

Highlights of the Madhya Pradesh HDR (2002)

Achievements

- The government of Madhya Pradesh introduced the process of decentralisation as being central to the policies of human development.
- Remarkable progress in education where literacy has increased from 45 per cent to 64 per cent, and female literacy from 29 per cent to 50 per cent over the last decade.
- Decentralisation of educational management key element to achieving the goal of universal primary and elementary education.
- State specific adult literacy programme, in operation since 2000, which attained significant success by enrolling 5.18 million people across the State.
- The Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) launched in January 1997 was able to eliminate in 2 years a historical backlog of about 30,000 habitations with no access to basic school facility.
- The Gross Enrolment Ratio has risen from 76.5 per cent in 1996 to 96.2 per cent in 2000-01. The enrolment ratio of girls has raised from 70.7 per cent in 1996 to 94.3 per cent in 2000-01. There has been increase within the scheduled tribe population from 78 per cent in 1992 to 91 per cent in 2000-01.

Challenges

- The 1991 Census revealed that 56 per cent of the population of Madhya Pradesh was illiterate and 70 per cent of women were not literate. Literacy rates lowest for the Scheduled Castes (35.1 per cent) and Scheduled Tribes (21.5 per cent).
- The effective marriageable age for girls in rural areas is as low as 15.5 years as per NFHS-2.
- The 2001 Census recorded a population of just over 60 million, growing at the rate of 2.2 per cent or 13.3 lakh persons per annum. The State has to thus deal with the vast employment challenge to generate nearly 10 lakhs of jobs each year to make existing livelihoods stronger and sustainable.
- Challenges in the area of school education is bringing back the out-of-school children, improving retention in the whole school cycle and improving the quality of education.
- Death rate in Madhya Pradesh was 20 per cent higher than the national average. In 2000 Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), at 88 per 1000 was much higher than the national average of 68. The child mortality rate at 56.4 per 1000 was almost double the national average as per NFHS-2.
- People have little access to healthcare on account of the low population density, vast forest cover and the difficult terrain.
- Nutrition standards reflect the health of the population and data for Madhya Pradesh reveals that it has the lowest per capita expenditure on food amongst all the Indian States.
- The rate of employment growth, specially in rural areas, declined. In rural areas the employment growth rate decreased from 3.71 per cent per annum (1987-88 to 1994) to 0.69 per cent per annum (1994-2000).
- The NSS data showed an increase in casual labourers from 31.7 per cent male and 37.6 per cent female in 1993-94 to 37.1 per cent male and 44.1 per cent female in 1999-2000.

Key recommendations

- Further decentralisation from the district to the village and school cluster levels, especially for the poor children.
- Sustaining and consolidating of literacy skills, linking literacy with life needs, promoting women's education, strengthening self-help groups, developing innovative teaching and learning materials and establishing a network of rural libraries.
- Enhanced investment in agriculture, allied and the services sector would lead to the highest employment with moderate Gross State Domestic Product growth and least income disparity.
- Reduction in high infant and child mortality by increasing immunisation cover, creating a hygienic environment, promoting safe delivery practices and an efficient neo-natal and childcare system.

- Agriculture diversification would be needed from crop cultivation to horticulture, dairy, poultry, fishery and forest-based activities.
- To improve the productivity of capital through institutional development services.
- Appropriate public policy to increase the growth rate needs the support of adequate financial resources from the Central Government or by private investment.

Human Development Index & Gender Development Index for Madhya Pradesh, 2001

District	Human Development Index (HDI)		Gender Related Development Index (GDI)	
	(Value)	(Rank)	(Value)	(Rank)
Indore	0.694	1	0.581	13
Bhopal	0.663	2	0.547	22
Raisen	0.645	3	0.584	12
Ujjain	0.632	3	0.615	6
Mandsaur	0.632	4	0.622	4
Ratlam	0.630	5	0.633	2
Neemuch	0.626	6	0.591	8
Gwalior	0.624	7	0.527	28
Shajapur	0.617	8	0.627	3
Dewas	0.610	9	0.634	1
Narsimhapur	0.610	9	0.588	10
Harda	0.588	10	0.579	14
Chhindwara	0.586	11	0.575	15
Hoshangabad	0.584	12	0.530	27
Balaghat	0.580	13	0.598	7
Mandla	0.578	14	0.563	18
Jabalpur	0.572	15	0.508	31
Damoh	0.568	16	0.586	11
Bhind	0.566	17	0.512	30
Sagar	0.565	18	0.545	23
East Nimar (Khandwa)	0.563	19	0.517	29
Sehore	0.560	29	0.590	9

Dhar	0.559	30	0.533	26
Dindori	0.557	31	0.617	5
Sidhi	0.555	32	0.570	16
Seoni	0.550	33	0.563	18
Vidisha	0.549	34	0.482	35
Datia	0.543	35	0.549	20
Katni	0.542	36	0.558	19
Betul	0.537	37	0.558	19
Shahdol	0.525	38	0.535	25
Morena	0.520	39	0.436	40
Sheopur	0.514	40	0.569	17
Rajgarh	0.504	41	0.548	21
West Nimar (Khargone)	0.498	42	0.543	24
Guna	0.493	43	0.476	36
Umaria	0.492	44	0.508	31
Satna	0.483	45	0.476	36
Rewa	0.478	46	0.500	32
Shivpuri	0.473	47	0.512	30
Panna	0.470	48	0.462	37
Tikamgarh	0.468	49	0.486	34
Chhatarpur	0.449	50	0.447	39
Barwani	0.422	51	0.488	33
Jhabua	0.372	52	0.450	38

Source: Government of Madhya Pradesh (2002), *The Madhya Pradesh Human Development Report 2002*, Government of Madhya Pradesh, pp. 14-15.