

ABOUT THE BOOK.....

The international conference on Population Development held in Cairo in the year 1994 emphasised on **integrating population concern and issues** into the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all policies and programmes relating to sustainable development at all levels - international, regional, national and local. This is necessary in order to promote social justice and to eradicate poverty to sustain economic growth in the context of sustainable development. It would go a long way in meeting the needs and improving the quality of life of present and future generations. Development strategies must realistically reflect both the short, medium and long term implications and consequence for population dynamics as well as pattern of production and consumption (ICPD-1994).

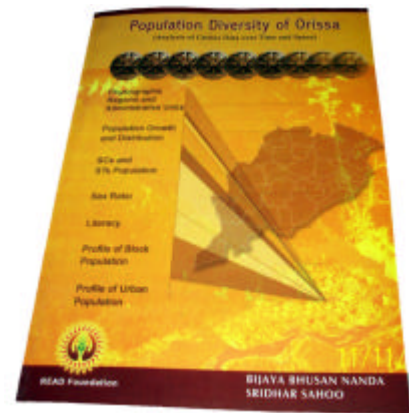
The State of Orissa has a skewed pattern of development, social and cultural diversities, persistent socio-economic backwardness in spite of its natural bounty and mineral resources. This raised many eyebrows and disturbed the thinking process of many. If a State like Orissa has experienced chronic development crisis, wide spread dissatisfaction in development and sub-standard levels of living, then the population parameters and its interplay are important either as causes or consequences of these conditions. Therefore, in-depth analysis of different population characteristics is highly essential for effective planning for development. The decentralised planning, through the Panchayati-Raj Institutions (PRIs), in order to be effective and fulfill the expectations of its people required not only a disaggregate and robust data-base but also its meaningful analysis and interpretations.

The present book is a humble attempt to make in-depth analysis of some of the important population characteristics - growth, distribution, socially and economically backward SCs and STs, sex ratio, literacy over time and space with special emphasis to highlight the population diversity of Orissa. The analysis of population profile of community development blocks, statutory and non-statutory towns have been presented as they are the focal point of rural and urban development respectively. One of the significant features is that, the diversity and spatial pattern of different population characteristics have been analysed across the districts and blocks using geographic information system.

In this backdrop, this book, would be useful, for all those concerned with the development of the State – peoples' representative, planners, policy-makers, administrators, non governmental organisations, researchers and students. This attempt is the beginning of a series of analysis of population characteristics for each of the 30 districts, taking block and gram panchayat, village and town as units to follow subsequently.

The Chapter - 1 is introductory. It has dealt with the prospective of population analysis with reference to implications for sustainable development. It gives a picture of the location, administrative units and agro-climatic zones of the State. Besides it presents a comparative overview of the population profile of Orissa vis-à-vis India.

The 2nd chapter is on 'Population growth and distribution'. The growth rate of population of Orissa vis-à-vis the country since 1901-2001 and geographical pattern of growth across the districts during 1991-2001, have been analysed by rural-urban



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category. Similarly the comparative trend of population density of Orissa and India over 1901-2001 and its variation across the districts of the State during 1991 & 2001 have been illustrated.

The analysis of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes population has got special significance as they represent the backward and disadvantaged group in the highly stratified and caste ridden Indian society and the welfare of these disadvantaged groups and their integration to the mainstream society have prominently featured in plans and policies both at the Centre and State. The chapter - 3 has dealt with the analysis of growth, distribution of SCs & STs by rural and urban sectors.

Chapter - 4 is on 'Changing pattern of Sex Ratio in Orissa'. The analysis has focused on trend of sex ratio of Orissa versus India, trend by caste, age pattern and spatial pattern of sex ratio. Besides child sex ratio by rural and urban sectors across the districts have been analysed vividly.

Chapter - 5 is on ' Literacy in Orissa'. Literacy and education are the pre-requisites for the quality of human resources. Improvement in the level of these indicators reflects development in the society. The over all trend and level of literacy by place of residence, caste and sex and its spatial distribution have been analysed in order to get insight into this important aspects.

The Community Development blocks (CD blocks) are the units of the rural development planning. Chapter- 6 provides 'A Profile of Block Population' of Orissa. It gives the block-wise number of inhabited villages, number of households, population by sex, sex ratio, child sex ratio, population of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and the rate of literacy. A brief analysis of total population, SCs & STs population, sex ratio and literacy of the community development blocks have been attempted here.

The NACs, municipalities, municipal corporations are called statutory towns as they are declared as such by a statutory notification of the Government. Besides, there are non-statutory towns such as census towns, urban outgrowths, industrial towns considered urban as they meet certain criteria set by the census. Chapter - 7 is on 'A profile of the Urban population' of Orissa. This has analysed in some detail the population, sex ratio, child sex ratio, SCs and STs population and literacy rates for the statutory and non-statutory towns of Orissa. This would be useful to all who are interested in development of quality of lives in the urban areas.

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