**Key Observations of MI monitoring visit to Bijaapur district of Chattisgarh state:**

1. The MI monitoring visit undertaken from 7th to 11th April 2015, during the said visit all four blocks of the district were visited by the National Observer.
2. The MI activities were closely monitored during the said visit to the respective blocks and session sites and found that there were lack of communication and follow-up plan by the district authority. However, district had almost nil mobile inter connectivity, except one service provider i.e. BSNL for district headquarter.
3. One block headquarter Bhairamgarh had mobile and road connectivity quite well in compare to other blocks.
4. Bijaapur is one of the most resource less and deprived district of Baster region of the Chattisgarh state. The district is very much disturbed by Naxalism problem and it creates a huge challenge for the service providers too to approach the needy.
5. The Bijaapur district is geographically challenged district due to dense forest, mountains, scattered tribal population living in very small pockets and hamlets, even a village comprising of 4 to 5 houses. The small/big mountain river will cutoff these areas from rest of the areas and in that rainy season they will be disconnected from rest of the district.
6. The district hadn’t not been oriented properly about the Communication planning, therefore they didn’t implement the same in MI phase-1 (April). The headcounts also not performed or very partially done.
7. The district authorities were less informed about the MI guidelines that resulted in poor implementation and follow up of the MI activity.
8. The district doesn’t have proper internet connectivity that makes the officials less informative and weaken updated towards the MI activities.
9. The IEC activities found weaker, thus already scattered and hard to reach population likely to have less coverage under MI activities.
10. The district had not prepared any district or block level monitoring plan.
11. However, having all the troubles the frontline workers did a great job in such challenging topographical conditions.

**The key demographic variables of the district are as follows:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | **2011** | **2001** |
| **Actual Population** | **255,230** | **234,637** |
| Male | 128,663 | 117,558 |
| Female | 126,567 | 117,079 |
| **Population Growth** | **8.78%** | **19.30%** |
| Area Sq. Km | 8,530 | 8,530 |
| **Density/km2** | **30** | **36** |
| Proportion to Chhattisgarh Population | 1.00% | 1.13% |
| **Sex Ratio (Per 1000)** | **984** | **996** |
| Child Sex Ratio (0-6 Age) | 978 | 1000 |
| **Average Literacy** | **40.86** | **30.35** |
| Male Literacy | 50.46 | 40.31 |
| Female Literacy | 31.11 | 20.34 |
| **Total Child Population (0-6 Age)** | **42,495** | **46,153** |
| Male Population (0-6 Age) | 21,488 | 23,076 |
| Female Population (0-6 Age) | 21,007 | 23,077 |
| **Literates** | **86,919** | **57,206** |
| Male Literates | 54,076 | 38,087 |
| Female Literates | 32,843 | 19,119 |
| **Child Proportion (0-6 Age)** | **16.65%** | **19.67%** |
| Boys Proportion (0-6 Age) | 16.70% | 19.63% |
| Girls Proportion (0-6 Age) | 16.60% | 19.71% |

**Source: Census 2011 & 2001 data**

**Major Recommendations for Bijaapur district of Chattisgarh state:**

1. It’s recommended to design specific time slots in view of the scope of reachability to the beneficiaries, especially in rainy season to implement the MI activities in such districts for having better resource utilization with ensuring the maximum output by such special extensive vaccination drives.
2. District needs to make area specific communication plan to ensure the maximum output.
3. District needs to have plan A and alternate plan B to ensure the better implementation of the MI activities, in terms of hard to reach, administratively problematic areas and for topographically difficult area to approach.
4. The IEC activities and orientation trainings of all involved need to be conducted by the district in very comprehensive way, to ensure the maximum output of the available resources under MI.
5. The headcounts of the beneficiaries needs to be done by the facility concerned, prior of any actual implementation. Therefore, the programme performance and coverage of beneficiaries can be examined, more realistically.