

## **A Brief outline of Baseline Survey of Village Faziabad (Medak District)\***

Understanding the socioeconomic transformation of rural society/economy of developing countries including India has been in the agenda of social scientists for last many years. Better understanding of rural/village society facilitates policy makers to initiate appropriate policies to set in the motion of rural transformation. For understanding the rural society, social scientists have devised different methods of enquiry and established a rich tradition of intensive and in-depth village studies. In this process social anthropologists have drawn their attention towards the process of socio-economic life in rural India that is intertwined with caste, class and power relations, and their dynamics. Economists while conducting village surveys, have drawn their attention to economic aspects of rural society and enquired about the prevailing institutions that control the functioning of different rural markets including that of land, labour, credit and output, and interlocking nature of these markets. Several scholars have followed a multi-disciplinary approach to understand the above issues.

The main objective of the Village Study is to conduct baseline survey related to different socioeconomic variables and to understand the functioning of institutions that affect the livelihoods of the people. Specifically, the study will address the following:

- Socioeconomic characteristics of different groups of households in the village.
- Functioning of different agrarian markets such as - land, labour, credit and output; and
- The functioning of different programmes related to rural development.

For the village study, a village in the district of Medak, Telangana state has been selected. In order to select village we listed out all the villages in Medak district based on Field Survey Abstract Census 2011 and short-listed those multi-caste and middle sized villages. We created a panel of ten villages from Medak and visited these villages before selecting the village finally. A multi-caste and middle - sized village, consisting of about 500 households, is selected for the study. About 30 percent of sample households were selected using stratified random sampling. Then structured questionnaires were administered to the sample households. The study also involved the methods of formal and informal interviews of

different informants including those who interact with various local and external institutions for a variety of transactions or services.

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