

Rural Infrastructure Development Status in Uttar Pradesh

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It is a well-known fact that there is an urgent need to re-energize Uttar Pradesh's rural economy, including both agricultural and the non-farm sector. A number of recent initiatives undertaken intend to augment the rural infrastructure level, which could contribute positively in this regard. Infrastructure development is also likely to contribute in improving the poverty scenario. Looking at the village-level infrastructural scenario for the districts, the current analysis attempts to create a composite index of the infrastructure enjoyed by them, which in essence reflects their future growth potential. The paper concludes by acknowledging the potential role of government's policy in this regard.

Key words:- Infrastructure development, Rural Infrastructure, Rural Development of Uttar Pradesh

Economic growth and human development are strongly determined by the prevailing infrastructure development scenario. Rural infrastructure in India in terms of its roads, electricity supplies, telecom facilities, irrigation systems, water supply and sanitation, market yards, schools and health centres is woefully short of demand. It is almost totally publicly funded, and the governments at the centre and the states, have severe budgetary constraints. The local governments-zilla parishads and panchayats in case of rural areas-are largely dependent on central and state government disbursements, and are thus hardly ever in a fund surplus situation to spare money for infrastructure investment. Rural communities themselves are impoverished and unorganized, so community financing of infrastructure is not possible beyond an occasional piau (communal source of drinking water) or dharamshala (rest house or shelter). In this context the role of private capital in filling the need gap acquires tremendous importance. Seventy per cent of Indians live in villages and rural infrastructure is a key determinant of rural development and economic and social well-being.

India is a nation with over 300 million poor people, a number that has barely declined over the last three decades of development. It is therefore essential that the Eleventh Five Year Plan addresses the task of reducing the numbers of the poor frontally. It is clear that rapid growth will be essential to reduce the number of the poor and for sustainable poverty reduction, but for growth to benefit the poor disproportionately, it will have to be accompanied by more rapid employment expansion than hitherto, greater investment in health, education, water & sanitation, and child nutrition than so far, and directly targeted poverty-reduction programmes.

Uttar Pradesh is Located in the Northern region of India, Uttar Pradesh has a population of 19.96 cr., making it India's most populous state (16% of India), occupies an area of 240, 928 sq km (9% of India). The State covers a large part of the highly fertile and densely populated upper Gangetic plain and shares an international border with Nepal and is bounded by the Indian states of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Bihar. The state is divided into 72 districts 312 tehsils, and 821 community blocks. (RURAL POPULATION=79% in 2001)

Uttar Pradesh (UP) is the second largest economy in India after Maharashtra, contributing 8.17% to India's total GDP. Net State Domestic Product (NSDP) of the state at current prices in 2007-2008 was 303 cr. UP has a predominantly agrarian economy, agriculture being the highest contributor to the GSDP Economic Profile. Tertiary sector's contribution is the maximum (60%). 30% of the GSDP is contributed by the primary sector which includes agriculture, cultivation, fishery, mining activities, etc. Primary Sector Largest producer of wheat, sugarcane, tobacco and potato in the country and share varies from 30 to 50% of the country's production. One of the highest irrigation intensities at 66%. Share of the work force engaged in agriculture is about 73% Secondary Sector.

Sugar, Cotton fabrics and Agro-based industries are the three most important. Largest share of Small Scale units in the country with 12% of over 2.3 million units. Leading manufacturer of office machinery in the country (25%). India's fourth largest software exporter (US\$ 1 billion). Labour efficiency is higher in UP (26) than the National Average (25) Tertiary Sector. One of the top tourist destinations in India, with almost 25% of the All-India foreign tourists visiting Uttar Pradesh. More than 71 million domestic tourists in 2003. Agra was visited by more than 8 million domestic and 825,000 foreign tourists in 2006, followed by Varanasi, Lucknow, Allahabad, Vrindaban and Mathura Social Indicators. UP has a literacy rate of 56.27% as per the Census 2001

Official languages of the State are Hindi and Urdu. Sex ratio (number of females per thousand males) in the state is 898 in 2001 which has increase to 915 in 2011.

Socio-Economic Profile State Workforce. Workforce participation rate as per the Census

2001 in UP is 32.6%. Of the total workforce, over 18% is employed in the tertiary sector

Agriculture and allied activities employ about 73% of the workforce.

What is Infrastructure?

A term that originated in economic literature at the end of the 1940's to designate the complex of economic branches serving industry and agriculture. The infrastructure includes roads, canals, ports, bridges, airports, warehouses, energy facilities, railroads, communications, water supply and sewerage, general and professional education, scientific research, health care, and other such installations and functions.

The term "infrastructure" is borrowed from military usage, where it refers to the complex of logistical installations supporting the operations of armed forces, including depots of ammunition and other military materiel, airports, rocket bases, firing ranges, missile launching pads, and so on. A special committee of infrastructure has been organized in NATO.

Infrastructure activities, such as power, transport, telecommunications, provision of water, and sanitation and safe disposal of waste, are central to the activities of the household and to economic production. Without any of these either economic production will suffer or the quality of life will deteriorate. One could thus view these activities as essential inputs to the economic system.

Many infrastructure activities have the characteristics that they are not use-specific or user-specific: the same telephone system may be used in numerous productive activities, either simultaneously if sufficient capacity is available, or sequentially if there is crowding or congestion.

Infrastructure generally consists of long-lived engineered structures and may be one of the following:

- (a) Public utility: power, piped gas, telecommunications, water supply, etc.
- (b) Public works: major dam and canal works for irrigation, roads
- (c) Other transport sectors such as railways, ports, waterways

District-wise Infrastructure status in Rural Sector of Uttar Pradesh

We have classified infrastructure basically in two parts i.e. Physical Infrastructure and Social Infrastructure.

Physical Infrastructure:-

Percentage of electricity consumption in Agriculture Sector:-

We can analyze from Annexure-I, that the top 5 Percentage of electricity consumption in Agriculture Sector is high in Districts Bagpat, Banda, Ambedkar Nagar, Kausambi & Ghazipur in the census 2001.

There is improvement in the Percentage of electricity consumption in Agriculture Sector from the census 1991 in Districts Hamirpur, Fatehpur, Jalone, Aligarh and Sonbhadra which is better for the State.

The Percentage of electricity consumption in Agriculture Sector is low in District Lucknow, Ghaziabad, Kushinagar, Jhansi and Gorakhpur in the census 2001.

It is important to note that, percentage of electricity consumption in Agriculture Sector become worst from the census 1991 in Districts J.P.Nagar, Farrukhabad, Jaunpur, Pilibhit, Sultanpur, Muzaffernagar, Shahjahanpur, Chandauli, Etawah, Mau, Pratapgarh, Hardoi, Mathura and Unnao which may be due to expansion of urbanization of these districts in Uttar Pradesh.

Percentage of Area Irrigated by Tubwells to Net Irrigated:-

We can analyze from Annexure-II, that the top 5 Percentage of Area Irrigated by Tubwells to Net Irrigated is high in Districts J.P.Nagar, Shrawasti, Sitapur, Auraiya and Chitrakoot in the year 2007-08. which is better for the State.

While on the other bottom 5 Percentage of Area Irrigated by Tubwells to Net Irrigated is low in Districts Sonbhadra, Mahoba, Jhansi, Laltpur and Chandauli which is worst for the State.

Percentage of Household having low standard of living:-

We can analyze from Annexure-II, that the top 5 Percentage of Area Irrigated by Tubwells to Net Irrigated is high in Districts Ghaziabad, Kanpur Nagar, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Merut and Saharanpur in the year 2007-08. which is better for the State.

While on the other bottom 5 Percentage of Area Irrigated by Tubwells to Net Irrigated is low in Districts Sonbhadra, Pratapgarh, Chitrakoot, Kaushambi, and Azamgarh which are worst for the State.

Composite Development Index of Land use:-

We can analyze from Annexure-II, that the top 5 Composite Development Index of Land use is high in Districts Chandauli, Maharajganj, Rampur, Pilibhit and Moradabad.

While on the other Composite Development Index of Land use is low in Districts. Districts like Sonbhadra, Pratapgarh, Chitrakoot, Raibarelli and Allahabad. which is worst for the State.

Social Infrastructure Education

Ranked amongst the first few states to have successfully implemented 'Education For All' policy. The State has made investments towards enhancing the standard of education across different levels. UP has 16 general universities and some world renowned institutes such as Indian Institute of Technology (Kanpur), Indian Institute of Management (Lucknow), National Institute of Technology (Allahabad) and Asian Academy of Film & Television.

Literacy Rate:-

We can analyze from Annexure-I, that the literacy in rural sector is high in Districts Auraiya, Etawah, Ramabai Nagar (Kanpur Dehat), Kanpur Nagar and Gautam Budha Nagar in the census 2001.

There is improvement in the literacy in rural sector from the census 1991 in Districts Chitrakoot, Firojabad, Mau, Muzaffar Nagar, Saharanpur, Deveria and Allahabad which is better for the State.

The literacy in rural sector is low in District Baharaich, Balrampur, Shrawasti, Rampur And Moradabad in the census 2001.

It is important to note that, literacy in rural sector become worst from the census 1991 in Districts Kannauj, Farrukhabad, Bulandshahar, Chandauli, Balia, Fatehpur, Etah, J.P.Nagar and Sonbhadra which needs better education policy for these districts in Uttar Pradesh.

Composite Index of Development based on 36 important indicator:-

We have prepared district wise composite index of development which is based on 36 important development indicators of the economy of Uttar Pradesh and We can analyze from Annexure-II, that the top 5 Composite Index of Development is high in Districts Gautam Budha Nagar, Ghaziabad, Merut, Lucknow and Kanpur Nagar.

While on the other bottom 5 Composite Index of Development is low in Districts Shrawasti, Santkabir Nagar, Chitrakoot, Kaushambi and Azamgarh which needs more policy for the developing for the State.

Conclusion:

Therefore we can conclude from the above analysis that the State needs more policy implication\attention in Power sector, Road, Irrigation, Education and communication especially in eastern region and Bundel khand region of the State. Apart from above, state need to focus on below mentioned points:

- Micro finance and insurance discernment credit facilities
- A health specially maternity homes mobile hospitals etc.
- Adult education
- Village and small industry based on agricultural products
- Proper storage and grading facilities
- Facilities for over all personality development
- Making available high yielding seeds, fertilizers and agricultural implement.

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- Entrepreneurships development among rural people -construction incubators etc. By NSIC
- Development of village cluster in order to creavativenss facilities at economical rates.

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