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Carrying out District Need Assessment (DNA) of Aurangabad district and identifying the needs based on secondary data source

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ABSTRACT

Jankidevi Bajaj Gram Vikas Sanstha (JBGVS) is a Bajaj Auto powered NGO that has been involved in implementing Integrated Rural Development Programs (IRDP) in villages with the objective of improving the quality of people's lives. JBGVS works in selected villages of 5 districts namely, Pune, Aurangabad, Wardha districts of Maharashtra; Sikar district of Rajasthan and Udham Singh Nagar district of Uttarakhand. For JBGVS, needs assessment for a district is important because it will help the organization in understanding the needs that are preventing the district from reaching near its ideal condition/state in terms of availability of resources and stable overall development of the community. Need assessment is a series of activities that can help the researchers at all levels to find, perceive and solve the issues prevailing in that region. It is defined as the structured scrutiny of the gap that exists between the current and the desired state. It is the most important step in order to bring about an effective social change. The main motto of district need assessment is to help the researchers to identify and prioritize the needs that region has to address to improve its conditions and perform. Suitable, well planned and implemented need assessment projects is important to execute successful philanthropic projects, community development, and natural calamity response. An in-depth need assessment study will contribute to planning, monitoring & evaluation as well as project responsibility. It is a key step in the project planning life cycle.

Keywords— District Need Assessment, Rural Development, Community development, Gap analysis

1. OBJECTIVES

- To understand and identify the needs of the districts across different sectors from development perspective.
- To support and provide the initial data for planning strategies for the next 5 years for budget allocation across different sectors and geographies.

2. SCOPE

Need assessment is the first step in the instructional design process such is as an important process for improvement practitioners. As mentioned earlier, JBGVS, being an implementation agency and donor, defined its working geography in order to make a strategic plan from budget utilization point of view as it is very important to understand exactly where to invest the money. The needs may vary as per the geography across different sectors. Even talukas under one district may have different needs. Ex, Pune district has 14 talukas. Western talukas receive average rainfall about 250 mm per year and eastern talukas about 300 mm. The western region is almost dominated by tribal communities. So, the needs of the region will, of course, vary based on the Agro-climatic regions, socio-economic culture, etc. In order to address the real needs of the community of each block, the budget allocation should be systematic. Also, based on the assessment results, if it results in JBGVS not having the capacity to do the needful, support/sectoral organizations will be identified in order to implement the program and address the real need of the community.

In the financial year 2019 – 2020, JBGVS has a budget of 30 Crore to be spent on development activities. Once the District Need Assessment study gets over along with strategic planning on budget utilization, implementation will start as per the recommendations.

3. LITERATURE REVIEWS

K. MacKay and L. Hemmett, *Needs assessment of women with urinary incontinence in a district health authority*

BACKDROP: The commonness of involuntary urination in women is difficult to guess because focuses differ between researchers and among women, for whom grievances differ. However, studies have also shown that only about a small section of women affected

by involuntary urination seek advice from a doctor for their indicators, despite proof of successful treatments and better management of the condition in primary care. The aim was to assess the needs of women with involuntary urination who are living at home.

A total of 720 women who are listed with the local GP and are of age 45 years or more were studied by using a survey.

Out of 720 questionnaires, a total of 227 (46%) women had signs of significant involuntary urination. The mutual reasons provided by the 101 women who confessed having a problem and who had not referred their GPs were that they thought that they should manage on their own (43 [42.6%]), that this problem was unavoidable with age (26 [25.7%]) or that it was awkward to talk about the problem to their GP (14 [13.8%]).

This initiative was to increase the awareness about the damaging effects of the condition called involuntary urination if left untreated.

Meitei, L. Shanta and Devi, Th. Purnima, Farmers information needs in rural Manipur: An assessment

BACKDROP: In Manipur, data on farmers' needs were gathered by using pre-tested semi-structured survey and this data was processed and studied through Minitab-software. The paper focuses on the channels of getting information by rural farmers' communities in order to satisfy their information needs. The observations of the present study have also discovered that rural farmers community need a variety of information but the essential information for their day to day agricultural activities are not satisfied. Substantial work and struggles are needed for imparting information support for balanced agricultural development with the application of developing information and communication technologies for information oriented and socio-economic empowerment of the rural farming community.

Kathryn Ellis, Ann Davis, Kirstein Rummery, Needs Assessment, Street-level Bureaucracy, and New Community Care

BACKDROP: A number of studies were carried out in the 1970s to study the function of frontline authorities in recognizing and meeting social needs. A collective finding was that social workers behaved like "street-level officials", using their unrestricted power cautiously to survive the otherwise tremendous workload. Their goal was to decrease the scope of specialized discretion so as to regulate responses to need and control request according to supplies available. In this paper, the authors consider the win of new systems in managing "bottom-up decision making by illustrating a recent factual study of needs assessment on total of 3 teams. They indicate that the assessment practice of those teams facing the maximum bombardment rates was mostly criteria-driven, secured by the use of new technology. The authors infer, therefore, that the scope of unrestricted space available to frontline staff in social services departments, and the systems to which it gives rise, are factual questions only sufficiently tackled by methodologies able to connect with "bottom-up decision – making.

4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- **Statement Of the problem:** Carrying out District Need Assessment (DNA) of Aurangabad and identifying the needs of the district based on secondary data sources.
- **Research Design:** Descriptive Research – It is a method for research that provides us with detailed information about various features of the population or phenomenon that is being studied. In other words, descriptive research primarily focuses on describing the nature of a demographic segment, without focusing on "why" a certain phenomenon occurs.
- **Research Tool:** Observation (access to real-life data) is a systematic data collection approach. Researchers use all of their senses to examine people in natural settings or naturally occurring situations.
- **Research Type:** Qualitative & quantitative research
Quantitative market research refers to the process of collecting large amounts of data through surveys, questionnaires, and polling methods. Qualitative market research involves determining customer motivation through close observation — typically in a small group or face-to-face encounter & quantitative research means asking people for their opinions in a structured way so that we have facts and statistics to guide us. To get reliable results, it's important to survey people in fairly large numbers and to make sure they are a representative sample of your target market.
- **Population size:** 11.8 Lakhs as of 2011 Census
- **Sample size:**

Table 1: Aurangabad district Statistics

Number of tehsils	9	Aurangabad, Sillod, Gangapur, Paithan, Kannad, Vaijapur, Phulambri, Khulabad, Soegaon
Number of blocks	9	Same as above
Number of villages	1356	

- **Sample frame:** Census (2011) of the district of Aurangabad
- **Sampling technique:** Stratified sampling is a type of sampling in which the phenomenon being studied is divided into separate groups called strata. Then, a probability sample (often a simple random sample) is drawn from each group. Stratified sampling has several advantages over simple random sampling.
- **Data Type:** Compiled data derived from the Census of the year 2011.

5. DATA ANALYSIS

JBGVS implements the project under 4 broadheads which are as follows –

- Education
- Health
- Relief of poverty
- Environment

5.1 Education

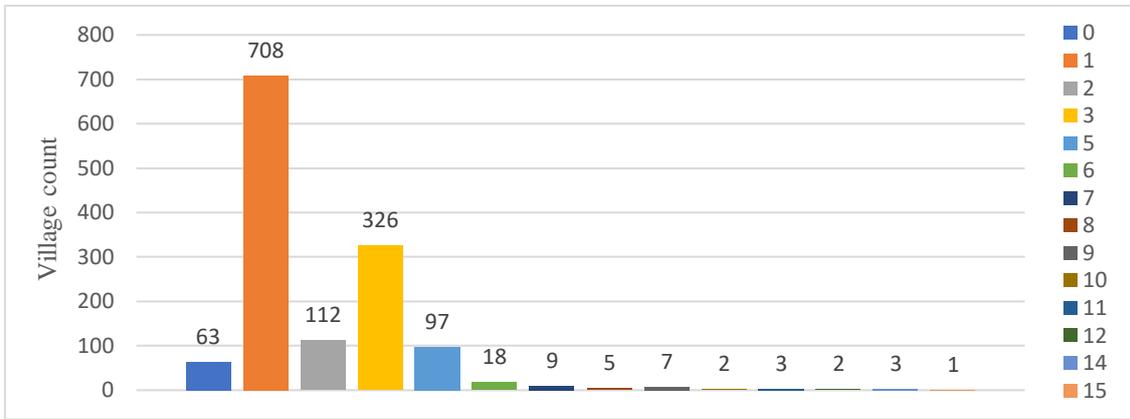


Fig. 1: Education facility availability information

This shows that in Aurangabad, there still are 63 such villages that do not have a basic facility for providing education to the children. Most of the population in India lives in rural areas and so the matter of rural education should be of utmost importance. As the population of India is increasing rapidly, the number of schools in order to accommodate such a large number should also increase. Here, JBGVS has an opportunity to provide support by supplying educational requirements like infrastructure, teachers, study material, etc. in these 63 villages which have zero facilities for teaching young minds.

5.2 Health

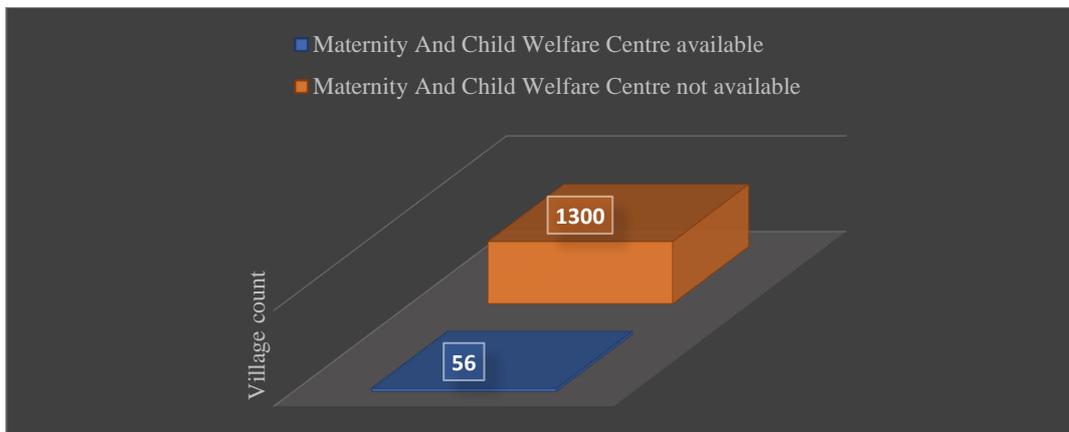


Fig. 2: Availability of maternity and child welfare centers

From this graph of census data, we come to know that in Aurangabad, there are 1300 villages where maternity & child welfare centers (MCWC) are not available. Only 56 villages are such where the maternity and child welfare centers are available. For proper growth, the health of the mother and the child are really important. This MCWC help in taking care of both the mother and the child and provide full support in case of any complications. Prenatal care can help avert complications and educate the women who are expecting and the family members about the necessary steps they can take to protect their child and ensure a healthy and smooth pregnancy. Thus, JBGVS can provide these 1300 villages with such MCW centers which will help and educate people about maternal and prenatal care.

5.3 Relief of poverty

As per Aurangabad’s Houseless census, there are 888 families which live on footpath or do not have any roof over their heads. In numbers, this amount to 3048 people living on the streets. Here, JBGVS can help elevate poverty by organizing fund-raising events, donating, providing the poor people with jobs, by starting Self – Help groups, etc.

5.4 Environment

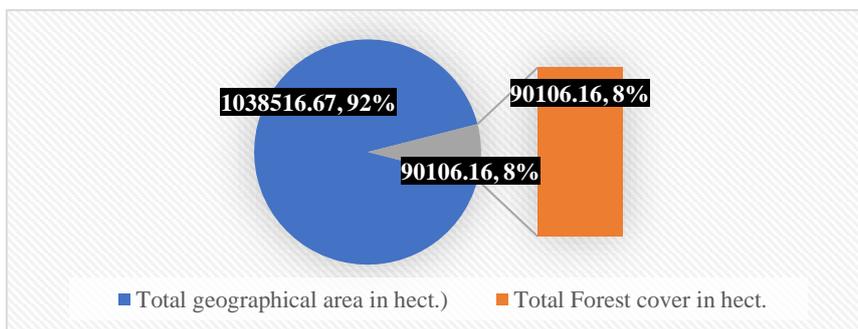


Fig. 3: Forest cover in Aurangabad

As per the graph based on the census data, in Aurangabad, only 8% of the total land cover is covered by forest. This means that the remaining 92% is covered by the concrete jungle or inhabited by people. JBGVS can aim to increase this percentage by conducting tree plantation drives and creating awareness among the people about the importance of tree plantation. They can educate people about the growing dangers of pollution and global warming. Even if most of the people are educated, they are unaware of these environmental issues which can harm the future of human civilization.

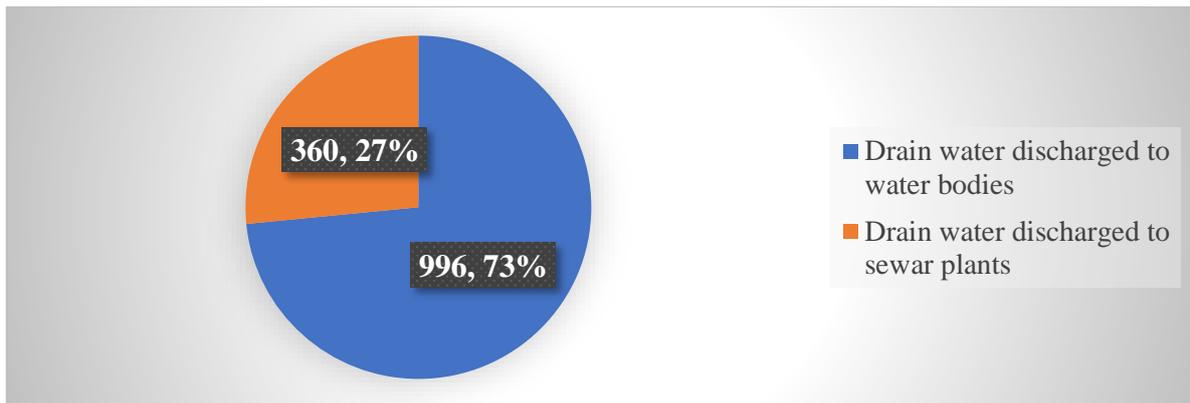


Fig. 4: Percentage of villages which discharges drain water to water bodies or sewer plants

This is another graph, based on the census, that shows the percentage of villages which discharges drain water directly into the water bodies or to the sewer plants. Of the total 1356 villages of Aurangabad, 996 (computes of 73%) discharges its drain water to the natural water bodies which are polluting the freshwater and harming the natural habitat. This mixing of used water is not only harming the living beings present in the water but also harming the living beings present on the land. This may also lead to an outbreak of water-borne diseases and may affect people at large. Here, JBGVS can provide funds for constructing pipelines that can direct this used water to the sewage plant for treatment. This will result in the water being treated properly without any type of wastage for reusing and the possibility of outbreak of water-borne diseases will be curbed.

6. OBSERVATIONS

- From the above research, it is observed that in Aurangabad there are 63 villages that do not have basic educational facilities like infrastructure, teaching staff and study material.
- Proper primary education is necessary to improve a child's mental growth which is clearly missing in these 63 villages.
- There is also the unavailability of Maternity & Child Welfare Centres in 1300 villages that should be addressed in order to provide support to the expecting mothers and their families.
- The women living in these 1300 villages still don't have access to all the required services during their maternity period.
- It is also observed that Aurangabad has a huge number of people (3048 individuals) dwelling on the streets.
- In order to achieve economic stability in a region, it is important to achieve economic stability of every individual living in it.
- Thus, eradicating poverty in the district of Aurangabad should be prioritized and measures should be taken for the same.
- In Aurangabad, the forest cover is also very less which can more deplete if not given importance and worked upon.
- Afforestation is necessary in order to curb the problem of global warming and maintain the environment.
- Also, the amount of used water being mixed in natural water bodies is also dangerously increasing.
- In 73% of the villages in Aurangabad, used water is directly mixed into the freshwater sources.
- This can lead to water-borne diseases to spread and hamper the lives of the people living in the city of Aurangabad.

7. SUGGESTIONS

- The research done by using government data sources (theoretical sources) should be used for reference purposes only. This is recommended because the government source might have some inaccuracies in terms of updated data, etc.
- It is strongly suggested that on-field research should be done for more practical and updated findings in order to understand the actual needs of the district.
- Meeting with the Block Development officers, Gram Panchayat & Anganwadi representatives, local people, etc will give the real picture of the situation prevailing in the focused areas.
- The need assessment of the villages should be done only after consultation with the communities in which the need assessment will be done.

8. CONCLUSION

Jankidevi Bajaj Gram Vikas Sanstha believes that 'Doing Good' goes beyond philanthropy and CSR. It is more than just random acts of kindness. 'Doing Good' is a purpose, an attitude, and a way of life. It is a guide for conducting business. As a global federation of companies, the JBGVS Group sees an incredible opportunity to drive positive change in the lives of its stakeholders whether it is serving the needs of customers or taking care of the dreams and passions of their employees.

In today's world where businesses are focusing on making profits, CSR is also becoming popular among companies. JBGVS group plays major role, in fulfilling its duties towards the societal orientation segment. Even their employee engagement activities are giving a great opportunity for the employees to do good for society and the environment by giving something back to society.

In Conclusion, "Sustainability done today will reap benefits tomorrow."

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