

PEOPLE'S CHARTER OF DEMAND: BOLANGIR DISTRICT ODISHA STATE BUDGET 2015-16



District Level Pre-budget discussion is a platform where common people's needs, priorities and aspirations are consolidated and put forward to be recognized at state's budget. It is an attempt to amplify people's voice in favor of a participatory and pro-poor budget. This process helps in understanding district's urge through budget analysis and discourse with political activists, media, other civil society organizations, government officials and the community.

This document represents the challenges faced by Bolangir and possible budget provisions, expected to be made during budget 2015-16. These demands are derived through intensive research conducted by the District Budget Watch Group, Bolangir and inputs gathered from different district level citizenry processes.



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Bolangir is situated in the western region of Odisha which spreads over an area of 5,165 km². Almost 88.04 percent of 16.48 lakh (As per 2011 census) people in Bolangir reside in rural areas. Average literacy rate of Bolangir in 2011 was 64.72 percent compared to 55.70 percent in 2001. Children under 0 to 6 formed 13.12 percent of Bolangir District. In 2006 the Ministry of Panchayati Raj categorized Bolangir as one of the country's 250 most backward districts (out of a total of 640). It is one of the 19 districts in Odisha, currently receiving funds from the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme (BRGF). The economy of this district is predominantly agrarian with more than 70% of the population depending on agriculture for their livelihood. Many poor migrate to cities like Hyderabad, Chennai, Raipur etc. to work there as “*Dadan Sramik*” (Migrant Labourer). This is a major constraint for education of their children. For the holistic development of these people, key sectors like Elementary Education, Public Health, Agriculture and Early Childhood Care and Development are to be prioritized by the Government of Odisha during the formation of State's Budget.

The aspirations of the people of this District is prepared based on the field level assessment done by District Budget Watch Group, Bolangir in six sample villages of six Gram Panchayats of Loisingha, Khparkhol, Turekela, Gudvela and Agalapur blocks and data from secondary sources like concerned department's website, economic survey, annual health survey, DISE data, district handbooks and other relevant sources have also been referred.



ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Findings of field assessment (One school each from 6 villages)

- During the field assessment it was found that 112 children are out of school in the six sample villages.
- 41 children are migrated to out of State.
- Out of the sanctioned positions of six only three positions for headmasters are filled and out of 12 scaled teachers only six scaled teachers are in position.
- There are three schools which do not have a office room, one school does not have classroom and six schools do not have electricity and play ground.
- Three schools do not have a boundary wall, two schools do not have ramps.
- The Block Education Officer (BEO) and the District Education Officer (DEO) have visited only two schools last year.

Overall district Position

- There are 12.3% of the total schools are running with single teacher and 10.7% schools are being run in single class room.
- 84% of the schools do not have electricity connection and 82% and 40% of schools do not have a playground and boundary wall respectively.
- 33% of schools are having less than 50 student strength and SC &ST students enrollment is 19.5% and 20% respectively.
- 25% of schools do not have School Management Committees (SMCs) and 18.3% children drop out between the age of 6-17.



Propositions

- Enhanced provision for Infrastructure Development at Primary and Upper Primary Schools.
- Adequate budgetary resource provision for appointment of regular teachers in Primary and Upper Primary Schools: (to fulfill remaining 69.02 PTR as per 30:1 PTR norm of RTE).
- Adequate provision for Capacity Building of School Management Committees.
- Provision for remedial classes at formal schools especially for migrant children after their return.
- Provision for more residential schools for un-disrupted education of migrant children.
- Enhance provision for travel allowances for monitoring of schools by the Authorities.

HEALTH

Findings of the field assessment (1 CHC and 3 PHC of Loisingha Block)

- There is shortage of staffs in the position of ANM and Male Health Worker.
- Lack of accommodation facilities abstain the ANM/ Male Health Workers to stay in the health centre.
- Doctors are not coming regularly and there is no doctor in one PHC.
- All type of Drugs are not available in the health centres.
- The maternal health care schemes like JSY and referral services are not functioning properly.

Findings of the field assessment on sanitation status in district hospital (District Hospital Balangir)

- Average 650 patients visit the hospital a day
- There are only 33 cleaning staffs and 24 out of them are being outsourced.
- There are 41 toilets and 48 water taps. Out of 48 water taps, 5 taps have leakages and 2 taps are defunct.
- Wards and corridors of the hospital are in unhygienic condition and the medical wastes are being dumped within the premises of the hospital.
- The drains of the hospital are blocked, therefore the drain water overflows during rainy season.



Overall district position

- Out of the 190 sanctioned posts only 151 doctors are in position.
- 47% of the total population suffer from acute illness and seek treatment from Government hospital.
- The Crude Birth Rate is 20.8.
- Only 14.8% of the pregnant mothers receive full antenatal care.
- Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is 98, highest in Odisha.
- 72.1% of women availed financial assistance from Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) scheme.
- 72% opt Government hospital for delivery.

Proposition

- The vacancies of different medical professionals starting from doctors to health workers are to be filled in DHH, SDHs, PHCs, CHCs and Sub Centres with adequate budget provision.

- The issues like chronic illness, high crude death rate, IMR, antenatal care etc is acute due to lack of medical information among the community. Therefore, the intervention needs to be focused on community awareness on different provisions related to these issues, both in the rural and urban areas. Budget allocation should be made for IEC activities so as to enable the community to access facilities and also to make the service providers accountable for the service being rendered.
- The district hospital, two sub-divisional hospitals, 42 PHCs, 15 CHCs and 226 sub-centres do not have adequate infrastructures like ICU, proper OT, number of beds, accommodations for the hospital staffs etc. Hence, adequate budget should be allocated to improve the infrastructure as per IPHS norms.
- Out of pocket expenses of the poor patients are more due to non availability of medicines in the hospitals. Therefore, budget provisions to purchase free medicines should be given priority. The '*Jana aushadhi* stores' for generic medicines should be opened at the DHH, SDH and CHCs.
- Public provision for effective referral services and maternal & child care centres at the PHC and CHC level should be adequately ensured with a robust monitoring for scrutinizing quality health care service delivery.
- Budget provision is required for training of health workers to get equipped with changing medical facilities and care.
- Research is one of the key components for improved health care. Therefore, adequate budget provision to be made for medical research on district specific chronic diseases.
- Enhanced budget allocation for sanitation services such as cleaning staffs, toilets, water tap and drainage system.
- Budget allocation need to made for disposal of bio-medical wastes.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION

Findings of the field assessment (1 anganwadi centre in each of 5 blocks)

- Out of five Anganwadi centres (AWC), two are found running in private houses.
- Only three centres have pucca houses.
- Four centres are not imparting pre-school education.
- Three centres do not have pre-school education kit.
- One Anganwadi worker is not trained on pre-school education
- The AWCs do not provide immunization, health check up and referral services.



Overall district position

- Out of the total 2443 Anganwadi centres, 1277 are running in own buildings.
- 87 Anganwadi centres do not have Anganwadi workers and 275 Anganwadi workers are not trained.
- 19,893 children who do not attend Anganwadi centre.

Propositions

- Budget allocation is required for construction of AWCs buildings (1,166 nos) which have no building. Provision for rent should also be made for rented houses.
- There should be special budget provision for the training of Anganwadi workers, pre-school education kit, provisioning of providing dress to children twice in a year.
- Budget allocation for travel allowances should be sufficiently made for the ICDS supervisors for effective monitoring to improve immunization and pre-school education
- The Anganwadi workers are not equipped in providing public health education to the parents of malnourished children. There is a need to make more public provisioning towards creating awareness among the parents on taking care of health, hygiene, care and nutrition of children to check malnutrition.
- Adequate provision to be made for supplementary nutrition programme for severe malnourished children and their mothers.

AGRICULTURE

Findings of the field assessment (10 farmers each from 5 villages across five blocks interacted)

- There are only three mandis available at the Gram Panchayat level.
- Farmers do not get adequate seeds, fertilizer, training and implement support
- Insurance schemes do not include all crops.
- Only two villages have four small irrigation points and three watershed projects.
- Big irrigation points and canal irrigation facility is non-existent in all villages.
- Only one village has Farmer's Cooperative

Overall district position

- Nine Blocks (Bangomunda, Balangir, Deogaon, Gudvela, Muribahal, Patnagarh, Puintala, Saintala and Turekela) are not covered under any major/medium irrigation projects.
- Only 188 mandis are there for marketing of agricultural produces which is not sufficient to meet the needs.

- Only one government storage which is in defunct position.
- Total 64,104 hectares of land in Kharif and 15,965 hectares in Rabi season are irrigated.

Proposition

- Budget for setting up Mandi to purchase of agricultural produces at the Gram Panchayat Level: (Establishing 56 additional marketing points (mandi) at the Gram Panchayat level by giving responsibility to the Gram Panchayat itself).
- Budget for setting up cold storage facilities in all the blocks for storage of agricultural produces.
- Budget for promoting Watershed Projects, Micro, Small and Medium Irrigation Points.
- Budget for Enhanced Subsidy (Enhanced budget allocation for supporting farmers with agricultural implements and other facilities like seeds, fertilizers, pesticides etc. at subsidized rate which should be equal to prevailing market price).
- Enhanced budget provision for providing agriculture input and necessary training.
- Promotion of indigenous seed production at the Gram Panchayat level through appropriate budget provisions.
- Budget provision for insurance of all type of crops



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