

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*With increased investments by the Government (Union and the State) at the district level as the focal point, it is imperative for the Governments to know the extent to which the district administration headed by the Collector has succeeded in implementing various flagship socio-economic development programmes in the district. Audit of Boudh district was conducted to examine the adequacy and effectiveness of the delivery mechanism of the various flagship programmes under nine sectors (health, education, food & nutrition, drinking water, rural employment, rural housing, rural roads, agriculture and rural electricity). Sector wise performance is discussed as under:*

### ***Institutional Framework***

*District level Planning and Monitoring Committees constituted in Boudh district, held inadequate number of meetings and functioned more to comply mandatory requirements rather than deliver expected outcomes efficiently and effectively.*

### ***Recommendations***

*The Committees constituted under flagship programmes should hold regular meetings as per norm prescribed, discuss the deficiencies, problems, bottlenecks encountered during implementation of the programmes and ensure appropriate steps for ensuring quality delivery of services.*

### ***Planning***

*Planning was found to be inadequate and ineffective as it failed to involve the citizens at Gram Panchayat and Panchayat Samiti level in the process. It also lacked convergence with other schemes for integrated development of the district. District Planning Committee met once a year to approve annual plan only. The District Planning and Monitoring Unit (DPMU), responsible for preparation of plan and monitoring its implementation remained ineffective due to absence of adequate staff and the entire planning process was operationalised by Technical Support Institute (TSI).*

### ***Recommendations***

*District Planning Committee (DPC) should be strengthened by adequate posting of professional persons. Participatory planning involving Gram Panchayats (GPs) and Blocks as envisaged by the Planning Commission should be ensured.*

### ***Financial management***

*The district could utilise 74 per cent (₹ 333.89 crore) of the total funds (₹450.17 crore) received. The reported expenditure were misstated as it included funds provided on advance (₹ 69.88 crore) and amount diverted (₹ 1.97 crore). Besides, gross irregularities were noticed in financial management as the DDOs furnished fictitious utilisation certificate (UC) for ₹ 34.85 crore without actual expenditure.*

### **Recommendation**

*Utilization of the fund within the time frame should be ensured to avoid the lapse of Central assistance. Submission of Utilization Certificate without actual expenditure should be seriously viewed for necessary corrective action*

### **Health**

*Accessibility of rural populace to healthcare facilities at affordable cost remained unfulfilled in the district despite expenditure of ₹ 17.67 crore during 2007-12. There was shortage of 24 health centres, vacancy of 24 doctors (45 per cent) and 61 vacancies (38 per cent) of para medical staff in the district affecting health care services. There was abnormal delay in commencement and completion of buildings leading to unfruitful expenditure of ₹ 36.36 lakh. Hospitals were running without basic facilities like X-rays, Ultrasound, ECG etc and even 78 per cent of tests in the District Headquarters Hospital were conducted outside due to absence of adequate facilities in the hospital.*

### **Recommendation**

*Posting of requisite doctors, specialists and para medical staff in the district should be ensured. Adequate infrastructures like buildings, equipment and other basic minimum requirements should be made available expeditiously.*

### **Education**

*Even after 10 years of implementation of SSA, the educational sector did not present a healthy picture. There were 204 habitations without any school, shortage of 337 teachers as per the sanctioned strength and 1303 teachers as required under Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act. There were even schools with two teachers for 304 students against the ratio of one teacher for 40 students. The scholastic achievement of the students was poor; not even 22 per cent of students of Class IV to VII interviewed could write alphabets in both English and Odia.*

### **Recommendation**

*Adequate number of schools should be established and required number of teachers may be posted on priority. Quality education in proper environment should be ensured to enhance the learning level of the students.*

### **Food and Nutrition**

*The Department failed to cover 221 villages with about two lakh beneficiaries under full packages of ICDS services due to inaccessible and distant location. 466 (66 per cent) out of 705 Anganwadi centres (AWCs) were functioning in private places and school verandas, 29 per cent (207) of the AWCs were functioning in damaged buildings, 452 AWCs (64 per cent) were not having toilet facilities and 53 AWCs had no drinking water facilities. In 31 AWCs not more than 150 feeding days could be provided per year. Besides, the quality of food supplied was never tested. 62 per cent of the children in the district were detected as malnourished.*

### **Recommendation**

*Adequate AWCs should be set up with basic facilities as per norm. Steps may be taken to cover all the beneficiaries of the district including those residing in inaccessible areas to provide with all the six packages of the ICDS programme.*

### **Drinking water**

*The basic objective of providing the minimum quantity of purified water on sustainable basis under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) was defeated since only 25 per cent of people could be covered under the piped water supply system since its implementation from 2002-03 in the district. There was 37 Rural Piped Water supply lying incomplete since two to three years depriving 34391 population of safe drinking water despite expenditure of Rs 7.59 crore. Water from 38 per cent (1904) of tube wells/ spot sources were left untested. It was found in 118 cases of tube wells that water was not safe for drinking purposes due to excess iron/floride/multi chemical contents.*

### **Recommendation**

*Provision of water to all households on a sustainable basis should be ensured in a time bound manner. Quality of water should be tested invariably in all cases to supply safe drinking water to the public.*

### **Rural employment**

*Though the district had 80 per cent BPL households, 70 per cent registered households did not demand any work and only three per cent of the household that demanded work could be provided with 100 days employment. 239 persons migrated from the district during 2007-12 in search of work. Payment of wages to the labourers was delayed from 11 to 197 days. There was irregular payment of ₹ 86.92 lakh in violation to measurement norms. The department incurred unfruitful expenditure of ₹ 3.86 crore due to non completion of 325 works taken up during 2007-10. Besides, wasteful expenditure of ₹ 13 lakh was incurred on creation of assets not useful to community.*

### **Recommendations**

*Hundred days of work to each willing households should be provided. Timely payment of wages should be ensured. Steps should be taken to complete the works in a time frame.*

### **Housing**

*The selection of beneficiaries for allotment of houses was not transparent resulting in many eligible households being deprived of getting IAY houses. Convergence with other flagship programmes to enhance the standard of life of IAY beneficiaries was absent. Monitoring and persuasion was not effective as it failed to facilitate the beneficiaries to complete their houses in time.*

### **Recommendations**

*Transparency should be maintained in selection of beneficiaries. Monitoring should be strengthened to motivate the beneficiaries for timely completion of their houses.*

### **Agriculture**

*Agricultural research and extension activities were not carried out. Farmers did not adopt latest technologies and had no professional support. Facilities were not adequately provided for capacity building of the farmers. Subsidy support provided was misutilised for want of monitoring and acute shortage of man power including higher level functionaries, which led to failure in achievement of intended targets.*

### **Recommendations**

*Adequate number of staff and professionals should be deployed to provide necessary support to the farmers in their agricultural productions. Impact assessment on agriculture, especially in subsidy availed items like tractor, power tillers, pump sets, bore wells etc under different programmes should be conducted.*

### **Rural Roads**

*Despite intervention of the GoI, 61 per cent of habitations were not accessible in the district for slow progress of road construction. Roads were found incomplete from 2006-07 onwards leading to unfruitful expenditure of ₹ 29.68 crore. There was lack of convergence approach for construction of bridges over rivers/nallas depriving connectivity to the rural people.*

### **Recommendations**

*Efforts should be taken to complete the roads on priority. Bridges should be simultaneously constructed on missing links with convergence approach to provide connectivity.*

### **Rural Electrification**

*Despite receipt of adequate funds (₹ 72.08 crore) for rural electrification as per DPR, only 46 per cent of habitations and 54 per cent of households were covered by March 2012. There was abnormal delay at every stage starting from the completion of infrastructure, conducting inspections, charging of electricity and handing over of works to SOUTHCO.*

### **Recommendations**

*Delay at every stage should be avoided for early electrification of the villages/ households.*

### ***Monitoring and Evaluation***

*Monitoring on all sectors by the district authorities including the Collector was routine and not outcome-driven. None of the sectoral heads had tried to evaluate the impact of implementation of programmes under their control to ascertain whether goals set, were achieved and benefits effectively received by the rural populace of the district.*

### ***Recommendations***

*The District sectoral heads should strengthen monitoring and supervision through regular visit of sites. Objective evaluation and impact assessment may be made periodically on performance of the programmes.*



## DISTRICT MAP OF BOUDH

