

LOCATION PROFILE

RANCHI JHARKHAND

Since, its inception Jharkhand has made rapid strides in development, from big road constructions to introduction of e-governance, direct benefit transfer, to advances in the production of fish and pulses, and other sectors. However, several unresolved issues plague the state which has made rapid strides in development.

Unsettled tenancy and domicile issues, poor and unaffordable educational and health facilities, not devolving power to panchayats, are issues that are undermining the development push. The local residents' policy announced after years of wait has not been accepted by tribal and other ethnic groups, who have called for improvement in tune with local sentiments even as it stands challenged in court. The state further stirred up a hornet's nest by meddling in tenancy laws inviting state-wide tribal protest.

Quality universal education eludes the state as most schools have been reduced to midday meal centres in want of qualified teachers. The faculty strength in schools is 40-50% below the sanctioned limit, as part-time para teachers manage daily affairs. The state's health sector lies in a shambles as many primary (PHC) and community health centres (CHC) operate in rented spaces devoid of power and water facilities. Of 5,000 doctors sanctioned, only 1,800 are appointed with the numbers abysmally low in remote and rural areas. Despite two polls since 2009, panchayats are without powers defeating the idea of empowering local self-government.

The state, in the last two years, has achieved success against the Maoists and other extremist factions, but 17 out of 24 districts still are affected by the menace.

It is one of India's richest states in natural resources, Jharkhand, still is better known to the world for rampant girl-child trafficking, armed militants (Naxals), gross human rights violations and extreme poverty. The social development index is at its worst, with 95 percent under-five child mortalities, 68.5 percent anaemic women, and 77 percent without proper sanitation.

There has been an exponential rise in incidences related to the trafficking of tribal girls. As there exists a huge disparity between the official and unofficial reports, there is no authentic source to rely on. Considering the statistics related to the Jharkhand region, CID reports suggest a mere 282 cases of human trafficking between 2001-2013, while the unofficial record puts it at well above 40,000. As per the NCRB report, trafficking has increased by 110 percent last year.

Tribal girls are the worst-affected as they often have to make a difficult choice between death due to hunger and survival through trafficking.

Many parents in Jharkhand celebrate the birth of girl child as she can be sold or sent off to big cities as domestic help by the age of eight, where her childhood is mutilated in ways beyond imagination.

This is where Lakshyam will step in, transforming the lives of tribal women by imparting entrepreneurial skills, creating local livelihood programmes, and enabling community development. After a thorough analysis of the area, Lakshyam ventured in the following 4 areas of Jharkhand:

NAMKUM

It is one of the 20 administrative blocks of the city of Ranchi in the state of Jharkhand. It is spread over an area of 415.57 km² (160.45 sq mi). As of 2001 India census, Namkum has a population of 1,14,397 with 58,968 males and 55,429 females 48.7%. Namkum has an average literacy rate of 61.10%(census 2001) of which female literacy is 46.6%. Most of the population in the area is tribal which makes high prevalence of orthodoxy, lack of development, unemployment especially in the context of women.

KHUNTI

Khunti is also known for its communal harmony. The population mainly consists of tribal communities such as Munda, Kharia, Oraon, etc. In the town area, people belonging to other communities (caste Hindus) are also well established along with these Tribal people. The place also boasts of a thriving business community. Known for its tranquillity, in the recent past, the place has been witnessing Naxal insurgency. Majority of the population is tribal in the Khunti sub-division and they are dependent on agriculture and forests for their livelihood. Lack of food security from the land has compelled many tribal families to migrate out of their villages. This is although the existing landholdings can provide stable livelihoods to the tribal families. Lack of land development, irrigation, credit, know-how for improved agriculture, access to market etc. act as serious constraints leading to a large number of impoverished tribal families.

ANGARA

The Angara is a Block placed in Ranchi district in Jharkhand. Positioned in the rural part of Jharkhand, it is one among the 18 blocks of Ranchi district. As per Census 2011, Angara's population is 112759. Out of this, 56841 are males whereas the females count 55918 here. This block has 17651 children in the age group of 0-6 years. Among them 8936 are boys and 8715 are girls.

Literacy ratio in Angara block is 54%. 61745 out of total 112759 population is literate here. In males, the literacy ratio is 64% as 36638 males out of total 56841 are educated whereas female literacy rate is 44% as 25107 out of total 55918 females are literate in this Block.

The Negative part is that illiteracy ratio of Angara block is 45%. Here 51014 out of total 112759 individuals are illiterate. Male illiteracy rate here is 35% as 20203 males out of total 56841 are uneducated. Among the females, the illiteracy ratio is 55% and 30811 out of a total of 55918 females are illiterate in this block. The count of occupied person of Angara block is 51109 yet 61650 are unemployed. And out of 51109 working individuals, 8764 peoples are completely reliant on farming.

TATISILWAI

As of 2001 India census, Tati had a population of 10,496. Males constitute 54% of the population and females 46%. Tati has an average literacy rate of 72%, higher than the national average of 59.5%: male literacy is 80%, and female literacy is 62%. In Tati, 15% of the population is under 6 years of age.