

## ACHALPUR

Achalpur C.D. Block lies in the north central part of Amravati district. It is a part of Achalpur tehsil. The Block is located at a distance of 51 kms. from district headquarters (Amravati). There are 170 villages in the block with the total population of 145,197 persons. Area of the C.D. Block is 616.25 sq. kms. It is bounded by tehsil Chikhaldara on north, tehsil Daryapur on south, tehsils Chandur Bazar and Bhatkuli on east, teshsils Chikhaldara and Anjangaon Surji on west. It has common boundary with the state of Madhya Pradesh on north.

### Communications:

**Roadways :** SH-70: Direction- Anjangaon Surji to Betul, Nearest Villages- Wadura, Kothara, Kandali, Khudanpur, Muradpur, Wadgaon Fattepur, Jambhala, Sabapur N. Wadgaon, Ramapur N. Jambhala, Parasapur, Walmikpur, Panch Amba Kh, Tawalar, Pardi. SH-74: Direction- Dharni to Amravati, Nearest Villages- Nimkund, Buradghat, Gaurkheda, Narsari, Malhara, Dhotarkheda, Aurangpur, Kheltapmali, Shekapur, Bhugaon, Borgaon Talni, Mengnathpur, Ratnapur.

**Railway Station:** Naubag, Chamak Kh, Chamak Bk, Pathrot, Kushta Bk, Kushta Kh, Sindi Bk.

**River:** Chandra Bhaga Nadi- Nearest Villages- Bhopapur, Devgaon, Wadagaon Kh, Pimpalkhuta, Mhasona, Belkheda, Pandhari, Daryabad, Nimdari, Wadgaon Fattepur, Aregaon, Haram, Rahimapur N. Khanapur, Chamak Kh, Chamak Bk, Surwada, Khambora, Chachondi, Balegaon, Chausala, Rasegaon, Isegaon, Shankarpur, Yevata, Sawali Bk, Sawali Kh, Khanapur, Chinchkheda, Rangar Wasni, Nimbhari, Asatpur, Shahapur. Sapan Nadi- Nearest Villages- Dhamani (N.V.), Wazzar, Ekalsapur, Sawali Datura, Dhotarkheda, Khudanpur, Kheltapmali, Sangvi, Nijampur, Borgaon Dori, Borgaon Peth, Boregaon Talni, Wasani Bk, Wasani Kh, Wasani Bk, Wadhona Jahagir, Rawalgaon, Donoda, Sangnvi N. Khairi, Khairi, Khanapur Chinchkheda, Yesurna, Nimbhari. Purna Nadi- Nearest Villages- Yelki, Tonglabad, Sawalapur, Bajitpur, Hiwara.

Backwards Region Grants Fund: It receives Backward Region Grants.

**Annual Rainfall:** Average Rainfall 1700 mm.

**Ground Water:** Availability of the ground water in the Basin is 9755.69 HAM and the utilization is 7651.05 HAM. It belongs to Safe category. Depth to water level varies from 5 to 40 meter below the ground. Most of the wells go down in summer months, according to the Ground Water Estimation Committee. Forest and **Reserved Forest:** (Reserved Forest)- Nearest Villages- Jambhala, Januna, Pimpalkhuta,

Dhamangaon, Dhamani (N.V.), Wazzar, Nimdari, Jalalpur, Wadgaon Fattepur, Upatkheda, Payvihir (N.V.), Gondwagholi, Panch Amba Bk, Khatijapur, Parasapur, Rajjakpur, Kumbhi Wagholi, Malkapur Kh., Dharampur.

**Natural Division :** Vidarbha.

### Administration:

**Division:** Amravati. Parliamentary Constituency: 7 Amravati, 6 Akola. District: Amravati. Tehsil:

Achalpur. Assembly Constituency: 40 Daryapur (SC), 41 Melghat (ST), 42. Achalpur. Gram Panchayat: 68.

**Border Villages:** (Madhya Pradesh)- Nearest Villages- Gondvihir, Belkheda, Pandhari.

**Fair and Festival:** Bahiram Fair at Karanja: This fair is held at Karanja-Baheram in Achalpur area near Amravati from Margashirsha Sud. 5 to Margashirsha Vad. 5 (November-December) in honour of God Bahiram which appears to be a corrupt form of 'Bhairav'. During this period lakhs of pilgrims from adjoining regions attend the fair. Karanja-Baheram is about 20 kms. from Achalpur, and 3 kms. to the east of Achalpur-Betul tar road. The temple of God Bahiram is situated on the Satpura hill which is 3 kms. away from Karanja-Baheram to the west, locally called 'Bahiram Hill'. The fair is held in the open ground at the foot of the hill. It is said that prior to 1957, the temple of God Bahiram was a small shelter with a roof of country tiles. The main building or the present temple was built in cement concrete in the year 1957 by a devotee belonging to Mali community. It measures about 100 feet north-south and 80 feet east-west and has 3 arches, in the east, south and north. The main gate of the temple faces the east. The spire of the temple is about 100 feet in height and the kalash is visible from a long distance. In front of the temple, there is a chauthara (100 feet x 50 feet and 4 feet high), paved with stones. To the north of the temple there are three small temples of Hanuman, Ganapati and Shankar. A tank called 'Bhende Talao' lies to the north of the temple. The shrine of God Bahiram can be approached by a flight of stone steps from the foot of the hill. It is said that about 500 years back a small image of God Bahiram (Bhairav) was found on the hill by the devotees who smeared it with sindur and butter. The present object of worship in the temple is just a rock about 6 feet high and 8 feet to 10 feet in width. Priests of the deity are Marathas by caste. The worship of the deity is performed daily in the morning and a

sweet-oil lamp is lighted in the evening. It is customary to make vows to the deity for getting a child, relief from physical or mental sufferings, prosperity in business, promotion in the service, etc. On Margashirsha Sud. 5, the homa is lighted and pilgrims offer coconuts and other things as promised in fulfilment of their vows. Some pilgrims weigh themselves or their sons against gur or sugar and the quantity of gur or sugar so weighed is distributed as prasada amongst the pilgrims present at the temple. There was a practice of offering cocks or goats to the deity by sacrificing them in front of the deity but this has now been stopped. The Amravati Gazetteer, 1921 (page 369), reads, "It is a curious and authentic fact that although thousands of animals are sacrificed in front of the rock and the place is several inches deep in blood, there is not a fly to be seen". No other religious ceremony is performed during the period of the fair. The pilgrims who attend the fair, worship the deity by offering coconuts, flowers, red lead, parched rice, etc. The 'Korkus' from Melghat area near Amravati are seen visiting the fair in large numbers. The pilgrims generally attend the fair in the morning, make their purchases and leave in the evening. This is possible because a number of buses ply between the place of the fair and such other places as Achalpur, Amravati, etc. Those who come from long distance have to accommodate themselves in temporary tents erected by them. A lodge is opened in the fair provides accommodation to the pilgrims. The main items of entertainment at the fair are cinema and tamashas, death mele, cradles, merry-go-round and swings.

**Ganeshotsav Fair:** The fair is held at Khel Choudhar (Karanjgaon), Achalpur, near Amravati from Bhadrapad Sud. 4 to Bhadrapad Sud. 15, in honour of the God Ganesh or Ganapati. The principal days of the fair are, however, only two, viz., Bhadrapad Sud. 14 and 15. The total congregation of the fair is in lakhs. It has two parts, Mahal Khel and Choudhar Khel, 'Khel' meaning part of a village named after the surnames of the inhabitants of the two parts, viz., Mahal and Choudhar. The temple is constructed by the inhabitants of Holaskar Peth, now Lokhandipura of Mahal Khel. The temple has no spire nor a separate sabhagriha. In the centre, close to the back wall of the room, a platform of brick and mud about one foot in height is built on which the image of Ganapati is installed. Of all the gods of Hindu pantheon

Ganapati is probably the most widely known. He is supposed to be the leader of the troops of the gods. The clay image of Ganapati 3½ feet in height is in a sitting posture facing the east, with a large bulging belly and having four hands. One hand holds a laddu (sweet-ball), the second holds a parashu (axe), the third holds a conch (shell) and the fourth is raised to bless the devotees. The trunk is turned towards the left of the image. It wears a crown shaded by the hood of a cobra. Near its feet is the image of a mouse which is supposed to be his favourite vehicle. The image installed in 1939, is kept on a small wooden chourang. Every year, before the fair, the image is painted in appropriate colours. On the right hand side of the Ganapati image, a clay image of Maruti 3 feet in height in a standing posture is installed on a wooden board. It is also annually painted. Its left hand holds the feet of Lord Rama and Lakshman who are seated on his left shoulder. The right hand holds a club. On the left side of the Ganapati image there is the figure of Garuda, the favourite conveyance of God Vishnu. All the images are made of clay with a mixture of papier mache. The deity is worshipped daily in the morning and evening, with flowers and an arati is performed. The morning worship consists of offerings of water, flowers, waving of incense sticks, light and so on. The evening worship comprises religious rites such as offering of water, flowers, applying of sandalwood paste, offering of cooked food and arati. Mondays and Fridays are the favourite days of the deity. On these days bhajans are sung at night and prasada is distributed among those present. Ganapati is the god of good luck and is revered also as a god of learning. It is also believed that he wards off all difficulties and obstacles. People offer coconuts, flowers, especially of red colour, to this deity. The offerings are made during the procession in the fair. A small clay image of Ganapati is installed during the fair in front of the permanent image, on any auspicious day convenient to the villagers. The house is whitewashed and decorated with electric bulbs and bhajans, and kirtans are arranged every day during the fair. Bhajan mandalis from different parts are invited. From the installation of the small image till its immersion, the daily worship is performed twice. A procession of the images is taken out on Bhadrapad Sud. 14. A stage is erected on a bullock-cart and on it the big image of Ganapati

with the images of Garuda and Maruti, on either side is kept. The small image of Ganapati installed during the fair is also kept along with the other three images. The procession accompanied by music and bhajan mandalis starts at 12 at midnight and is joined by other images from the different wards in the village. The procession takes a round in the village and arrives at the place marked for immersion. The people offer flowers, kumkum, turmeric powder, sweets, etc., to the deities. The procession reaches the place of immersion at about 4 in the morning of the fullmoon day. After performing puja and arati to the accompaniment of bhajan the small image of Ganapati is immersed in the river water. The procession starts its return journey with the big image of Ganapati and the other two images, viz., of Garuda and Maruti. A feast of ambil made of rice, wheat bread, etc., is given, after a period of 8 or 9 days but before Bhadrapad Vad. 30, Amavasya. The main items of entertainments are tamashas, cinema shows, magic feat, giant wheels, etc.

Shah Doula Rahiman Shah Gazi Urs: The Urs of Shah Doula Rahiman Shah Gazi is held from the 10th day to 15th day of the Muslim month Rabi-ul-Awwal at Achalpur, near Amravati. Shah Doula Rahiman was a great warrior, who is said to have sacrificed his life for religion and is regarded as a martyr. More than 40 to 50 kms. among the many antiquities of the town is the underground pipe line from a reservoir in Bichan river. The pipeline was laid during the reign of Ahmad Shah Wali Bahamani (A.D. 1425). It does not work now. The town has old buildings and bears testimony to its fortune under different rulers. The Idgah of Sultan Imad-ul-Mulk Tughlak, built in stone, is an old monument in the town. To the west of the town a ruined octagonal tower of bricks known as Hauz Katora stands in a tank which is now dry. This monument is also as famous as the Idgah and was constructed in the same period. The tomb of Shah Doula Abdul Rahiman Gazi Gazanavi dates back to 1340 A.D., and is considered as the most famous of all the antiquities of Achalpur to protect it from the military expeditions of the rulers in northern India. In the past a king named 'EL' was ruling over the territory with his capital at Ellichpur or Achalpur. He died in 988 AD. A wandering Muslim fakir was maltreated by Raja II of Ellichpur and fled to Gazni to appeal for help. The great Mohammed's nephew was celebrating his bridal

feast when the holy man arrived, but (it is said) he left the feast to lead a war from beyond the Himalayas to punish the blasphemous king and died fighting amid untold slaughter of the infidel, cutting off his own head, we are told, to secure the victory. His mother, Malika-i-Jahan, brought his head from Khelda and kept it with the body. The tomb was then built. After a long period of about 380 years, the tombs were destroyed by natural calamities and due to lack of supervision. The Shah came in the dreams of king Allauddin Bahamani of Delhi and directed him to build a tomb at the place for his prosperity. He also directed that small tombs of his co-warriors and followers should also be built wherever he would find flower and his own tomb should be constructed at a place where he would find a Pagree. According to the dream, king Allauddin Bahamani ordered his knight at Bidar known as Saddarkhan to construct the tombs (1368 A.D.). The warrior was then known as Shah Doula Abdul Rahiman Gazi Gazanavi. The tomb is respected for the deceased's devoted service to the religion and thousands of people attend the Urs to pay homage. The dargah containing the tomb of the great warrior is situated on the north-easterly bank of the Bichan river. From a distance the entire building looks most imposing with the two great archways, the small lantern window overhanging the river and a cluster of white domes behind. A huge structure encloses the dargah. The enclosure was built in sandstone by Mudhoji and Raghuji Bhonsale of Nagpur on fulfilment of their vows of victory over each other. All the gates with bastions on either side of the enclosure, the barachdari and the outer wall were built with the help of Darogali Sheikh Ajijuddin and Jahamsing Killedar of Govilgad Fort during 1786 AD. The enclosure has five gates, two in the east and one each in the west, south and north. Every gate has an inscription on its lintel in Persian script commemorating its builders. The eastern gate has a stone tracery and presents an architectural beauty. On both the sides of this gate there are flights of stone steps leading to a broad barahdari on top. A small domed halting place is made half-way up each flight. The barahdari has six windows, two doors and it is surmounted by four small minars. Though the gate has justifiable claim for architectural beauty, it is not generally used as an entrance to the dargah. The western gate is used for the purpose. The minars apparently look like stone lathice-work

but are built by a mass of bricks and tiles placed edgewise and are whitewashed. The flight of steps, keeping the three minarets on left, reaches a square stone platform covered by walls on the west, north and east. From the platform the inner pavement is reached through the western gate of the enclosure. The north side of this pavement is closed by a wall of the dargah. From this pavement a flight of steps leads to the open ground at the east. This ground has many tombs of the warriors who fought for their religion and who accompanied the great warrior. To the south of the pavement there is a building on a raised platform which is divided into three parts. The western part is used for Nagarkhana which contains big drums. The central portion with a dome at the top, contains the tomb of the religious preceptor of Shah Doula Rahiman. In the extreme portion there is a room known as Ghadyalkhana. There is a wall-clock and the 'Ghati-Patra' in this room. From the pavement a gate in the southern wall opens into a courtyard contains five tomb-stones of the rulers of Bidar who constructed some parts of the entire dargah. This dargah is said to have been built 400 years back by the then ruler of Bidar. To the west of the courtyard there is a mosque which is built in stone and lime and has stone pillars. The mosque was built originally by Subhedar Miyan Manazurkhan in 1721 A.D. and repaired by Ghulam Hussain, the last of the Nawabs. A small door in the northern wall of this courtyard opens into a spacious inner courtyard wherein are situated the resting places of the Gazi Gazanavi in 1001 A.D. after his death. The tombs now standing were built in 1368 A.D. by Safdar Khan Sistani, the lieutenant of Allauddin Hasan Bahamani, the first Bahamani Shah of Delhi. In this courtyard, covered on all sides by walls, there are two small rooms, one at the west and another at the north behind the tomb of Gazi's mother. The former is used by males and the latter by females as resting places. At the centre of the courtyard there is a large room with a dome. The tomb of the Gazi is in the centre of the large room and measures 6 feet x 3 feet and is about 1½ feet high. It is always kept covered by a 'galaf'. (Near the tomb of the Gazi the holy book Koran is kept.) This room has two small gates in the east measuring 4 feet x 1½ feet. The main gate faces the south and measures 4 feet x 1½ feet. The small gate in the back wall of the tomb leads to the tomb of the Gazi's mother which is of the same size as that

of the Gazi and is also covered by a 'galaf'. This room is constructed close to the former. The tombs are worshipped on every Friday by offering flowers. Incense sticks are also burnt and red powder and other scented powders are thrown on the tombs. Some people visit the dargah on every Friday to pay homage to the great warrior and offer prayers in the mosque. The mujawars of the place belong to Sunni sect among Muslims. There are 25 households of mujawars divided into five sections or taxims. They enjoy the offerings made to the tombs according to their shares. Their duty is to recite the hymns from the Koran, while the devotees are engaged in worship. The worship comprises offering of scented in powders, red powder and flowers to the tomb and burning of incense sticks. The Urs is held in honour of the warrior who fought and died for religion. Not only Muslims but Hindus, too, pay homage to the tomb.

**Villages:** 170      **Inhabited:** 149      **Uninhabited:** 21

| Ranking                 | District | State | National |
|-------------------------|----------|-------|----------|
| Area                    | 8        | 229   | 1114     |
| Population              | 4        | 165   | 2018     |
| Sex Ratio               | 7        | 263   | 4205     |
| Child Sex Ratio         | 14       | 201   | 4757     |
| Literacy Rate           | 10       | 22    | 295      |
| Density                 | 4        | 175   | 4253     |
| Work Participation Rate | 2        | 81    | 2170     |

**Gram Panchayats:**

Ambada Kandari, Asadpur, Balegaon, Belkheda, Bhilona Bhugaon, Bopapur, Bordi, Borgaon Dori, Borgaon Peth Chamak Bk., Chamak Khurd, Chawsala, Daryabad Devgaon, Dhamangaon Gadi, Dhotharkheda, Donoda Eklaspur, Gaulkheda, Ghodegaon, Hanwatkhedha, Haram Hiwra Purna, Isapur, Jawardi, Jawlapur, Kakada Kandali, Kasampur, Khairi, Khanjamanagar Khusta Khurd, Kolha, Kothara, Kushta Bk., Malhara Naigaon, Narayanpur, Nimbhari, Nimdari, Nimkund Nizampur, Pandhri, Parsapur, Pathrot, Pimpalkhuta Ramapur Belaj, Ramapur Bk., Rasegaon, Salepur Sawlapur, Sawli Bk., Sawli Datura Shahapur Jhangir, Sindhi Bk., Tawlar Tuljapur Jahangir, Upatkhedha, Wadgaon Fathepur Wadner Bhujang, Waghdoh, Wasni Bk., Wasni Khurd Wazar, Yelaki, Yesurna, Yevta.

**Amenities:**

**Education:** Primary School in 111 villages, Middle school in 51 villages, Matriculation or Secondary School in 23 villages, namely Pimpalkhuta, Dhamangaon, Salepur, Gaurkheda, Malhara, Dhotarkhedha, Kumbhi, Kandali,

Wadgaon Fattepur, Haram, Bhugaon, Bhopapur, Chamak Bk, Borgaon Peth, Parasapur, Pathrot, Kushta Bk., Sindi Bk., Kakda, Rasegaon, Yesurna, Sawalapur, Asatpur.

Higher Secondary or Pre University Courses or Intermediate or Junior College in 7 villages of the CD Block,, namely Dhamangaon, Dhotarkheda, Kandali, Wadgaon Fattepur, Pathrot, Sindi Bk., Kakda. College in 1 village, Adult Literacy Center in 31 villages., College is in village, namely Pathrot.

**Medical:** Hospital in 4 villages, Dispensary in 15 villages, Health Center in 8 villages, Sub Center in 6 villages, Maternity and Child Welfare Center in 4 villages, Community health workers in 3 villages.

The villages having Hospital or Dispensary or Health Center are Malhara, Dhotarkheda, Kothara,

Wadgaon Fattepur, Haram, Ghodgaon, Khelapmali, Bhugaon, Chamak Kh, Chamak Bk, Borgaon Peth, Parasapur, Tawalar, Pathrot, Kakda, Rasegaon, Kolha, Yesurna, Yelki, Asatpur.

**Drinking Water:** Tap water in 89 villages, Tank water in 26 villages, Well water in 140 villages, Tubewell in 50 villages and more than one source in 124 villages.

**Bank:** Banking facility in 5 villages, namely, Dhamangaon, Parasapur, Pathrot, Sindi Bk., Asatpur. Credit Society in 49 villages Agricultural Credit Society in 49 Non-Agricultural Credit Society in 2 villages.

**Others:** Power supply in 146 villages, Cinema hall in 2 villages, sport club in 3 villages, Stadium or Auditorium or Community Hall in 0 village, Post Office in 28 villages.

There are 69 villages having bus facilities.

**Villages with most of facilities:** Dhamangaon Parasapur, Pathrot, Sindi Bk., Asatpur.

**Villages without amenities (Education):** Nimkheda, Jalalpur, Chandura Jahagir, Datura, Nagarwadi, Rajura, Viththalapur, Aurangpur, Muradpur, Beni, Sahapur N Wadgaon, Ajitpur, Darapur, Khanjirpur, Khanapur N. Bhinkheda, Chikhali, Naubag, Kheldeomali, Raipura, Rahimapur N. Khanapur, Bhitkheda, Shekapur, Chachondi, Panch Amba Bk., Rajjapur, Kumbhi Waghohi, Raipur, Panch Amba Kh., Aurangpur, Walni Bk., Kamatwada, Shankarpur, Khanapur Chinchkheda, Raipur Jahangir, Wadgaon Kh..

**Scheduled Castes:** Out of the total population of 145197 persons, 28571 persons (19.68% ) belong to Scheduled Castes. The villages having less than 10% SC population are Devgaon, Pimpalkhuta, Dhamani (N.V.), Wazzar Nimkund, Kalwit, Gondvahir, Mhasona, Belkheda Pandhari, Nimkheda, Ekalaspur, Daryabad, Nimdari Jalalpur, Dhotarkheda, Wadura, Kothara, Rajura

Viththalapur, Muradpur, Beni, Aregaon Sahapur N Wadgaon, Ajitpur, Darapur, Khanjirpur Naubag , Raipura, Rahimapur N. Khanapur, Bhitkheda Khanapur N.Rahimpur, Khojanpur, Khelapmali Borgaon Talni, Upatkheda, Payvahir (N.V.) Panch Amba Bk., Raipur, Januna, Kasampur Panch Amba Kh., Aurangpur, Walni Bk., Ramapur Kh Jawalapur, Kamatwada, Wasani Kh., Wadhona Jahagir Shankarpur, Hiwara, Rangar Wasni, Yelki.

The villages having more than 50% SC population are Chandura Jahagir, Ambada Kandari, Narayanpur Nababpur, Mengnathpur, Gondwaghohi, Rajjapur Kumbhi Waghohi, Walmikpur, Kopra, Mukindpur Sangnvi N Khairi, Wadgaon Kh.

Sex ratio of Scheduled Caste population is 483.

**Scheduled Castes Literates and Illiterates by Sex:**

|               | Persons | Males  | Females |
|---------------|---------|--------|---------|
| Literate      | 18,987  | 11,004 | 7,983   |
| Illiterate    | 9,584   | 3,780  | 5,804   |
| Literacy rate | 76.8    | 86.1   | 66.8    |
| Graduate      | 506     | 389    | 117     |

**Scheduled Castes (Dominant):**

Mahar etc., Mang etc., Balahi etc., Bhambi etc. Khatik etc.

**For their cultural identity please see Appendix-I**

**Villages without Scheduled Castes:** There are 51 villages without any scheduled caste population.

**Scheduled Tribes:** Out of the total population of 145197 persons, 20232 persons (13.93% ) belong to Scheduled Tribes.

The villages having less than 10% ST population are Dhamangaon, Sawali Datura, Dhotarkheda, Kumbhi Kandali, Aregaon, Haram, Ambada Kandari, Bag Ambada Narayanpur, Chikhali, Kheldeomali Khanapur N.Rahimpur, Shekapur, Jawardi Ramapur N. Belaj, Nababpur, Bhugaon, Nijampur Bhopapur, Naigaon, Khambora, Balegaon, Chausala Borgaon Dori, Borgaon Peth, Borgaon Talni Gondwaghohi, Rajjapur, Kumbhi Waghohi Malkapur Kh., Raipur, Wagdoh, Kasampur, Walmikpur Khanjanager, Kopra, Bhilona, Walni Bk. Ramapur Bk., Ramapur Kh, Pathrot, Jawalapur, Pahi Kushta Bk., Kushta Kh., Sindi Bk., Janori Wadner Bhujang, Kakda, Rasegaon, Isegaon, Mukindpur Wadhona Jahagir, Isapur, Shampur, Kolha, Sawali Kh Donoda, Khanapur Chinchkheda, Narsingpur Raipur Jahangir, Rangar Wasni, Wadgaon Kh, Yesurna Tonglabad, Sawalapur, Nimbhari, Asatpur, Shahapur. The villages having more than 50% ST population are Pimpalkhuta, Dhamani (N.V.), Wazzar, Nimkund Buradghat, Kalwit, Gondvahir, Mhasona, Belkheda

Nimkheda, Nimdari, Jalalpur, Datura, Wadura  
Nagarwadi, Viththalapur, Muradpur, Beni, Ajitpur  
Khanjirpur, Salebad, Naubag, Raipura  
Rahimapur N. Khanapur, Bhitkheda, Upatkheda  
Payvihir (N.V.), Panch Amba Bk., Panch Amba Kh.  
Aurangpur, Kamatwada, Shankarpur.

Sex ratio of Scheduled tribe population is 486.

**Scheduled Tribes Literates and Illiterates by Sex:**

|               | Persons | Males | Females |
|---------------|---------|-------|---------|
| Literate      | 10,017  | 6,082 | 3,935   |
| Illiterate    | 10,215  | 4,318 | 5,897   |
| Literacy rate | 60.2    | 71.2  | 48.6    |
| Graduate      | 78      | 60    | 18      |

**Scheduled Tribes (Dominant):**

Korku etc., Gond Rajgond etc., Pardhi etc.  
Halba etc., Oraon etc.

*For their cultural identity please see Appendix-II*

**Villages without Scheduled Tribes:** There are 42 villages without any scheduled tribe population.

**Literates and Illiterates by Sex (Total Population):**

|               | Persons | Males  | Females |
|---------------|---------|--------|---------|
| Literate      | 100,108 | 56,303 | 43,805  |
| Illiterate    | 45,089  | 18,696 | 26,393  |
| Literacy rate | 80      | 87     | 72      |
| Graduate      | 3,551   | 2,551  | 1,000   |

**Agriculture: Distribution of villages according to land use:**

Out of 170 villages, Total area (in hectare) is 61625, out of that 197.45 percent is cultivable and 10.71 percent of the cultivable area is irrigated.

**Sources of Irrigation (Hectares):** Government Canal 81.84, Private Canal 4.96, Well without Electricity 645.79, Well with Electricity 12134.87, Tubewell without Electricity 39.68, Tubewell with Electricity 143.84, Tank 0, River 7.44, Lake 0, Waterfall 0, Others 0.

**Villages with population of 5000 to 9999:**

Kandali, Sindi Bk..

**Villages with population of 10000 and above:**

Pathrot.

**Distribution of Workers:**

|                     | Persons | Males  | Females | WPR   |
|---------------------|---------|--------|---------|-------|
| Cultivators         | 14,554  | 11,063 | 3,491   | 20.21 |
| Agricultural Labour | 47,379  | 23,844 | 23,535  | 65.78 |
| Household Industry  | 1,044   | 559    | 485     | 1.45  |
| Other Workers       | 9,050   | 7,521  | 1,529   | 12.56 |
| Main Workers        | 59,475  | 38,447 | 21,028  | 82.57 |
| Marginal Workers    | 12,552  | 4,540  | 8,012   | 17.43 |
| Total Workers       | 72,027  | 42,987 | 29,040  |       |

**Religion: Major Religious Communities:**

|                    | Persons | Males  | Females | Sex Ratio |
|--------------------|---------|--------|---------|-----------|
| Hindu (77.14%)     | 112,009 | 57,840 | 54,169  | 937       |
| Muslim (8.54%)     | 12,406  | 6,361  | 6,045   | 950       |
| Christian (0.34%)  | 487     | 245    | 242     | 988       |
| Sikh (0.05%)       | 77      | 48     | 29      | 604       |
| Buddhists (13.74%) | 19,956  | 10,367 | 9,589   | 925       |
| Jain (0.14%)       | 207     | 106    | 101     | 953       |

**Agewise Data:**

|                | Persons | Males  | Females | Sex Ratio |
|----------------|---------|--------|---------|-----------|
| All ages       | 145,197 | 74,999 | 70,198  | 936       |
| 0-14           | 47,982  | 24,719 | 23,263  | 941       |
| 15-44          | 67,248  | 35,005 | 32,243  | 921       |
| 45-79          | 28,161  | 14,361 | 13,800  | 961       |
| 80+            | 1,354   | 660    | 694     | 1052      |
| Age not stated | 452     | 254    | 198     | 780       |

**Languages (Dominant):**

Marathi, Hindi, Korku, Urdu, Korwa

**Disabled Population:**

|                | Persons | Males | Females | %     |
|----------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| Total Disabled | 3,478   | 2,074 | 1,404   |       |
| In Seeing      | 1,486   | 852   | 634     | 42.73 |
| In Speech      | 205     | 114   | 91      | 5.89  |
| In Hearing     | 263     | 138   | 125     | 7.56  |
| In Movement    | 1,081   | 727   | 354     | 31.08 |
| Mentally       | 443     | 243   | 200     | 12.74 |

**AHERI**

Aheri C.D. Block lies in the southern part of Gadchiroli district. It is a part of Aheri tehsil. The Block is located at a distance of XXX kms. from district headquarters (Gadchiroli). There are 184 villages in the block with the total population of 103,759 persons. Area of the C.D. Block is 906.25 sq. kms. It is bounded by tehsils Mulchera and Etapalli on north, tehsil Sironcha on south, tehsils Etapalli and Bhamragad on east. It has common boundary with the state of Chhattisgarh on east, and with the state of Andhra Pradesh on west.

**Communications:**

**Roadways :** SH-90: Direction- Chamorshi to Sironcha,

Nearest Villages- Rajpur Patch, Bori, Rampur Chak, Ramayyapetha, Khamancheru, Cherapallidina, Mahagaon Kh, Italcheru, Modumadgu, Nagepalli S, Allapalli, Mosam (S), Timaram S, Gudigudam, Raygatta, Golakaraji, Repanpalli, Govindgaon, Gundera S, Umanur S.

**River:** Indravati Nadi- Nearest Villages- Damrancha, Bihadghat, Bhangaram Petta (M), Todka S, Chitweli, Garewada, Asali (M), Todka M, Metigudam. Bandia Nadi- Nearest Villages- Palle S, Rapeli, Kurumpalli, Kodekasa, Mandra S, Damrancha. Pranhita Nadi- Nearest Villages- Bori, Kultha, Rampur Chak, Mahagaon Kh, Mahagaon Bk, Mahagaon M, Wange Palli,