such programmes, people are not able to get benefits.

There are 22 SHGs reported to be actively functioning under the project in the village. They have succeeded in savings, sanctioning loans and repayment and other financial services. The main financial services of the VO are taking up agricultural production marketing such as maize, paddy and other oil seeds. But the benefits of the rural business are very low. Moreover, most of the times, the benefits or profits are not reaching to individuals of the SHGs. The reason is that the marketing business is highly dependent on the local big farmers. Again, the group members or VOIs have to go to the farmers. Lack of marketing skills is a strong hurdle to the SHGs.

**Agriculture**

The total geographical area of the village is 435 acres, of which only 21 acres of land is used for village settlement and 414 acres of the land used for agriculture purposes (including waste land). The main sources of irrigation for the agriculture are submersible pump sets. About 60 acres of land is not cultivable because of lack of irrigation facilities. The major crops of the village are cotton, paddy, maize and turmeric and other oil seeds.

**Political Outline and Administrative Structure**

The village administration is located at Grama Panchayat and it is an administrative office of all the activities including collection of taxes, implementation of developmental programmes and selection of the beneficiaries for all the programmes including current state’s own project popularly known as *(Velugu)* Indira Kranthi Patham. The office of the Grama Panchayat is administered by the elected Sarpanch, ward members and village secretary (appointed by the State Government) and Assistant\(^48\). There are all political parties i.e., Congress, Telugu Desam Party, Telangana Rashtra Samithi playing lead role

\(^{48}\) Assistant can be called as Karobar in local language.
in the village. There are also caste based organizations playing very important role in village politics under the caste headmen ship.

Village Infrastructure

The village has its own Grama Panchayat building, high school and primary school buildings and drinking water tanks that are managed by the grama panchayat. The status of the village sanitation is not up to the mark. But, there are CC roads in the village and there are social security beneficiaries under the different schemes such as National Old Pension, Pensions for Persons with disabilities. There is also the programme of Indiramma Houses and most of the beneficiaries of the programme are women who are in the members of the SHGs. It is observed in the village that the health security cards under the scheme of Rajeev Arogya Sree have been distributed to all the holders of the ration cards. Some of SHGs groups have availed the loans under the scheme of Rs. 0.25 interest (Pavala Vaddi Runalu). The village also is not benefiting even a single acre of land under the scheme of ‘Jalayagnam’ even the village is located at the bank of the Sriram Sagar Project. The village is getting the advantage under the scheme of ‘Rice for Rs.2/Kg’. The village also gets benefits through the central scheme of debt relief to the farmers.

iv. Village Profile - Gadchanda

Population and Social Composition

There are 472 households in the village with a population of 2302 persons (1048 males and 1504 females); the most numerically dominant caste group in this village is Backward Caste groups. Economically and politically dominant caste group is Velma. The population of the Scheduled Castes (Mala and Madiga) consist around 379, where male population is 185 and females 245, STs are 80 and BCs, Muslims, Christians and other forward castes consist around 1843, where male population is 828 and female 964. The population of the village comprised of different caste groups and casteism still has a fairly strong divisive influence on rural people. The village has also different developmental schemes of the state and central government.
Agriculture

Gadchanda is a village of major revenue gram panchayat of Adilabad district. It is also located adjacent to the irrigation dam of the Sriram Sagar Project. It is located at a distance of 8 km from the mandal head quarter of Lokeshwaram. The village covers an area of 2680 acres. Of these, 1200 acres of land is under the utilization of agriculture; another 1000 acres of land is dry land (even it is intended for agriculture) without any irrigation resources and 414 acres of land belongs to forest and village tanks. The village is settled with nearly 76 acres\(^{49}\). The village’s irrigation mostly depends upon submersible pump sets; though there are lakes, they are not useful for agriculture.

Development and Infrastructure

The village has facilities like electricity, community drinking water system under the Grama Panchayat and it also has public buildings including school, community halls and Indira Women building. There are total 325 ration cards getting benefits under the scheme of Public Distribution System and state government’s scheme of subsidized rice scheme. Of the total, white cards are 244, and Antyodaya Anna Yojana cards are 52. There is only one Annapurna and Pink cards are 28. It is also observed from the field study that the PDS scheme is misused by the local supplier and most of the ration card holders’ quota was diverted to the local business centers to get more benefits. Besides, there are twenty three women self-help groups and some of “Rythu Mithra Sangam’s” in the village. But, the Rythu Mithra sanghas are not in the active mode. Interestingly, the SHGs are highly working for social and economical development of the village.

Political Outline and Administrative Structure

The village administration is located at Grama Panchayat and it is an administrative office of all the activities including collection of taxes, implementation of developmental programmes and selection of the beneficiaries for all the programmes including current

\(^{49}\) The data of the village is taken from the office of the Grama Panchayati, Gadchanda by the Village Secretary. Some of the data on SHGs and village amenities are taken from the Sarpanch and Ward Members of the village. The data on SHGs is taken from the Presidents of the Village Organization.
state’s own project popularly known as Indira Kranthi Patham. The office of the Grama Panchayat is administered by the elected Sarpanch, ward members and village secretary (appointed by the State Government) and Assistant\(^50\).

There are major political parties such as Congress, Telugu Desam Party, Telangana Rashtra Samithi playing lead role in the village. But, the presence of the Baratiya Janata Party is not visible in all these selected villages. There are also caste based organizations playing very important role in village politics under the caste headmanship. The caste headmanship changes every year with other persons from their respective castes. The headmanship of the village, sometimes, is considered to be a village development committee.

*Summing up*

The total population of the four identified villages of the research, as per the census, 2001 is 8398 which is 0.45 percent of the total rural population of the district of Adilabad. In these selected villages of the study like Pipri, Rajura, Gadchanda and Nagar the percentage of S.C. population is more than that of S.T. population. Interestingly, the population of the females is also higher than that of the males. The literacy rate of the villages ranged between 24.5 percent and 34.3 percent. The percentage of the selected villages is much lower than both district and state levels which consist of 74.82 per cent and 64.11 per cent respectively. The workforce of the field area is categorized into agricultural labour, daily wage labourers, artisans, self – employed and gulf employed labourers. The social structure of the villages is tradition. The castes such as Mala, Madiga (sub-castes of SC), Gonds, Lambada (tribal groups), Tenugu (fruit sellers), Kammari (goldsmith), Shaala (tailoring), Chaakali (washer man), Gouds (taddy tappers), Gundla (fisherman), Komati (traders), Mangali (barbers), Kaapu and Velma live in these villages.

For the developmental aspect of the selected villages, there are different welfare and developmental schemes of the governments of center and state. Especially, state

\(^50\) Assistant can be called as Karobar in local language.
sponsored programmes like Indira Kranthi Patham (Velugu), Indira Housing Scheme, 25 Paise Interest Loan Scheme, Subsidized Rice Scheme, and National Social Assistance schemes like Old Age Pensions, Pensions for Persons with Disability, Maternity Benefit Schemes and other employment scheme i.e. NREGA scheme and other developmental schemes are also being implanted.