



GANJAM DISTRICT

Resident of Ganjam on whom the administration was conferred. He was the first British administrator of Ganjam. The Ganjam collectorate was established in 1794. Of course the hilly areas of Ganjam and Visakhapatanam districts were excluded from the jurisdiction of the civil court and placed under the control of the Political Agent of the Governor in 1839. However during the 2nd half of 19th century, the British rule was consolidated in Ganjam.

In the ancient past the present district Ganjam was part of Khinjili Mandal of the Kangoda Kingdom. At another point of time this area also formed a part of ancient Kalinga which is confirmed not only by the famous Ain-i-Akhabari but also by the rock edicts of Ashoka, the Great inscribed on a hill-Khapingala at Jaugada on the bank of the river Rushikulya. In 261 B.C. emperor Ashoka conquered the whole of Kalinga fighting a fierce battle near Dhauligiri and as a consequence the present Ganjam area formed a part of his kingdom. In the middle of 4th century A.D. the areas were under the control of Gupta kings. It continued to be ruled by Bhoumkars in the 8th century A.D. and about the 10th century A.D. a new Bhanja dynasty came to power in Ghumusar the capital of which was at Russelkunda (presently Bhanjanagar). Subsequently the areas of Ganjam district remained under the domains of later Gangas and Gajapati kings. However the Marathas extended their supremacy over these areas about the year 1740. In 1753 the Nizam of Hyderabad Salabat Jung gave away northern districts of his empire including Ganjam area to "French" as "Jagir". By virtue of a deed between Nizam of Hyderabad and East India Company on 12th Nov 1766, the British extended their virtual power over Ganjam including Chicacole Circar (Srikakulam division). In December of the same year Edward Cotsford was appointed as

Broadly, this district is divided into two divisions- (a) the coastal plains in the east and (b) the table land in the west. The plain area lies between Eastern Ghat and the Bay of Bengal. This area contains fertile lands. The east and north frontiers of coastal plains are covered with thick forests, mostly containing Sal wood. Towards the centre and south it is hilly with beautiful well-watered and fertile valleys extending towards the sea. The south eastern portion is fertile and contains vast multi cropped areas, well served by major and minor irrigation projects. The extreme south-east is occupied by a portion of Chilika lake, the largest fresh/saline water lake of Asia, its immediate vicinity being good for fishery and salt manufacture.

The new district of Ganjam is constituted by 19 towns including census town and 3212 villages spread over 8 C.D blocks. It has 31.6 lakh population of which males constitute 50.05 percent and females 49.95 percent. The population growth rate during the last decade of the twentieth century is 1.6 annually.

The area of the district is 8206 sq.km and thus, population density works out to be 385. Sex ratio (females per 1000 males) works out to be 998 considering the total population of each sex and that for population of 0-6 years it is 939 indicating relatively higher deficit of females at younger ages. The percentage of population in age group 0-4 years is 9.95 percent and that of age group 5-14 years is 24.4 percent. The population in the working age group of 15-59 is 56.8 percent and old age group and age not stated group together constitute 8.85 percent. The age group wise distribution provides an idea of dependency burden and helps in planning of welfare services and business products. The district has 17.6 percent population enumerated in areas classified as urban. The major towns are Brahmapur (M), Hinjilicut (N.A.C) and Asika (N.A.C) township having 3 lakhs, 21 thousand and about 20 thousand in respective order.

The major religions in the district are Hindu (91.11 percent), Muslim (0.34 percent) and Christian (0.47 percent) indicating Hindu predominance. The Scheduled Caste population of the district constitute 18.57 percent and among them the major caste groups are Bauri (20.87 percent), Dhoba etc. (20.47 percent) and Dewar (14.01 percent). The Scheduled Tribes account for 2.88 percent population of the district and Khond etc. (49.33 percent), Shabar (25.46 percent) and Saora (14.37 percent) are the largest tribal groups in the district.

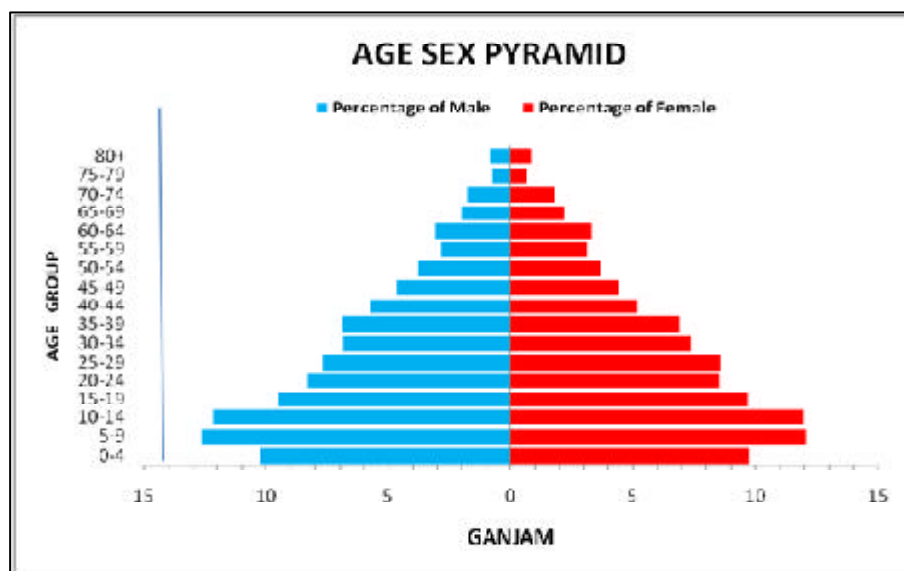
The district has 16.3 lakh literates of which 10 lakh are males and 6.2 lakh are females. The total literacy rate works out to be 51.63 percent, the male literacy rate being 61.63 percent and female rate 38.62 indicating substantial gender gap in literacy. Statistics on population reporting attainment of different educational levels reveal some interesting facets. Population with greater degree and above constitute 4.7 percent and those indicating no educational level are only 3.41 percent. The group reporting Matriculation/Secondary/Diploma as their level of education is

16.54 percent. Below primary group are 32.01 percent and those having primary and middle education are 32.01 and 11.72 percent respectively. Total population classified as workers in the district 13.05 lakh which accounts for a work participation rate of 41.32 percent. Of the workers 62.77 percent are main workers and 37.23 percent are marginal workers.

The total population of the district belong to about 6.4 lakh households in the rural and urban areas of the district. Thus the average household size is 5 per household. Of the household 51 percent are occupying permanent houses, 10.6% semi permanent houses & 38.3 % temporary houses. The rural household are spread over 2812 inhabited villages. Drinking water is available in 99.6 percent of the villages and of this safe drinking water is 97.37 percent. Electric power supply is available in 77.41 percent of villages. 55.19 percent have it for domestic purposes and only 15.04 percent villages have it for agricultural use. Of the total villages 75.71 percent have primary schools, 26.06 percent middle schools and 14.36 have secondary/senior secondary schools. Only 0.46 percent has colleges in the villages and 17 percent have medical facility. Post, telegraph and telephone facilities are available in 32.78 percent of villages. Bus services are available in 33.17 percent of villages. Paved approach road is existing in 41.36 percent of villages and 74.78 percent villages have mud approach roads.

Mention of Ganjam district is found in pre independence census but the present district of Ganjam was formed in 1993. It has abundant natural resources and developed as prominent industrial base in recent decades. It has substantial population which are Backward as indicated by S.C & S.T. percentage. Sex imbalance is an area of concern particularly in age group 0-6 years. The work participation rate still needs improvement keeping in view the recent industrialisation process. The district may provide an interesting case study for population and sustainable development.

Basic Data Sheet			
District Ganjam (19), Orissa (21)			
(Source: Census of India 2001)			
Population:			
Persons	3,160,635	Number of households	644,919
Males	1,581,986	Household size (per household)	5
Females	1,578,649		
Growth (1991 - 2001)	16.01	Sex ratio (females per 1000 males)	998
Rural	2,604,276	Sex ratio (0-6 years)	939
Urban	556,359		
Scheduled Caste population	586,798	Scheduled Tribe population	90,919
Percentage to total population	18.57	Percentage to total population	2.88
Literacy and Educational level			
Literates		Educational Level attained	
Persons	1,631,722	Total	1,631,722
Males	1,005,585	Without level	55,794
Females	626,137	Below primary	515,568
Literacy rate		Primary	522,328
Persons	60.77	Middle	191,227
Males	75.22	Matric/Higher Secondary/Diploma	269,998
Females	46.44	Graduate and above	76,807
Workers			
Total workers	1,305,932	Age groups	
Main workers	819,726	0 - 4 years	314,793
Marginal workers	486,206	5 - 14 years	771,398
Non-workers	1,854,703	15 - 59 years	1,795,114
		60 years and above (Incl. A.N.S.)	279,330
Scheduled Castes (Largest three)			
1.Bauri	122,475	Scheduled Tribes (Largest three)	
2.Dhoba etc.	120,170	1.Khond etc.	44,850
3.Dewar	82,234	2.Shabar	23,150
		3.Saora etc.	13,068
Religions (Largest three)			
1.Hindus	3,132,628	Amenities and infrastructural facilities	
2.Christians	14,818	Total inhabited villages	2,812
3.Muslims	10,910	Amenities available in villages	
Important Towns (Largest three)			
	Population	No. of villages	
1.Brahmapur (M)	307,792	Drinking water facilities	2,801
2.Hinjilicut (NAC)	21,347	Safe Drinking water	2,738
3.Asika (NAC)	20,739	Electricity (Power Supply)	2,177
		Electricity (domestic)	1,552
		Electricity (Agriculture)	423
		Primary school	2,129
		Middle schools	733
		Secondary/Sr Secondary schools	404
		College	13
House Type			
Type of house (% of households occupying)		Medical facility	478
Permanent	51	Primary Health Centre	87
Semi-permanent	10.6	Primary Health Sub-Centre	397
Temporary	38.3	Post, telegraph and telephone facility	922
		Bus services	933
		Paved approach road	1,163
		Mud approach road	2,103



District Highlights

- Ganjam is the 5th biggest district in terms of size and first in terms of population.
- Ganjam is the 6th urbanized district in the state having about 17.60 per cent of its population living in urban areas whereas about 14.99 per cent of state population live in urban areas.
- In terms of population per sq. km. Ganjam is 9th densely populated district in the state.
- Ganjam has 8th rank in terms of sex-ratio in the state.
- There are only 400 uninhabited villages in the district whereas 40 villages have a population of more than 5,000.
- Lochapada in Berhampur Sadar P.S. is the most populated village (9,240) in the district.
- The economy of the district is mainly dependent upon cultivation. Out of each 100 workers in the district 63 are engaged in agricultural sector.
- Jarada police station has the highest number of villages (246) in the district and Gopalpur police station has the lowest number of villages (27) in the district.