
COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Theme : Development and Policy Reports

India Water Vision 2025

Collaboration/s: Global Water Partnership and SIDA, Stockholm

Project Director/ Project Coordinator: Dr. D.B. Gupta and Prof. Alakh N Sharma

The Stockholm-based Global Water Partnership sponsored this project in order to be able to organise a network of individuals and organisations interested in water-related issues, under the aegis of India Water Partnership, and to bring out a report on India Water Vision, 2025. The Institute has published this vision document containing the main conclusions and recommendations.

Bihar Development Report

Collaboration/s: Planning Commission, Government of India

Project Director/ Project Coordinator: Prof. Alakh N. Sharma and Prof. Ashok Mathur (Coordinators)

Sponsored by the Planning Commission, Government of India, this study documents changes in the economy of Bihar, analyses the causes for the retarded economic development of the state, and lays down a vision for the state while recommending the policy measures to be adopted.

State Development Report of Manipur

Collaboration/s: Planning Commission, Government of India

Project Director/ Project Coordinator: Professor Alakh N. Sharma and Ms. Smita Gupta

The Institute prepared the State Development Report for Manipur, under the sponsorship of the Planning Commission. This report aims to document the status of development as well as analyses the constraints in the path of this development in the state. The Report provides a vision and policy design for the economic development of the state.

Food Security Atlases

Collaboration/s: UN World Food Programme (WFP)

Project Director/ Project Coordinator: Dr. Dev Nathan, Dr. Preet Rustagi and Dr. Abhay Kumar

This project was sponsored by the UN World Food Programme (WFP) and entailed the preparation of atlases on food security for the 8 poor states of Jharkhand,

Orissa, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. The study was done under the guidance of a Steering committee under the Chairmanship of a Member of the Planning Commission. All the eight atlases have been prepared and most of them have been released in high level functions.

Delhi Development Report: Chapters on Education, Industry and Vulnerable Groups

Collaboration/s: Government of NCT of Delhi

Project Director/ Project Coordinator: Prof. Alakh N. Sharma and Dr. Vandana Parashar

Chapter on Income and Expenditure in Delhi Human Development Report

Collaboration/s: Government of NCT of Delhi

Project Director/ Project Coordinator: Prof. Ashok Mathur

Under this project, which was sponsored by the Government of the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, the Institute prepared Chapters on Income and Expenditure in the Delhi Human Development Report.

Human Development Report for Mizoram

Collaboration/s: Government of Mizoram

Project Director/ Project Coordinator: Prof. Atul Sarma, Ms. Diksha Arora and Dr. R.P. Mamgain

The Institute prepared the first Human Development Report of Mizoram, which was sponsored by the Government of Mizoram. The report is based on a large-scale intensive field survey-based data, which supplements the available secondary information relating to various dimensions of development of the state. It comprises 11 chapters, including a comprehensive chapter on the human development-led growth strategy for Mizoram. The report makes critical analyses of Mizoram's economy on various fronts pertaining to healthcare, education, employment, income, women's issues and the socio-economic profile of Mizoram since its inception to the present day. It highlights both the quantitative and qualitative aspects of human development across its districts in a comparative framework.

The report highlights the extremely high incidence of poverty and poor access to a productive resource base for an overwhelmingly large majority of the population in the state. It finds very low educational levels among Mizoram's population despite the state having the second highest literacy rate in the country. The Employment and Livelihood Index for the state and its districts shows a precarious situation of employment and

earnings opportunities. Unlike the general perception, the report finds significant inequalities in income and assets distribution. Similarly, the Gender Development Index and Gender Parity Index reveal the situation of women in the state. These indices offer valuable suggestions for empowering women in the social, political and economic spheres. The report also offers valuable suggestions for mobilizing financial resources for funding human development and improving governance by strengthening programme management and the engagement of Non-government Organizations (NGOs) in policy-making.

Mid-term Evaluation of Eleventh Plan in Jharkhand

Collaboration/s: Planning Commission, Government of India

Project Director/ Project Coordinator: Prof. Alakh N. Sharma and Dr. Abhay Kumar

The Planning Commission had assigned to the Institute a mid-term evaluation study of the state of Jharkhand in order to understand the trends pertaining to development indicators and the performance of various (16) Centrally-sponsored schemes since the advent of the Ninth Plan period. It was essential to determine whether the states were likely to achieve the targets set for them under these schemes. The objective of the evaluation was to identify the areas that need a greater emphasis on growth under the Plan, and plug the gaps that need immediate attention for ensuring more efficient execution of the Plan and attainment of the desired goals. These, in turn, may help in suggesting a mid-term course correction in the existing programmes by the Planning Commission. This study is based on an analysis of secondary data procured from different departments of the state.

The growth rate in the state has remained lower and level of poverty higher than the national average. The Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of the state grew at the rate of less than 6 per cent per annum during the first two years of the Eleventh Plan while the poverty Headcount Ratio (HCR) stood at 42 per cent in 2004-05. About 80 per cent of the labour force in the state is dependent on agriculture but it contributes only 10 per cent to the GSDP. The main characteristics of the agriculture sector in the state are small net sown areas, large arable waste, low irrigation coverage and small sizes of the landholdings, high degree of dependence on the monsoon, low crop diversification, mono-cropping, and low production and productivity. A major portion of the allocation of most of the flagship programmes in the state has remained unutilized.

The report has been completed after discussions with the government of Jharkhand and has been submitted to the Planning Commission, Government of India.

Adivasi Human Development Report of Odisha**Collaboration/s:** Skillshare International, UK**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Dr. Harishwar Dayal

The Institute prepared the Adivasi Human Development Report (AHDR) of Odisha for Skillshare International. It was a part of Skillshare's INGO Partnership Agreement Programme (IPAP) on tribal healthcare and livelihoods. The assignment consisted of two parts: (i) Data collection and compilation for the Adivasi Human Development Report (AHDR) of Odisha; and (ii) Data analysis and development for the same report.

The objective of the research was to identify the developmental gaps between the tribals and the non-tribals, and the nature and extent of poverty and deprivation among the tribals. It also aimed at investigating the causes of their deprivation and the issues of their land alienation, displacement, migration, food insecurity and social exclusion, while also assessing the type of intervention required for improving their conditions.

This study is based on a combination of both primary and secondary data analysis. Primary data were collected by using various tools of participatory data analysis, especially focus Group Interviews (FGDs), in-depth interviews, and case studies. The PRA exercises were conducted in eight villages and two resettlement colonies in five blocks of three districts of the state of Odisha. A wide range of secondary data sources, such as the Census 1961 to 2011, the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), NSS and other relevant sources have also been used.

Odisha is inhabited by 62 tribal communities, which constitute about 22 per cent of the total population of the state. The tribals of the state suffer from multiple forms of deprivation, and a very high incidence of poverty; and the Head Count Ratio (HCR) of poverty among them is higher than among the other communities. They also exhibit a very high incidence of malnutrition and child mortality.

The tribals are also geographically marginalized. The districts in which they are concentrated are less developed than the non-tribal belt. The HDI of the tribal-concentrated districts is usually less than the state average. Southern Odisha, which has a heavy tribal concentration, displays a much higher incidence of poverty than the northern and coastal regions.

The final report on the state, based on both primary and secondary data, has been submitted to Skillshare International.

District Human Development Report for Pakur District , Jharkhand**Collaboration/s:** Government of Jharkhand, UNDP**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Dr Harishwar Dayal

This study was assigned by the GoI–UN Joint Programme on Convergence (GoI-UN-JPC). It entailed preparation of the District Human Development Reports (DHDRs) for the Pakur, Hazaribagh and Gumla districts in Jharkhand, out of which the DHDR for Pakur has been completed, while the second draft (in the pre-final stage) has been submitted to the agency.

After a preliminary study of the district, a consultative workshop was organized in Pakur on 18 January 2011, in which a large number of government officials, academicians, and NGO representatives of the districts participated. The major issues and problems of the districts were discussed in this workshop. The issues were investigated by the research team by using participatory methods. The study covered both the rural and urban areas, and the secondary data sources were also extensively analysed. Besides studying the conventional human development issues of healthcare, education, and livelihood, the report also extensively analysed the related issues of poverty and vulnerability, gender and displacement. IHD has already prepared the Human Development Index (HDI) of the various blocks of Pakur district.

Although the per capita income of the district is higher than the state average, it has increased at a rate that is higher than that of the state but the levels of poverty, inequality, deprivation and vulnerability are also very high. The literacy rate among both men and women is one of the lowest in the district. Besides agriculture, bidi rolling and stone crushing are the two main sources of employment of a large section of the population in the state. It has also been found that both these occupations cause health hazards to those who are employed there.

Development Strategy for Jharkhand**Collaboration/s:** Planning Commission, Government of India**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Dr. Dev Nathan and Dr. Harishwar Dayal

Sponsored by the Planning Commission, a major policy report has been prepared by the Institute on the emerging development challenges of Jharkhand and the strategy required for its development. The study uses comprehensive secondary data and discussions with high-ranking policy-makers from both the state and Central Governments. The report covers both physical infrastructure as well as the social sector.

Development of State Programme Strategy for Jharkhand and Bihar**Collaboration/s:** Care India**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Dr. Harishwar Dayal

Sponsored by CARE India, the study aims to devise suitable strategies for social development of Bihar and Jharkhand. The first draft has been submitted and revised report will be submitted in a month. The project is being executed at the IHD Eastern Regional Centre at Ranchi.

Mid Term Appraisal of 11th Five Year Plan of Bihar**Collaboration/s:** Planning Commission, Government of India

The Planning Commission, Government of India, assigned IHD with the task of conducting the mid-term appraisal of the Eleventh Five Year Plan of Bihar during 2010-2011. The objectives of the project were to study the utilization of funds received and the development entailed by the Government of Bihar during the first half of the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The study comprised two parts. The first part included an overview of the status of the economy. In addition, it also highlighted the development that took place in the fields of education and healthcare. The second part of the report focused on the performance of 15 flagship programmes in Bihar being implemented by the Central Government in different sectors, namely rural development; healthcare, nutrition, drinking water and sanitation; education; urban development; agriculture and water management; and power. The study was undertaken with the help of secondary data, and data and information provided by the Government of Bihar. The findings of the study were also shared with the Government of Bihar before submission of the final reports to the Planning Commission.

The report shows that there has been a significant acceleration in the economic growth rate of the state as compared to previous years. Consequently, there has been improvement in the education and healthcare scenario as well. The implementation of various flagship programmes has also improved. However, in the case of some programmes such as NREGA, there has been little progress. As a whole, though Bihar shows improvement in implementation, it needs to further strengthen its delivery mechanism.

Food Security Atlas of Rural India: An Overview

Collaboration/s: UN World Food Programme

Project Director/ Project Coordinator: Professor Dev Nathan and Dr. Preet Rustagi

This study comprised a consolidated analysis of eight states, namely, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh (MP), Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh (UP). The purpose of the study was to identify the regions and districts that require priority attention in order to improve their food security status. This was followed by an identification of the characteristics that differentiate the better-off districts from the worse-off ones. These characteristics of the food-insecure regions and districts was used to compile a set of possible interventions that could be expected to improve food security in the designated states.

The main findings of the research was that food-insecure districts can be categorized into distinct regions. Regions identified as the priority areas needing attention are the western desert region of Rajasthan, the semi-arid Deccan plateau of Maharashtra, and parts of the Gangetic Plains of Bihar and UP. The desert and semi-arid Deccan plateau regions are generally noted for the depressed agrarian conditions of the 281 districts belonging to the eight states under study, and all the districts of Jharkhand, while a majority of the districts in MP, Odisha and Chhattisgarh figure among the most food-insecure districts. The overview report, which is the final publication of the project, discusses the characteristics of the food-insecure regions and suggests further interventions to improve the conditions in these regions.