Chapter 12

WAY FORWARD



Chapter Twelve

Way Forward

12.1. Introduction

The notion of human development is hardly two decades old, yet it has received worldwide attention of economists, planners and policy makers simply because of its intent and content. Its major contribution is that it has brought 'people' and not the 'production' to centre stage of policy debate. It speaks of human capabilities and a move from unfreedom to freedom.

The detailed analysis of human development status of Vijayapura district in the previous chapters has enabled us to develop a way forward. The task of developing way forward is not an easy job, nonetheless it is attended. It revolves around present status of core areas of human development, persisting gaps and future strategy.

12.2. Outline of Human Development and Its Measurement As Indicated by Different Indicators

Since the scope of present Vijayapura District Human Development Report 2014 is much wider than Vijayapura District Human Development Report 2008, we come across six indices. An attempt is made to recapitulate in brief all these indices, starting with the human development index.

12.2.1. Vijayapura District Human Development Index

Taking into consideration three dimensions and their respective indicators, the Human Development Index for different taluks of Vijayapura district was constructed. Index values and ranks are as under: Vijayapura-0.941 (I rank), Basavana Bagewadi-0.545 (II rank) ; Indi- 0.472 (III rank), Muddebhihal- 0.422 (IV rank) and Sindagi-0.334 (V rank). It is very interesting to note that the index value of Vijayapura taluk is close to one. It is almost three times higher than Sindagi and almost twice when compared to the other taluks. The following high values have helped Vijayapura taluk to secure first rank: 1) Living standard index value is close to one, i.e., 0.913. 2) Health index value is also close to one, i.e., 0.914. 3) Education index is equal to one, i.e., 1.000.

12.2.2. Education Component

Literacy and gross enrolment rates are two important indicators of education. According to this index, Vijayapura occupies first position followed by Muddebhihal, Basavana Bagewadi, Indi and Sindagi. Vijayapura taluk has done better than other taluks of the district mainly because of its locational advantages. In Vijayapura taluk school infrastructure is better and its teacher-pupil ratio is satisfactory. Compared with the other taluks, Vijayapura taluk has a better railroad connectivity enabling students from nearby villages come to the city and make use of educational facilities. It has now become an educational hub.

12.2.3. Health Component

The Child Mortality Rate and Maternal Mortality Rate are the two important indicators of health component. With the help of these two indicators, we prepared health index of Vijayapura district and its taluks. It came to our notice that the 1st rank is enjoyed by Indi and Muddebhihal is placed at the last position, i.e., 5th rank. The other ranks are: Vijayapura taluk 2nd , Indi 3rd and Sindagi 4th. Availability of irrigation and presence of non-farming activities have made the difference.

12.2.4. Livelihood and Quality of Living Indicators

Standard of living is a reflection of quality of living condition of the people. Economy of Vijayapura is mainly agricultural where droughts and famines visit regularly. There is a marked absence of manufacturing and commercial activities. The highly depressed rural economy often causes large-scale out-migration of people. Employment is mainly seasonal and wages too low to provide a minimum living standard to rural masses.

Despite odds, there is a considerable increase in the district level GDDP and per capita GDDP at current prices between 2005-06 and 2009-10. In 2005-06, the GDDP was Rs. 335047 lakhs, which nearly doubled to Rs. 647041 lakhs in 2009-10. During the same period, the Vijayapura district per capita GDP increased fromRs.17502 to Rs.32323. However, it may be noted that even though Vijayapura is a backward district, the contribution of tertiary sector is higher than primary and secondary sectors. Between 2005-06 and 2009-10, its average comes to 48 percent. Within the tertiary sector, the best performing areas are construction activities, transport, tourism, finance, health and educational services.

Vijayapura is semi-arid area. Rainfall is poor, irrigation facilities are limited and over the years, its ground water level has gone down. In this context, cultivation of certain high value crops such as paddy and sugar cane is difficult. Crops grown in Vijayapura district are cereals, pulses, oil seeds, fruits, vegetables, etc. Maximum land in Vijayapura district is used for the cultivation of cereals that do not fetch remunerative price in the market. The surplus component is limited.

Employment and Unemployment

An important dimension of this issue is the 'work participation rate' (WPR). While at the state and district levels, there is a marginal increase in WPR, the WPR in Vijayapura district has recorded a significant improvement. Sindagi has recorded a maximum improvement of 13.57 percent between 2001 and 2011. Muddebhihal (11.87%), Indi (10.01%), Vijayapura (8.73%) and Basavana Bagewadi (8.39%) follow it. It appears that two major factors have contributed to an increase in WPR. First, a consistent improvement in the literacy level of both male and female and of persons in rural and urban areas and secondly, extension of irrigation, particularly in Indi and Sindagi taluks of Vijayapura district has also led to an improvement in WPR.

A comparative study of male-female work participation rate, between 2001 and 2011, makes it clear that both male and female WPR has gone up. At the district level, female WPR, which was

28.45 percent in 2001, increased to 38.80 percent in 2011. Similarly, during the same period, male WPR increased from 58.48 % to 61.31 percent.

Main and Marginal Workers

At the state level, there is a marginal increase of 1.66 percentage points in the number of main workers, their percentage increasing from 82.28 percent to 83.94 percent. At the district level, there is five-percentage point increase in the number of main workers. In Vijayapura district, Sindagi taluk has recorded 10.51 percentage point increase in the number of main workers; Muddebhihal (6.78%), Indi (6.18%) and Basavana Bagewadi (4.04%) follow it. The provision of canal water for irrigation in Sindagi, Muddebhihal and Indi taluks has resulted in an increase in the number of main workers. This, in future, improves income and standard of living of concerned main workers and their families. These two help in improving human development in years to come. At the district level, there is an increase in the percent of marginal workers, from 23.14 percent in 2001 to 31.21 percent in 2011. However, this increase is not evenly spread across the other taluks.

Status of Housing

In the preparation of Vijayapura HDI, it came to our notice that in the year 2001 at the district level, 85.79 percent persons in Vijayapura district owned houses, 11.37 percent resided in rented houses and 9.27 percent had 'other' types of accommodation. Surprisingly, in 2011, the percentage of people living in their own houses declined to 83.52 percent from 85.79 percent in 2001. Correspondingly, the percentage of people living in rented houses has increased from 11.37 percent in 2001 to 13.59 percent in 2011. Similarly, there is a drastic decline in the percentage of persons living in 'other' accommodations, from 9.27 percent in 2001 to just 3 percent in 2011.

Even though it is a perplexing situation, yet it can be understood in the context of rapidly growing population of Vijayapura district in general and that of Vijayapura city in particular. Two major reasons can be cited here: (1) Vijayapura city has attracted more people from nearby villages who come for jobs and settle in slums. This is also clear from an increase in the number of slums in Vijayapura city. (2) Good number of people who were displaced because of UKP, have also settled in and around Vijayapura. Above all, Vijayapura urban area has certain 'locational advantages' which the taluk places do not have.

Site-less Households

In Vijayapura district, at the district level, 11.4 percent of households are site-less. In Indi taluk, their percent is higher than the district average and average of other taluks too. Here, 14.13 per cent households are site-less followed by Basavana Bagewadi (11.69%), Vijayapura (10.49%), Sindagi (10.47%) and Muddebhihal (8.76%). Under the circumstances, site-less families find it difficult to improve their human development level through education and health because their first priority is purchasing of a plot of land. In the absence of site and house, they feel unsettled.

Households with Pucca Houses

At the district level, only 30.82 percent of households live in pucca houses. The situation is much better in Vijayapura taluk where 41.26 percent households live in pucca houses, followed by other taluks such as Indi (31.37%), Basavana Bagewadi (27.65%) and Muddebhihal (22.58%). Their least percentage is found in Sindagi taluk (19.17 %). At the district level, the percentage of households living in pucca houses has marginally increased from 29.96 per cent in 2001 to 30.82 percent in 2011.

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Drinking Water

According to the 2011 Census, in Vijayapura district, 25.79% households had access to drinking water within the compound against the state average of 44.45 percent; 39.78% outside the compound and 34.41 % of households brought water from far-off places against the state average of 18.21 per cent. In Vijayapura taluk 42.08% households have access to water within their compound. This percentage is highest in the district and very close to the state average (44.45%). Amongst all taluks, in Indi taluk only 10.32 per cent households have access to water inside their compounds. Further, in Indi taluk, 43.95 percent households fetch water from far of places. The urban households are better placed than rural households in accessing water within the compound. In Vijayapura city 71.50% households have drinking water facility inside their compounds and in its rural areas it is just 15.70%.

The situation is no better in respect of other taluks. In Muddebhihal 43.98% and in Indi 48.56 % households fetch water from far off places. They have to walk mile

In Vijayapura taluk 70 % households have access to pure drinking water facility. However, the situation is not good in other taluks; for example, in Indi 47.90 percent households have access to potable water. It is 50.21 percent in Sindagi; 56 percent in Muddebhihal and 63.44 percent in Basavana Bagewadi. In the entire state, in Bengaluru city alone 91.81 % households have access to pure drinking water. In Vijayapura, district 41.80% households lack access to safe water.

Electricity

Amongst all taluks of Vijayapura district, in Muddebhihal 89 percent households have access to power, which is higher than the district average of 81 percent. In other taluks, excepting Indi, 80 percent and above households have access to power. In Indi, it is only 69.35 percent. Even though, electricity has reached to every village, it is supplied for less than six hours per day.

Sanitation

Sanitation and health are directly related to each other. Related issues concerning sanitation and hygiene are construction of toilets, drainage and

sewage system, safe drinking water, etc. Even though different programmes are in vogue since 1991, only 32.36 percent of Vijayapura district has sewage facility. Vijayapura taluk is better placed; the extent of sewage (47.11%) is higher than other taluks. Sindagi is having the least sewage facility (21%) in whole district. Several years have passed, the sewage facility, at least in and around Vijayapura city, has not improved, nor the condition of roads. Situation greatly worsens during the rainy season. In Vijayapura taluk 38.09 percent households have access to sanitation. Other taluks, excepting Basavana Bagewadi, have not performed well. At the state level, Bengaluru district has the maximum sanitation coverage of 94.85%. Vijayapura district is lagging behind by 82.70 percentage points. At the state and district levels, 51.21% and 18.10% households respectively have toilets within their houses. In Vijayapura 81.90% households do not have toilets inside their houses, which is nearly double the percentage of state (48.79%).

12.2.5. Inter-Taluk Human Development Disparities

A careful study of present human development situation in Vijayapura district brings out certain taluk level disparities. In respect living standard dimension, Vijayapura taluk enjoys first rank. For example, the index value of Vijayapura taluk is 0.913, which is very close to one, whereas it is close to zero in respect of Sindagi taluk (0.157). The living standard index value of Vijayapura is nearly six times higher than Sindagi even though there is not much difference in their per capita income.

In respect of the health dimension, 1st rank is enjoyed by Indi and Muddebhihal enjoys last rank. Many factors have contributed to the differences in ranks of Indi and Muddebhihal taluks, for example, in Indi the CMR is 25 for per 1000 children whereas it is 80 per 1000 children in Muddebhihal. The CMR in Muddebhihal is nearly three times higher. The per capita income in Muddebhihal is lowest in the district. It is Rs.22879 whereas it is Rs.35603 in Basavana Bagewadi; Rs.29558 in Vijayapura; Rs. 26750 in Indi and Rs.28022 in Sindagi. The popular argument in the received literature is that people with high per capita incomes have easy access to medical facilities.

The MMR is high in Sindagi. It is 211 per 100,000 deliveries whereas it 155 in Muddebhihal. The MMR in other taluks is as follows: 115 in Basavana Bagewadi; 119 in Indi and 122 in Vijayapura taluk. Basavana Bagewadi is, thus, a taluk where the MMR is lowest when compared to other taluks. The following two reasons appear to have contributed to high MMR in Sindagi taluk. First, female literacy rate in Sindagi is 51.40 percent, which is lowest when compared with other taluks. Secondly, the average literacy rate in Sindagi is lowest. The argument in received literature is that the educated mothers in particular and educated families in general seek early medical help, follow medical advice seriously and regularly monitor health related developments. These, on one hand improve life span and on the other minimise health related expenditure.

In respect of education index, the first rank is occupied by Vijayapura taluk where the index value is equal to one.

Indi has secured 5th rank where the index value is 0.589. The index value of other taluks is: Basavana Bagewadi 0.715 (III rank); Muddebhihal 0.811 (II rank) and Sindagi 0.644 (IV rank). In respect of Indi, which occupies 5th rank, the following two factors have contributed to its lowest rank. First, Indi has recorded second lowest per capita income. Secondly, the GER in Indi taluk is 85.60, which is low compared with the other taluks. Thirdly, in Indi taluk, the number of cultivators is high. These cultivators mainly reside with their families in houses constructed in their farms and fields. These families do not normally send their children to schools. The percentage of agricultural labour in Indi taluk is high. It is 72.59 percent. A high incidence of poverty amongst agricultural labourers discourages them from sending their children to schools. They fear to lose supplementary source of income to their families.

The gender inequality index (GII) covering three dimensions and nine indicators was prepared. We came to know that the GII is highest in Sindagi, followed by Vijayapura taluk, Indi, Basavana Bagewadi and Muddebhihal. A careful analysis of data pertaining to different indicators helps to know the taluk level disparities. For example, MMR in Sindagi is 211, which is highest amongst all taluks. Female literacy rate in Sindagi is lowest. It is 51.50 per cent. The percentage of female non-agricultural workers in Sindagi is also lowest. It is 13.22 percent. The female WPR in Sindagi is 44.84 percent which is highest amongst other taluks of Vijayapura. It reflects persistent of gender poverty. The percentage of pregnant women with anemia in Sindagi is 41.80 percent which third highest amongst the taluks of Vijayapura district.

An interesting observation is that the HDI of Sindagi is lowest amongst all taluks but its GII is highest.

In respect of the Child Development Index it came to our notice that Indi enjoys first rank whereas Muddebhihal has secured fifth rank. Several factors have contributed to the differences. A few important are that the CMR is lowest in Indi; it is 25 per 1000 children. It is also very close to the Millennium Development Goals. The CMR in Muddebhihal is 80 per 1000 children at least three times higher than CMR in Indi. The proportion of malnourished children in Muddebhihal is highest, 12.45 per cent children are malnourished. Their percentage is only 4.09 in Indi. There is a strong presence of animal husbandry in Indi, which contributes to the nutritious food for children, notwithstanding an additional source of income. In Muddebhihal, the size of livestock is small. The other factor, which has indirectly contributed to better CDI, is the availability of irrigation. For example, the total irrigated area in Indi is 90267 h.a., whereas it is 25240 h.a. in Muddebhihal. Irrigation facilities add to multiple cropping, plantation and other commercial crops of high value. These raise income levels, improve standard of living and enhance livelihood opportunities.

Vijayapura taluk enjoys first rank in respect of Food Security Index whereas Sindagi finds itself at the last position. Vijayapura taluk has performed well in accessibility and absorption dimensions. This has favourably influenced FSI, enabling Vijayapura taluk to secure first rank. Since Sindagi has not done well in case of accessibility and absorption, it has, therefore,

secured last rank.

In respect of Urban Development Index, Vijayapura ULB has done well and therefore it has secured first rank whereas sixth rank goes to Indi ULB. A careful analysis of data helps us to identify factors contributing to the taluk level disparities. For example, in case of Vijayapura ULB, out of total households, 94.30 per cent households have access to water. In respect of drainage and sewerage, 77.29 percent households have the access. The percentage of households without own houses is only 5.78 which is quite low when compared with other ULBs. For example, it is 53.29 per cent in Indi, 27.25 percent in Basavana Bagewadi and 25.49 percent in Talikoti. In Vijayapura taluk, the number of hospital beds per thousand is 6.58, which is highest in the district. Indi ULB has performed poorly mainly because the percentage of households without their own houses is high (53.29%). It is highest in the district. Only 26.53 per cent households have access to water. This per cent is lowest in the district. In respect of sewage and drainage, 51.47 per cent households have access, which is lowest compared with other taluks. The number of hospital beds per 1000 is 0.66.

The human development index and ULB index are closely related. Vijayapura taluk occupies first rank in HDI as well as in ULB index. The availability of drinking water, access to drainage and ownership of houses makes the difference. Access to potable water, proper sanitation and drainage facilities minimize incidence of water borne diseases. The numbers of hospitals, beds, facilities such as operation theaters, x-ray and scan, etc., make huge difference. These also bring down CMR and MMR in addition to improving the life span.

There are certain disturbing trends in Vijayapura ULB. For example, nearly 50 per cent of population of Vijayapura taluk lives in Vijayapura ULB. Further, 5.09 per cent of ULB population is living in slums. In respect of crimes, the rate of incidence is 18.07 per 10,000 population. This is second highest rate, next only to Basavana Bagewadi where it is 19.21 per 10,000 population.

The case of Talikoti ULB is interesting. Even though it is not a taluk head quarter, it enjoys second rank amongst six ULBs of Vijayapura district. Reasons are; accessibility of water (76.54 % HH), sewage and drainage (83.22 % HH); second position in respect of availability of beds (1.07 per 10000 persons); second highest per capita development expenditure (Rs.2773), second position in road-length (7.72 kms).

The Composite taluk Development Index (CTDI) brings to our notice that Vijayapura taluk has obtained first rank followed by Basavana Bagewadi, Muddebhihal, Indi and Sindagi. The combined effect of different indices has pushed Vijayapura to the first position in CTDI. Another important observation is that Sindagi has secured 5th position in CTDI. It is mainly for the reason that it has not done well in respect of living standard (5th rank), health (5th rank) and education (5th rank). These values have adversely affected Sindagi's position.

12.2.6. Present Status of Human Development and Regional Imbalances

The Vijayapura district human development index value is 0.329. Out

of thirteen districts in M.K and H.K regions, Vijayapura district holds 10th position and out of thirty districts of Karnataka, it holds 27th position. In case of District Composite Development Index, out of thirteen districts of M.K. and H.K. regions, Vijayapura is at 12th position. Its HDI rank in 2011 has slipped further from what it was in 2001.

The contribution of district to state's domestic income has come down from 2.27 per cent in 2001 to 2.17 percent in 2011. The share of district agricultural labourers in the state agricultural labourer has increased from 4.40 per cent in 2001 to 4.92 per cent in 2011. Similarly, district's per capita income as a percent of state's per capita income has declined from 80.19 per cent in 2001 to 65.18 per cent in 2011.

Although three rivers pass through the district, only 35.88 percent of agricultural land is irrigated. Railway connectivity is poor and it takes hours together to reach to the state capital and other commercial centres. The need for an airport is greatly felt.

The major cause of poor HDI is the low living standard of people of Vijayapura district. Here people are still dependant on agriculture, which fails to provide yearlong employment opportunities and generate sufficient income. Manufacturing and commercial activities are conspicuous by their absence. It is necessary that facilities provided to districts of H.K. region under 372 (J) should be also extended to Vijayapura district. This requires strong lobbying with the central government.

12.2.7. The Way Ahead

The way ahead before Vijayapura district is not easy. It has not done well on the human development plane since the time the Government of Karnataka started preparing human development reports. It has, except in case of education, remained one among the bottom ten districts of the state. After a careful study we develop an impression that Vijayapura district is a classic case of 'mis-development', mostly notably being the geographical disadvantages such dry land, poor rain fall, lack of mineral resources, water scarcity, etc.

12.2.8. Future Human Development Strategy for Education Sector

In Vijayapura district every taluk has recorded major increase in the percentage of literacy resulting in an increase in the district literacy rate, which has improved from 54.46 percent in 1991 to 67.15 percent in 2011. At the district level, between the taluks there is not much difference in the enrolment of boys and girls. This is definitely a good development because in years to come it will minimise the gender gap in enrolment. This also an indicator of the fact that people's apathy towards girls' education is reducing. Overall, it is heartening to note that between 2001 and 2011 the gap between male-female literacy rate has been reduced.

Almost all taluks of Vijayapura, between 2005-06 and 2012-13, have recorded an increase in the number of students studying in PU colleges. More importantly, the gender composition of PU students has changed in favour of girl-students. An increase in the number of girl-students holds good for human development. The teacher-student ratio at PU level is quite satisfactory. The establishment of Karnataka State Women's University at Vijayapura has

immensely benefitted girl students from OBC, minorities and SC/ST categories. There is a general sense of protection, safety and security amongst the poor parents of girl students studying in KSWU, Vijayapura.

A look at the education index of Vijayapura district makes it clear that Vijayapura taluk has secured first rank and its index value is close to one, i.e., 0.914. It is followed by Muddebhihal (II rank, index value 0.811), Basavana Bagewadi (III rank, index value 0.715), Sindagi (IV rank, index value 0.644) and Indi (V rank, index value 0.589). It may be noted here that the observable difference between Vijayapura taluk and other taluks is huge enough to demand serious efforts. It may be because of the following reasons that over the years, Vijayapura taluk has become a educational hub. Amongst all taluks, its school infrastructure is better. The pupil-teacher ratio is satisfactory. The poor performance of Indi taluk may be attributed to its low per capita income, low GER and a high proportion of agricultural labourers. The families of agricultural labourers keep migrating from one place to the other in search of livelihood. In the process, their children's education is adversely affected.

Persisting Gaps

The future strategy should be developed in the context of following gaps in education sector. For example, in the M-K region, Vijayapura happens to be the least literate district. Here, urban male-female literacy rate increased faster than rural male-female literacy rate. There is a clear gap between the number of rural and urban literate persons. Nearly 24 percent of its population lives in urban areas, out of which 60 percent is literate whereas 76 percent of its population lives in rural areas but only 50 percent of it is literate. In respect of teacher-pupil ratio at PU level, except in Vijayapura taluk, in all other taluks there is a need to improve this ratio further by admitting still more number of students. None of the primary school satisfies school-infrastructure criterion. The district level PU pass percentage is much lower than the state pass percent. Gap is visible in case of SSLC pass percentage of boys and girls. The number of science colleges is less than arts and commerce colleges. Almost all government-run science colleges are understaffed and their labs are not maintained properly.

Future Strategy

In the light of above analysis, in future efforts should be made to minimise rural urban literacy divide. Emphasis should be placed on non-formal schooling. Female education needs still more encouragement in the context of rural-urban male and female divide. Efforts are required to improve transition rate of girls and SC/ST students from primary to high schools. In order to minimise the dropout and absenteeism frequent parents-teachers meetings are required. Similarly, frequent awareness programmes are necessary wherein parents and local schools development committees should participate. Special efforts should be made to improve infrastructure facilities. Several schools lack in the provision of basic facilities. In this respect, cooperation of NGOs and philanthropic organisations can be sought. Third party evaluation of modes and methods of teaching and their effectiveness should be carried out at regular intervals. Evaluation results should be widely publicized.

Taking into consideration the fast changing technology scenario, efforts should be made to popularise PUC science course. Students are normally afraid of subjects such as mathematics and physics. A package course, during off school hours, should be developed. The status of laboratories should be improved to popularise experimental learning. Community schools should be established at every taluk where students should be trained in different trades and local skills.

12.2.9. Future Human Development Strategy for Health Sector

In Vijayapura district, we notice an improvement in the availability and accessibility of health care facilities and services through CHCs, PHCs and taluk hospitals. Health care schemes especially for the poor sections of the society are accessed in government as well as in the private hospitals. Such schemes have reduced the economic burden of poor towards quality health care. Immunization programme is quite satisfactory. Life expectancy has improved and people are looking ahead for a normal and healthy life. The PPP mode has improved overall healthcare facilities and services in Vijayapura district. The results are clear: sex ratio has improved to 954, which is less than the state sex ratio (968) but more than national sex ratio (940). Death rate (6.85) is lower than the national and state rates i.e., 7.20 and 7.1 respectively. Similarly, IMR is 34, which is again better than national IMR (47) and state IMR (38). MMR of the district stands at 135, which is again better that national MMR i.e. 212 and state MMR i.e.178 respectively. The incidence of Aids has declined and in respect of leprosy and TB patients, recovery rate is better. On an average 90 percent deliveries are institutional deliveries. Very recently, the WHO has declared Karnataka as 'polio free state'.

The health index values of different taluks are as under: Indi (I rank, index value 0.982) Vijayapura (II rank, index value 0.914), Basavana Bagewadi (III rank, index value 0.786), Sindagi (IV rank, index value 0.366) and finally Muddebhihal (V rank, index value 0.289). As in case of education index, the difference between highest scoring taluk Indi and lowest scoring taluk Muddebhihal is very large, it is almost three times. Compared to Indi, CMR is high in Muddebhihal. Further, Muddebhihal is distantly located from the district headquarter and therefore patients from Muddebhihal find it difficult to avail critical medical care. The per capita income in Muddebhihal is lower than Indi. It is an established fact that people with high incomes have better access to the medical facilities.

Persisting Gaps

In the area of health certain observable gaps are found. For example, rural public hospitals are deficient in the provision of specialists, supportive, ICU, and critical care services, etc. Patients have no alternative but to rush to the district headquarter. There is a grave shortage of technical manpower. Patients are forced to refer to private health service providers who charge high consultation and diagnostic fees. In Vijayapura district, the numbers of doctors, nurses, beds, ambulances, etc, do not meet the norms. Despite having two medical colleges and a number of hospitals, people are found rushing to

Sholapur and Miraj for specialty treatment. Specialists from Solapur, Bengaluru, etc., are invited by local hospitals on weekly / monthly basis. Hygiene is poor as stray animals are found loitering in hospitals posing grave threat to patients particularly the children.

Future Strategy

In respect of health, future strategy should be to provide specialists, supportive and diagnostic services in rural hospitals. Vacancies in different sections of public hospitals must necessarily be filled urgently, particularly those of technical and supportive staff. It is also suggested here that one more civil hospital should come up near railway station or Gol Gumbad area of Vijayapura city. This will save cost of transportation of poor patients and their family members. It will also minimise burden on the existing civil hospitals. A hospital with district level facilities should be established at Muddebhihal and all taluk hospitals should be upgraded. The Vijayapura Municipal Corporation should come forward to establish municipal hospitals with diagnostic facilities. Each hospital should cover 1-3 wards. These should work both in the morning and evening hours so that poor people make use of them without sacrificing their day's work. Cleanliness should be the common mantra of all public hospitals. The culture of service, so conspicuous in hospitals, should be rejuvenated. Senior doctors should lead the juniors from the front.

12.2.10. Future Human Development Strategy for Livelihood Sector

The economy of Vijayapura is mainly agricultural. Rainfall on an average is below normal. Agriculture continues to be the main source of livelihood. There is a marked absence of manufacturing and commercial activities. Highly depressed rural economy often causes large-scale out migration of people. Employment is mainly seasonal and wages too low to provide a minimum living standard to rural masses. Even though Vijayapura is a backward district, there is a significant improvement in the work participation rate of both men and women.

The livelihood of people, to a great extent, gets reflected in the living standard index. A study of living standard index of different taluks of Vijayapura is self-explanatory; there is a huge difference between Vijayapura taluk index value of 0.913 and Sindagi's index value of 0.157. Other taluks too fall much behind Vijayapura taluk such as Muddebhihal (0.321), Basavana Bagewadi (0.289), Indi (0.182) and Sindagi (0.157). Vijayapura district's taluks are still predominantly agricultural, characterized by low level productivity and farm income. With limited irrigation facilities on one hand and predominance of small and economically unviable agricultural holdings, the rural economy of Vijaypura district is depressing. Here a multi-pronged effort is unavoidable.

Persisting Gaps

A study of district and taluk income, cropping pattern, irrigation, BPL households, MGNREGA, landless households, main and marginal workers, WPR and occupation pattern has helped in identifying certain gaps. A few areas of concern are that Vijayapura district is still a

predominantly agricultural which fails to provide yearlong gainful employment to rural people. More than fifty percent of land holdings are either small or marginal, which in the absence of irrigation make agriculture economically unviable. Less cultivable area is under high value commercial crops. Dryland farming is common. There is a marked absence of manufacturing activities. The practice of child labour is still present indicating presence of poverty. MGNREGA registration is high but actual number of persons reporting for work is less. Quality of works undertaken under employment generation programmes is visibly poor.

Future Strategy

The future strategy in respect of livelihood should emphasize that income generating activities receive top priority. More land area should be brought under irrigation enabling rural masses to carry on yearlong agricultural activities. Rejuvenation of old tanks holds the key. Tank filling project should be extended to cover every major village. Since Vijayapura is a dry area, dry land farm technology should be popularized with the help of Regional Agricultural Research Station located at Hittanalli. Food processing units should be established to utilize locally available fruits, particularly lemons and grapes. Wine parks should be established. Where the size of land holdings is large, such farmers should be encouraged to tap solar energy and wind power. All efforts should be made to promote animal husbandry, goatary, sheep rearing, poultry, etc.

12.2.11. Development Strategy for Dalits, Tribal Communities and Minorities

The proportion of SC/ST population in Vijayapura district is 22.04 percent of the total population. Between 2001 and 2011 SC/ST sex ratio has improved; SC sex ratio improving from 953 in 2001 to 955 in 2011 and ST sex ratio improving from 944 in 2001 to 974 in 2011. When compared to Karnataka SC/ST sex ratio, changes in the sex ratio in the urban areas of Vijayapura district are better. In 0-6 year age group, sex ratio has improved from 928 to 931. Among SCs it has increased from 936 to 942 and among STs it has increased from 956 to 967.

There is a considerable increase in the literacy rate of SCs and STs. Vijayapura taluk has recorded 9.69 percent increase in SC literacy rate. SCs/STs are mostly self-employed. They are engaged in agricultural and related activities. Untouchability persists in the society.

Government has launched several welfare programmes to uplift the SCs and STs. In Vijayapura rural, 30.37 percent and in Vijayapura urban 53.19 percent SC households have pucca houses. In Vijayapura rural, 22 percent STs own pucca houses while in Vijayapura urban 50.75 percent STs have pucca houses. In respect of access to toilets, electricity and modern fuel, the situation is not at all satisfactory. In Vijayapura rural 3.58 percent SC and 8.24 percent ST households have toilets. In urban Vijayapura 41.27 SC and 53.88 percent ST households have toilets. In respect of modern fuel facility, urban SC/STs have more access than rural SC/STs.

Persisting Gaps

A study of SC/ ST's literacy, living standard, housing status, employment, access to basic facilities, etc., sheds light on certain gaps. The literacy rate of SC/STs is low compared to the district literacy rate. In Vijayapura district untouchability still persists. Both in respect of ST and SC males, their literacy rate is higher than females. On an average, there is a 20 percentage point difference in SC/ST male-female literacy rate. Gap in the literacy between two social groups has increased between 2001 and 2011. It has increased from 9.85 percent to 16.96 percent in SCs and 7.8 to 14.26 percent in STs. Excepting government jobs, most SCs/STs are engaged in menial jobs like agricultural labourers, safai karmacharis and so on. PUC pass percentage is very low when compared with SSLC pass percentage. Dropout is a serious problem both at lower and higher levels but it is more serious at higher level.

Future Strategy

Taking into consideration, the poor status of SC/STs, group specific income generating programmes should be designed. An increase in the income level has a very positive impact on living conditions. SCs/STs should be helped in creating assets such as land ownership, ownership of business premises, ownership of houses, etc. Flow of subsidy should be strictly monitored to help the poorest of poor amongst SC/STs. In order to minimise dropout rates, special package should be offered to SC/ST students at higher level of education. Special mass media programmes should be conducted to create awareness amongst SC/STs regarding their entitlements. Special campaigns should be launched to ensure employment of SC/STs in the organized sector. School going SC/ST children, who normally would have been employed elsewhere, should be offered monthly stipends as 'compensatory benefit'. This will induce their parents to send their children to the schools.

12.2.12. Future Human Development Strategy for Gender Inequalities

Human development without gender development is impossible. Women population constitutes nearly half of the total population. Holistic human development is possible only when this half of human population is mainstreamed. Not much importance was given to women's education, reproductive health and work participation rate before the advent of concept of human development. So also, women's participation in socio-economic and political processes was not emphasized. In every section of the society women face discrimination and inequality. Crimes against women are increasing. Women are generally not engaged in economically viable jobs and are paid less. Their contribution remains underestimated and, therefore, it is not properly accounted for in the GDP.

Despite the limitations as mentioned above, their WPR has increased. The number of women marginal workers has decreased while the number women non-agricultural works has increased. Vijayapura taluk has recorded a maximum increase in the number of women engaged in non-agricultural activities. On account of reservation in local government, the number of

women elected to local bodies has increased but their active participation is greatly missing.

A study of GII values across the taluk suggests that there is not much difference between high scoring taluk, Sindagi (0.517) and low scoring Muddebhihal taluk (0.488), it being 0.029 only. GII value in respect of Vijayapura is 0.508; Indi 0.507 and Basavana Bagewadi 0.492. Factually speaking, Vijayapura and Indi taluks GII values are too close to be ignored. The high GII value is because of high MMR in Sindagi; low female literacy again in Sindagi; low female wage rate and low WPR. The 0-6 age group sex ratio is not in favour of women. Things may worsen in future if serious efforts and not made at present. It is necessary to launch women empowerment programmes so as to reduce gender inequalities .

Persisting Gaps

Women confront with serious social problems such as dowry, domestic violence rape and women trafficking. Atrocities are very common. All these have led to a sense of insecurity amongst parents. Female feticide is the likely result. The declining sex ratio is an indicator of things to come. Since patriarchal society is rule of the day, women are deprived of their due share in the property rights. Though the women empowerment programmes are found, the real benefit of these programmes are not reaching to the deserving women. In local bodies, women get elected on account of reservation, however, it is found that they are not actively participating local administration. Deep rooted beliefs and perception about women have come in their way.

Certain gaps are noted, for example, the present sex ratio in the district is not in favour of women. Female literacy in Vijayapura district is 56.54%. It lags behind the state female literacy rate of 68.13%. The extent of gender literacy gap in the district is 26.28 percentage points and in the state it is 14.72 percentage points. At high school level, girls' enrolment is five times less than the enrolment in primary and upper primary schools. Women landholders are less in number. In the context of continued crime against women, they feel more insecure than before.

Future strategy

The following strategy is suggested in respect of gender development. Importance should be given to the improve sex ratio. For this purpose it is necessary to create awareness. Strict monitoring of sex-determination tests should be carried out. Gender sensitization programmes should be arranged in all schools, colleges and for general public. Efforts should be made to control violence against women particularly the domestic violence and rapes. Gender budgeting should be implemented in letter and in spirit, 33% grants should be kept aside for women-specific programmes. Gender perspective should be included in designing and implementing socio-economic policies. A holistic approach towards women's health covering nutrition, immunization and minimization of anaemia should be adopted. Strict monitoring of women's health by ASHA workers should be ensured. Institutionalized deliveries should be encouraged.

12.2.13. Future Human Development Strategy for Other Sectors

Certain strategies for other sectors are that the extent of drainage and sewerage should be extended. Road and rail connectivity needs to be improved. Another railway line starting from Wadi junction and touching Talikoti, Muddebhihal and Basavana Bagewadi to Almatti should be developed. This would facilitate trade and commerce and thereby income-generating activities. Solid waste management is now less than 50 percent of total waste. This needs to be enhanced. BPL families must be helped in switching over to modern fuel. Arrangements should be made for 24x7 power supply. Efforts should be made to develop a clean image of administration.

12.3. Conclusion

Vijayapura district is a classical example of mis-development, where growth has occurred but there is no qualitative change. Quality social and economic infrastructure is greatly missing. Since the time human development reports are prepared in Karnataka, there is no improvement in the human development status of Vijayapura district. It has, however, done better in respect of CDI, FSI and GII. A 'critical minimum effort' is required in the core areas of human development, i.e., standard of living, education and health.

We have come across certain puzzles. For example, in a predominantly agricultural economy of Vijayapura, maximum contribution to the district domestic product comes from non-agricultural activities. Agricultural output is almost stagnant. Despite two medical colleges and their research centers and many private hospitals, patients rush to or made to rush to Solapur and Miraj for better treatment. Despite a large number of PU colleges, parents prefer to send their wards to Mangalore and other far-off places for summer and special coaching classes. On one hand people wait for days to collect and store water, on the other, on the days when municipal tap water is supplied, the narrow lanes, slum areas and city roads get flooded with water. In public hospitals where cleanliness holds the key, stray animals loiter. Sanitation is the most neglected area where more than 50 percent of garbage is not cleared. On one hand Sarva Shikhsha Abhiyan is boasted but on other hand the schools across the district are infrastructure deficient. Even though the female WPR has increased, the gender inequality persists.

A strong pro-development lobby, as we find in Hyderabad-Karnataka region, is conspicuously absent. Under the circumstances, Vijayapura needs a serious “big push”. It is suggested here that a big push is needed in income and employment generating activities, both inside and outside agriculture sector. In the backdrop of Vijayapura economy, water is an elixir. It holds key to both economic and human development. Conserve water to improve water table. Rejuvenation of wells and tanks is necessary. However, the tragedy of Vijayapura district is that “everybody knew all details, anybody could have acted but nobody acted thinking that somebody would act”.