

2020

# DISTRICT PROFILE - LORALAI



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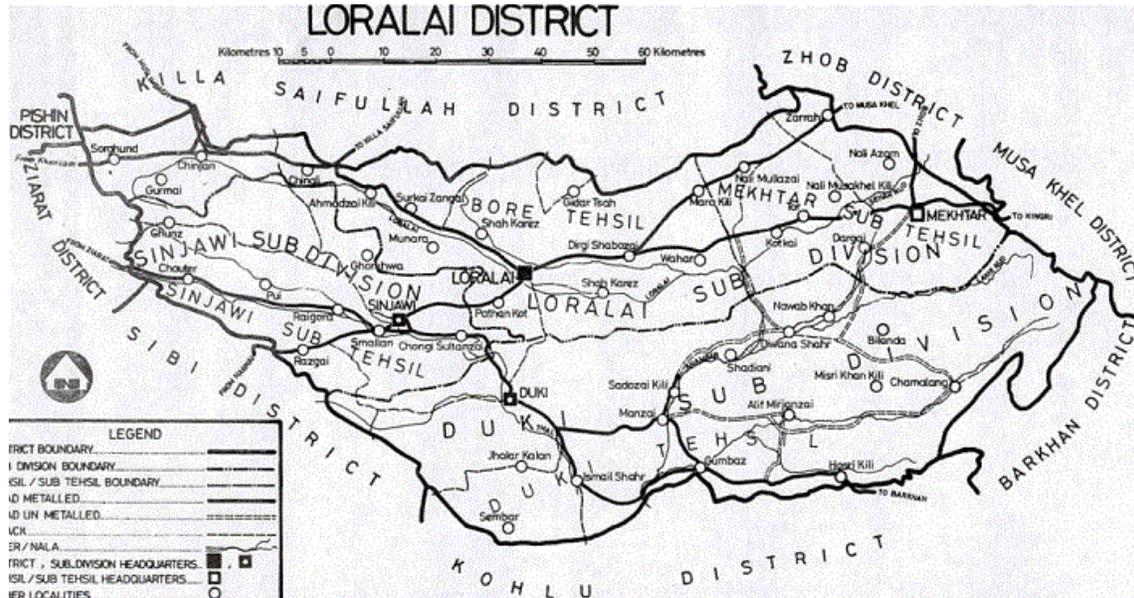
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## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 MAP: LORALAI



### 1.2 INTRODUCTION

Name of the district is derived from the Loralai stream, a confluent of Anambar and Nari streams. Loralai is situated at 4,700 feet (1,430 meters) above sea level. Loralai, district consists of a tehsil namely, Bori (Former name of Loralai) and a sub-tehsil Mekhtar, Tehsil Bori is the major city of the district while sub-tehsil Mekhtar are major towns of the district. It is connected by road with Quetta, Ziarat, Zhob, Pishin, and Dera Ghazi Khan.

The surrounding region consists of a series of long, narrow valleys hemmed in by rugged mountains varying from 3,000 to 10,000 feet (1,000 to 3,000 meters). Loralai District was formerly known as Bori. It is inhabited by Pashtoon tribes such as Kakar, Nasar and Luni. The district was created in October, 1903. The present boundary of Loralai district comprises of a Tehsil namely Bori and sub-tehsil Mekhtar.

District Loralai is managed by an elected Municipal District body i.e., District Nazim and Tehsil Nazim and the DCO. The population of Loralai district is estimated to be 397,400 in 2017. Loralai has been famous for its agriculture/horticulture and livestock holdings. Almonds and apricots are popular across the country. Communications network of Loralai city is well established with Radio station broadcasting, telephone exchange, and Mobile communication services. Recently three private companies have started their services along with V-wireless communication service. Many NGOs are working in Loralai district especially for the Afghan refugees and host communities.



Due to long drought and scarcity of water resources large number of fruit orchards vanished as a result of which inhabitants of the district shifted to other business. Most promisingly a new line of Fluorite and Marble businesses have been booming in the district. A lot of marble processing factories have now been established in the district, which provides marble tiles to various parts of Pakistan. Traditionally, overall source of income was agriculture & livestock, whereas Coal and Marble is expected to have a maximum share in the economy of the district in near future.

### 1.2.1 LORALAI'S BASIC FACT (2019-20)

LORALAI'S BASIC FACT (2019-2020)	
Area	983,000 hectares
Population	397,400
Official Language	Urdu
Local Languages	Pashto
Major Fruits & Vegetable	Almond, Apricot, Apple, Potatoes, onions, Tomatoes, Radish, and Turnip etc.
Major Sectors	Livestock, Agriculture / Horticulture and Minerals.
Major Cities / Town	Loralai city and Mekhtar town

\*Source: P&D Department Balochistan.

## 1.3 POPULATION

The total population of the district is 415,969 (approx.) as projected for 2020 by the Population Census Organization, Islamabad. The last census was conducted in 2017 when the population of Loralai was about 397,400. Over 99% of the people of the area are Muslims, with vast majority of Pashtoon tribes.

## 1.4 CLIMATE

The climate of the area is dry but varies with the elevation. At high altitude it is cold and dry. Whereas in the low altitude, especially in the south and east, temperature is more uniform through the year but hot in summer.

The area can be distributed climatically into semi-arid, sub-tropical and continental highlands. The winters are very cold and windy and summers are mild. Loralai district was also affected by drought. However, in recent years the rains have increased. Maximum Rainfall occurs in the month of March and in

Monsoon season i.e., July and August. Part of the winter precipitation is in the form of snow. Weather is influenced by the monsoon season along the eastern belt on Suleiman range.

## 1.5 EDUCATION

During the last decade, the numbers of public and private educational institutions have increased, and there are also four colleges for intermediate and bachelors level, one of which is operating in private sector.

English language centers and computer training institutes have also started operating in Loralai town. English language and computer training institutes are being run by private sector in Loralai town.

### Total number of Government and Private Schools by sex in District Loralai, (2019-2020):

District	Government Schools		Private Schools
	Male	Female	
Loralai	508	182	16

Source: Directorate of Education, Quetta.

### Total number of Intermediate and Degree Colleges at District Loralai, (2004-2005):

District	Degree colleges		Intermediate Colleges
	Male	Female	
Loralai	1	1	2

Source: Directorate of Education, Quetta.

## 2. INFRASTRUCTURE

Loralai district is linked by road with Punjab Province to the east and with Provincial Capital Quetta to the west. To the north it is linked with Killa Saifullah district and Sibi district in the south. Coaches, buses and wagons are the only source of public transport whereas, trucks and other light transport vehicles are used for freight forwarding.

### 2.1 ROADS

The total length of the blacktopped roads in the district is 1080 km including national highway of 440 km and provincial roads of 570 km, whereas Shingle roads have a total length of 850 km.

### Total Roads in kilometers include National Highways in Loralai 2019-2020.

Type of road	National Highway (kms)	Provincial Roads (kms)
Black Topped	440.00	570
Shingle	0.000	850
<b>Total</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>1420</b>

Source: C&W Department & N.H.A, Quetta.

#### 2.1.1 TRANSPORTATION

Major mode of transportation are buses and rental vehicles. Freight is handled through trucks. The common practice of transportation and traveling is through road. There is no operational Airport or railway station in the district.

Registered number of vehicles category-wise is defined as follows;

#### Number of Motor Vehicles Stood Registered. 2019-2020

Type of vehicle Registered in district	2019-2020
Motor cycles	8522
Station Wagon	359
Mini Buses	374
Cars, Jeeps, Taxis	1524
Pickup	3235
Tractors	1836

Source: Directorate of Excise & Taxation, Balochistan, Quetta.

#### 2.2 COMMUNICATIONS

Pakistan Telecommunication Corporation limited (PTCL) has established a network of telephone connections in the district. There are 9 auto exchanges and 4 digital exchanges in Loralai district. Furthermore, there are 5,044 phone connections in District Loralai.

There are a number of Cellular companies operating in the district, however, their coverage is limited only in the Loralai city, these companies include Mobilink/Jazz, Ufone, Zong and Telenor. Pakistan Post office has established their networks in the district. Beside Pakistan Post office numbers of Private courier services are also operating in the district which includes TCS, M&P, SPEEDEX and TNT. Pakistan Postal Services Corporation has established one post office at Loralai town and 2 branch post offices at Loralai Cantt. and Mekhtar.

## 2.3 ENERGY

Electricity of the district is governed and operated by Quetta Electric Supply Company.

(QESCO). Loralai city Grid station is linked with electric transmission from District Sibi and Rakhni, because there is no power generation plant in the district. So far District Loralai is not linked with natural gas Connection. Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) has planned to extend this facility in future.

Fuel wood, kerosene oil and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) is mainly used for cooking and heating, while diesel engine generators are used to run tube wells in the rural areas.

## 2.4 FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

There are number of Government and private commercial financial institutions providing their financial services across the district. Detail of the financial institutions is as under:

National Bank has two branches at Loralai. The other commercial banks are Habib

Bank, the Zarai Taraqiati Bank Limited, Muslim Commercial Bank, Meezan Bank, Askari Bank, Allied Bank, Alfalah Bank, Punjab Bank, Bank of Khyber, Bank Al Habib and United Bank Ltd have their branches at Loralai.

### Financial institutions and their branches:

Financial Institutions	Branches
National Bank of Pakistan	Loralai(2)
Zarai Taraqiati Bank of Pakistan	Loralai(1)
Muslim Commercial Bank of Pakistan	Loralai(1)
Habib Bank Limited	Loralai(1)
United Bank Limited	Loralai(1)



Allied Bank Limited	Loralai(1)
Alfalah Bank	Loralai(1)
Meezan Bank	Loralai(1)
Bank Al Habib	Loralai(1)
Punjab Bank	Loralai(1)
Bank of Khybar	Loralai(1)
Askari Bank	Loralai(1)

### 3. LORALAI IMPORTANT SECTORS

#### 3.1 SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

The small and medium enterprises are comprised of coal & marble mining, marble processing, agriculture, livestock, auto & electric repair, bakeries, merchants, whole sellers, bricks kilns, hotels, shoe and cap makers, tailors and other shops.

There is one Technical Training Centre at Loralai, where training in turner, plumber, auto repair, T.V & radio repair, electricity, welding, carpentry, bench fitter and refrigerator repairing is given. Loralai town is the main hub of trading in the district and major market for daily used items whether locally produced or coming from other parts of the country. These items are supplied to the rest of the district from here.

#### 3.2 AGRICULTURE / HORTICULTURE

Most of the district's economy is related to Horticulture sector. The prominent crops are wheat, barley, fodder, maize, chilies, vegetables, onion and potato. Major fruits are apricot, almond, pomegranate, peach, grapes and apples. Most of the cultivated land is individual ownership or tribal ownership.

### 3.2.1 LAND UTILIZATION STATISTICS

The total geographical area of Loralai district is 983,000 hectares. Out of which the reported area is 505,625 hectares and the total cultivated area is 215,089 hectares.

#### Land utilization statistics Loralai district 2019-20

Land use 2004-05	Area (Ha.)
Total Geographical Area	983,000
Reported Area	505,625
Total Cultivated Area	215,089
Area under forest	60,000
Cullurable waste	70,225
Not available for cultivation	79,222

Source: Director General Agriculture, Quetta.

### 3.2.2 PRODUCTION OF DIFFERENT CROPS

Fruits and vegetables are the major source of income in Agriculture sector of the district Loralai, major fruits include Almond, Apricot, Apple and Pomegranate. Crop and area wise production of fruit and vegetable are given as below;

#### Area and Production of Fruits of Loralai District 2019-20.

Fruits	Area in Hectares	Production in tones
Apple	1830	10,619
Apricot	2810	35,673
Grapes	212	1125
Peach	315	1252
Plum	423	2912
Almond	5730	19280
Pomegranate	1345	11323
Cherry	102	212

Source: Director General Agriculture, Quetta.



The important Vegetables of the district include Carrot, Cauliflower, Potato, Onion and Musk Melon etc Most of the vegetables are exported to the Punjab.

### **Area and Production of Vegetables and melons of Loralai district 2019-2020.**

<b>Vegetables</b>	<b>Area in Hectares</b>	<b>Production in Tons</b>
Carrot	210	3562
Cauliflower	157	2012
Tomatoes	315	3110
Lady Finger	89	728
Brinjal	92	45
Potato	97	1524
Chilies	819	1200
Tinda	20	91
Water Melon	73	825
Musk Melon	800	6245
Onion	278	5950

Source: Director General Agriculture, Quetta.

Some pulses are also grown in the district i.e. Moong, Mash and Mutter Pulse etc. but in small quantity and use within the district and cannot be exported to other districts or provinces,

### **3.2.3 MARKETING**

The different types of fruits and vegetables produced are consumed within the district as well as a major part is sent outside the district. There are a number of intermediaries involved in the marketing process i.e. farmers, contractors, commission agents (Arti) and retailers. The district is a large producer of fruits and other major crops and therefore their products are exported from the district.



The marketing system in the district is not properly developed and need improvement. The existing market practices can be group into three components.

#### **Direct Marketing by growers:**

Direct marketing is very common for vegetables; they are either sold to retailers or offered for auction through commission agents. Direct marketing gives the growers better returns.

#### **Marketing through Commission Agents:**

Commission agents play a major role in the sales of fruits and vegetables. They work either on behalf of the growers, for which they charge a commission, or for their own account, in which case they buy the crops and sell it at their own.

#### **Contract Marketing:**

The fruit orchards are contracted to interested parties at the start of the season. After the award of the contract the grower has no responsibility with regard to the production. He is only responsible for irrigation and other inputs.

The roads from farm to market are not well developed. In rainy season the supplies cannot reach the markets in time. There is no cold storage, only the traditional on-farm storage exists. This traditional technique of storage is applied for crops like potato and onion. One cold store is constructed in the district headquarter Loralai, but it is not functional yet.

### **3.2.4 EXTENSION SERVICES**

The Agriculture Extension Loralai is working under the Executive District Officer (EDO) Agriculture. There are Agriculture Officers, Senior Investigator, Field Assistants and other support staff is working in Loralai District. The Department provides information and technical knowledge about agriculture to the farmers. The Department is also responsible for the establishment of research farms in the district. The On-Farm Water Management Section is responsible for the implementation of the On-Farm Water Management Project in the district.

### **3.2.5 PROBLEMS AND ISSUES FOR AGRICULTURE/HORTICULTURE SECTOR**

Major issues faced by this sector:

1. Unavailability of Cold storages.
2. Scarcity of Water resources.
3. Bad condition of roads and bridges.
4. Lack of value addition in the production



5. Load shedding (Electricity)
6. Lack of awareness about efficient irrigation system

### 3.3 LIVESTOCK

Livestock is other important source of income and employment in the district. The main animals on which the people depend are sheep and goats. Moreover, the dairy and poultry business is also growing. These animals play a vital role in the economy of the district and provide food with rich nutrition value such as milk, meat and their by-products like wool, hair, butter, oil, cheese, curd, skin and intestines.

The people also keep other animals like camels, horses, and donkeys. Beside men, women and children are also involved in the grazing of their animals, but, being family workers, they are not paid for their activities. The women also look after the animals within the house. They also collect fodder for the animals and do other work such as milking etc.

#### Livestock population Loralai (census 2017)

Animals	Nos.
Sheep	935247
Goats	454230
Cattle	173899
Horses	530
Donkeys	5234
Camels	534
Buffalo	7324
Mule	128

Source: Development Statistics of Balochistan 2019-2020.

### 3.3.1 CATTLE

The people raise cows for dairy production. Buffaloes are raised mostly in the more protected urban areas, due to harsh weather they are rarely raised in the rural areas. Households usually keep a cow for milk production.

Bulls and bullocks are used for the ploughing purposes. Hide and skins are sold in the open market by individuals or through middlemen.

### 3.3.2 POULTRY

Poultry farming is the growing activity in district Loralai and there are more than 100 privately owned Poultry farms in district, and the average capacity of a farm is about 2000 birds. Poultry is an important income generating activity of rural areas of the district.

The chicks come from Multan, while the feed comes from other parts of Punjab. The peak season is of seven months that is from March to October. Most of the production is used within the district.

### Animals Slaughtered in slaughter houses, Loralai District 2019 – 2020

Type	Number
Cattle	16718
Sheep	13081
Goat	23404
<b>Total</b>	<b>53203</b>

Source: - Development Statistics of Balochistan 2019-2020.

### 3.3.3 MARKETING

There is a Market located at new Ada of Loralai town. Mostly the livestock is bought from villages by middlemen and brought to the markets. The prices of small ruminants especially goat and sheep and cattle is also effected by Eid-ul-Azha when the prices increase by 100 %.

### 3.3.4 EXTENSION SERVICES

There are 4 veterinary hospitals and 115 dispensaries in the district. A number of clinics for livestock have also been established by the private sector.

Medicine is available in the market and as well as in the Government veterinary hospitals.



### **3.3.5 PROBLEMS AND ISSUES FOR LIVESTOCK SECTOR**

- Livestock markets need to be established in proper premises where facilities of stock are made available on nominal charges.
- The livestock sector needs financial assistance in order to increase their productive capacity.
- Scarce source of water for livestock farming
- Lack and insufficient availability of balanced feed and fodder
- Lack of veterinary and laboratory testing facilities for milk and feeds adulteration
- Lack of development and management of grazing fields

## **3.4 MINERALS**

The minerals found in Loralai district, include coal, marble and calcite. Coal mining is very common in the district and there are large numbers of people related to this sector, Marble mining and processing have increased in the district in recent years, whereas production of calcite is negligible. In this sector most of the people are employed in the coal mining, marble mining and processing while only few people are engaged in calcite mining.

### **3.4.1 FLUORITE RESERVES**

Fluorite deposits have been found for the first time in the Jurassic Loralai Limestone of Gadebar, Daman Ghar, Tor Thana, Wategam, Mekhtar, Balao, Mahiwal, etc areas of Loralai District, Balochistan. The first largest deposits of fluorite (over 0.1million ton) from Pakistan are located in Dilband and its vicinity areas of Kirthar foldbelt. The second largest deposits with 6750 tons of green fluorite are located in Mula-Zahri Range of Kirthar foldbelt. The third largest deposits of fluorite (CaF<sub>2</sub>) are found from Loralai district and its vicinity areas of Sulaiman foldbelt. The fluorite mineralization is highly enriched particularly in the low dip strata. The fluorite represents many colour like pink, blue, light grey, green, light yellow, etc. The fluorite shows impurities as calcite and quartz in the area. Now it is being mined from Loralai district areas where tribal disputes are not found but most of the fluorite host areas are in dispute and needs fruitful agreements between tribes to exploit fluorite. The estimated reserves are about 50000 tons. Attractive fluorite crystals for gem with light green, yellow and light blue colors from Mekhtar, Wategam Zarah etc of Loralai district have also been found. It is also interpreted that the Jurassic strata especially limestone of Kirthar and Sulaiman foldbelts and adjoining Western Indus Suture Zone seems to be significant for further prospecting especially in the low dip strata.

### 3.4.2 MARBLE

Marble processing factories have increased significantly in Loralai district in recent years. There are about 20 marble processing units in Loralai.

These marble processing plants provide processing facility to mine owners. The plants are processing (cut raw blocks to slabs & steps) raw marble blocks and produce marble slabs & steps that are further be cut to desired size & shapes. The processing plants not only supply marble for local use within Loralai district but also supply to other parts of the province being large markets i.e. Punjab and Sindh.

Different varieties of marble in the District Loralai includes, Botesina cream, Botesina Rabbit, Botesina Fancy, Malaysia, Loralai white, Micro Botesina, Super White, Super Ziarat, Tipy, Tervera, Sunjavi Botesina, Bargar Botesina, and Ziarat Mix red etc.

Some of the marble bearing areas of the district include, Kasa, Karru, Gaza, Matwarkh, Mula Shahu, Sunawa, Bargar, Barhadh, Shabozai, Tora Tana, sapadar, Kach Amakzai, Injeergut, Pathan Kot and Chothair.

### 3.5 INDUSTRIES

There are very few industries operating in Loralai, they include Flour Mills, two ice factories, and Marble factories. The number of Marble factories has increased significantly during last decade. Major problem faced by flourmills is their dependence on wheat being supplied from Punjab and Sindh. There are two flour mills and more than 30 other commercial wheat grinders in the district.

## 4. POTENTIAL PROJECTS

Following projects are identified for investment in district Loralai:

- **Fluorite mining/processing unit**

Fluorite deposits have been found for the first time in the Jurassic Loralai Limestone of Gadebar, Daman Ghar, Tor Thana, Wategam, Mekhtar, Balao, Mahiwal, etc areas of Loralai District, Balochistan. The fluorite mineralization is highly enriched particularly in the low dip strata. The fluorite represents many colour like pink, blue, light grey, green, light yellow, etc. The estimated reserves are about 50000 tons. With such huge reserves, this location must draw attention for mining sites as well as



establishment of processing units. These reserves have potential to meet the local market demand from Karachi and Punjab.

- **Green house farms and tunnels Farms**

Production of high quality fruits and vegetables requires proper greenhouses where environment is controlled. This controlled environment gives the producer control over what kind of fruit and vegetables he wants to produce and under what conditions. Another important aspect of using a greenhouse is that high quality products can be produced all year round, irrespective of the weather that exists outside.

- **Fruit processing**

Balochistan is far from tapping the potential of processing and exporting dried fruits and vegetables as shown by the limited number of fruit processors and exporters currently available. Dried fruits have a large number of end-users including use in the dried fruit and nut industry, the breakfast cereal industry, the confectionery industry, the bakery industry, other food products, and are consumed directly. The government through its policy on modernization of agriculture aims at promoting the development of rural agro-processing and marketing. Squashes, jams, jellies, juices, marmalade, ketchup and sauces etc. are the most common processed products.

- **Cold storage**

Keeping in view the shelf life of the perishable food items it becomes essential to freeze and store these products the Cold storage can be used for perishable fruits and vegetables. Investors can expect handsome return on their investment in this field.

- **Fruit & Vegetable dehydration**

Fruits and vegetables are among the readily perishable commodities which form an important part of global food supplies. District Loralai produces seasonal vegetables in almost three quarters of the year. A considerable proportion of these vegetables get spoiled before reaching the consumer. These losses can be minimized by adopting scientific techniques to convert the surplus produce into non-perishable products by way of preservation. Dehydration offers an economical and satisfactory means to extend the shelf life of vegetables;

- **Cattle/Sheep/Goats Fattening Center**

Since nutrition is a serious limiting factor in the livestock industry of Balochistan with the result that many animals arrive at the market in less than optimal body condition with body weight on the lower end, there is a dire need to ensure feed availability round the year with proper protein contents for increasing livestock productivity rather than its numbers. Such a situation directs to adopt non-conventional feed preparation and feeding techniques like treatment of wheat/ rice straws and other crop residues with urea or ammonia, molasses bocks, silage making, concentrate mixtures with low cost formulae, feed lots, semi – intensive farming and ewe flushing etc. With the switching over to semi-intensive farming which would warrant stall/ supplementary feeding, non-conventional and economical feeding techniques and improved genetic material, the livestock farming can become a cost effective enterprise with its downstream positive effects in the farming community.

- **Dairy Farms**

Dairy sector is a major component of the livestock sector in Loralai, but due to the absence of specialization, dairy sector has to be viewed in the overall perspective of the livestock sector. Milk production and distribution system suffers from many anomalies, which have diverse negative impacts on the economy in general, continue the rural poverty, national health hazards and other environmental issues. All the problems of the sector are translated into low dairy productivity levels.

- **Poultry Farm**

Loralai is the land of unlimited hidden potentials. Among other things, poultry farming has got great scope for improvement. Poultry farming is not developed commercially, apart from some private poultry farms in urban areas. There are about 18 private poultry farms in the district. There is only one government owned poultry farm having 500 layer birds and 600 broilers.

- **Marble Mining**

Marble is included in the list of largest minerals extracted among chromite, coal, rock salt, lime stone, china clay, dolomite, fire clay, gypsum, silica sand etc. Marble processing is gaining popularity due to increase in its usage in construction industry. Today almost all the modern architectural designs of houses and plazas include the final touch of beautiful shades of marble in exterior as well as interior portions.



- **Marble processing units**

In Loralai, there is a great demand for a fully equipped marble processing plant. The new plant could not only explore the construction industry within the city which is on a boom since past 9 years, but could also be able to full fill the orders from the adjoining areas. Moreover, Government has also announced establishment of marble city at Loralai, where number of incentives has been announced for the investors. Expansion in this cluster will be more beneficial being the future gateway to the export markets.

The unit can not only supply marble for local use but would also supply to other parts of the province and to its greater market i.e. Punjab.

- **Stone Crushing**

Over the last few years, the Construction sector has been registering strong growth rates in the district. In addition, for the building of roads and bypasses, there is a mass and consistent need of crushed stone across the country. Several projects are in progress and are being commenced shortly which will have high demand of crushed stone all over the country. The projected requirements for the next 20 years reinforce the potential in Stone Crushing segment of the industry.

- **Hospitals and Clinics:**

Lack of infrastructure and growing number of population has increased demand of medical facilities, which has direct impact on public & private sector health care centers. No access to clean water and proper sanitation facilities has posed a major threat to the health of masses. Moreover, the overlapping and harsh climate of the region causes major viral diseases throughout the year. This creates a great demand for hospitals and clinics.