

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Profile of the District

The Lower Subansiri District of Arunachal Pradesh is situated approximately between 92°40' and 94°21' East Longitude and 26°55' and 28°21' North Latitudes. The District is bounded by Kurung Kumey District and some part of Upper Subansiri District to the North, West Siang District and some part of Upper Subansiri District to the East, Papumpare District and the State of Assam to the South and Kurung Kumey and Papumpare District to the west respectively. The District covers an area of approx. 3460 square km with its Headquarters at Ziro. The District comprises of three Sub-divisions and eight Circles. With a view to all round rural development, the District has been divided into three Community Blocks covering 194 Gram Panchayats (GPs) with 226 inhabited villages.

As per 2011 Census, the District has a population of 0.83 lakh (a growth of 48.65 *per cent* from the last decade), which is about 6 *per cent* of the total population of the State (13.85 lakh). The literacy rate is 76.33 *per cent* (an increase of 27.93 *per cent* from the last decade) as against State average of 66.95 *per cent* and 74.04 *per cent* (National average). The progress made in the literacy front is very impressive as the literacy rate of the district, as per 2011 Census, is higher than the State as well as National averages while it was far below the State and National averages as per earlier census figures.

As per 2001 Census, out of 11,264 families in the District, 5,274 families (47 *per cent*) are below poverty line (BPL) as compared to 66 *per cent* at the State level. 78 *per cent* of the population reside in rural areas.

1.2 Administrative Set-up

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee is the apex body at the District level which approves developmental schemes for the District. The Deputy Commissioner (DC) is in charge of the District and is the sanctioning authority for all developmental programmes/schemes. He is also the Chief-Executive Officer (CEO) of the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA), and ensures co-ordination between DRDA, Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Field Offices and other Departments of the State Government. In other cases (State and Central Plan Schemes implemented by other Departments), he is the District Programme Coordinator (DPC). Although DC is the overall in-charge of the District, including Law & Order, the Superintendent of Police (SP) is responsible for maintenance of law and order.

The DC is assisted by an Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) (Development), who is the Member Secretary for preparation and prioritization of schemes, their monitoring and review.

1.3 District Rural Development Agency (DRDA)

DRDA is the main organ at the District level to oversee the implementation of Rural Development Programmes. It is responsible for planning and co-ordinating with various agencies – Governmental/non-Governmental, for successful programme implementation. DRDA enables the community and the rural poor to participate in the decision making process, oversees the implementation of programmes to ensure adherence to guidelines, quality, economy, efficiency, etc.; and submits reports to the concerned authorities at prescribed intervals. It is also responsible for carrying out various surveys relating to BPL families, etc;. The Project Director (PD) is the executive in charge of DRDA and is the Controlling Officer for all Block Development Officers (BDOs). He is responsible for interaction with the District/State Administration and Government of India, and ensures co-ordination with Zila Parishads for implementation of Rural Development Programmes.

The administrative set-up of the District is depicted in Chart-1 below:

Chart – 1

