

## North Eastern Karnataka

### An over view :

A separate directorate for North Eastern Karnataka (Eshanya Valaya Nirdeshanalaya) was established on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2001, to bring qualitative and quantitative improvement in the primary and secondary education sectors in the eight educationally backward districts of North Eastern Karnataka – Gulbarga, Yadgir, Raichur, Koppal, Bidar, Bellary, Bijapur and Bagalkote.

These districts have been considered educationally the most backward districts in the state, in terms of the following educational indicators –

- Literacy rate in NEK region is 55.78 and is much below the state average of 67.04 (as per the 2001 general census). Female literacy rates in all the NEK districts are well below the state and national averages. Details are given in Table 1.

Even in these backward NEK districts some of the following blocks have the lowest female literacy rates in the country:

- Shahapur, Yadgir dt. 26.97
- Yadgir, Yadgir dt. 26.99
- Doedurga, Raichur dt. 27.20
- Jewargi, Gulbarga dt. 29.86
- Surapura, Yadgir dt. 30.57
- Manvi, Raichur dt. 30.71
- Siraguppa, Bellary dt. 30.83
- Sedam, Yadgir dt. 33.45

- The NEK region has the highest primary teacher to pupil ratio of 1: 46.57 as against the state average of 1 : 36.00. (Refer Table 2)

In comparison some of the forward southern districts of the state have much lower primary teacher to pupil ratios: Bangalore Rural 1: 26, Hassan 1 :25, Chikkamagalore 1:24, and Mandya 1 :32.

- A high percentage of out of school children (51%) in the state are in the eight educational districts of NEK. As per 2002 children census, out of 6.66 lakh out of school children in Karnataka state, 3.36 lakh children are in the NEK districts. As seen from the district wise statistics the highest percentage of out of school children is seen in Yadgir (22.31 %), Koppal (16.31 %), and Raichur (15.92%). ( Refer Tables 3 and 4)

