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PARTICIPATORY DIAGNOSTIC STUDY AN ACTION PLAN FOR THE REVIVAL OF ASSAM GANDHI SMARAK NIDHI

Submitted to

OMEIO KUMAR DAS

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PROGRAMME (4th BATCH)

By

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that Dipen Kalita, a fellow of Omeo Kumar Das, Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati has worked for his study entitled "Participatory Diagnostic Study, an Action Plan for the Revival of Assam Gandhi Smarak Nidhi" under my supervision and guidance. This report is submitted in fulfilment for Junior Short Term Fellowship (4th batch) of the Institute.

The work is comprehensive, complete and sufficient upto the mark of satisfaction.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

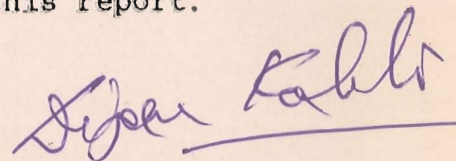
The fellow wishes to express his appreciation and thanks to all those who helped and guided him.

He is grateful to Dr. Atul Goswami, Professor and Director of the Omeo Kumar Das, Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati who very generously and willingly granted him permission to conduct the study. He is also grateful to Dr. G.K. Sharma, his Supervisor who always motivated him at different stages of the study, guided and made helpful comments without which the fellow would not have completed the study.

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Finally, he expresses his thanks to the members of Tetelia Gaon Panchayat, Sarvodaya Alochana Chakra, all the Government and other officials, Veteran Gandhians who in some way or the other helped him in completing this report.

Guwahati



(DIPEN KALITA).

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**THE BUST OF MAHATMA GANDHI IN THE
PREMISES OF AGSN, GANDHINAGAR**

CHAPTER-I

INTRODUCTION

Foreword :

The practice of social work and social service is very old in India. The country has a long tradition of voluntary social work also. The concept of rendering one's life, time and money for the welfare of others is in the blood of Indians from the Vedic period. 'Bahujan Sukhaya Bahujan Hitaya' (for the happiness & welfare of many) has been practised by all section of the Indian society from time immemorial. The responsibility of helping a needy fellowman is the responsibility of the family members, the community and the king or the ruler. Service towards one's fellowmen, charity for all living creatures existed in the Indian society in olden days. This spirit is still alive today. "According to Bhagwat Gita, charity is valid if it takes into account desh (place), Kal (time) and patra (recipient). The forms of the charity were artha (money), vidya (education), abhaya (courage). Religious institutions like temples, dharamshalas, maths became the centres of social service. They provided shelter and free kitchens of the poor. Thus religion emphasised the values of charity, philanthropy and mutual help".¹

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1. Paul Choudhury (1983) Introduction to Social Work
Atma Ram & Sons, Delhi -110005, Page-11.

It was the practice of ancient Indian Kings to provide food, cloth and shelters to their subjects during famine. Economic assistance to Brahmins, orphans, widows, needy students were considered responsibility of kings, chiefs as well as wealthy husband men. "According to Arthashastra the responsibility for the care of the poor, aged, the infirm, the destitute, etc was that of the king."²

During the Muslim period the traditional concept of social service and social work was changed. The state machinery under the muslim kings took the responsibility of providing welfare services ^{to} of the population. The system of 'Zakat' (Compulsory payment of 20 per cent of one's income through the mosque by an adult Muslim) . 'Khairat' (voluntary contribution of a muslim to any citizen) etc. were practised during the muslim reign.

The social work and social service perceived by us nowadays is the gift of British rulers. Destruction of superstitions prevailed amongst the Indians due to availability of knowledge to all Indians irrespective of their caste, creed, age and sex. The western education system promoted by the British gave birth to many social and religious reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Rai, Justice Ranadae, Swami Vivekananda, Sir Sayed Ahmed Khan etc. ^{etc} These persons are

2. ~~Paul Choudhury (1983) Introduction to Social Work~~
~~Ibid, page -11.~~
~~Atma Ram & Sons, Delhi -110005, Page-11.~~

the pioneers of voluntary social work in the modern India. None can deny their contribution for upliftment of Indian society. The appearance of Mahatma Gandhi on the Indian public life bridged the gulf between the social workers and political activists. The foundation of voluntary social work was strengthened by Mahatma Gandhi by setting up Harijan Sevak Sangha, All India Village Industries Association, etc.

The British Colonial administration changed the social structure and economic life of the Indians. The growth of urban centres in place of traditional villages has changed the Indian social life. The process of industrialisation where services and goods are produced with the help of machines has changed the traditional Indian practice of 'production by masses'. These changes have effected Indian social institutions like joint family, caste system, village panchayat etc. New social problems like rootlessness, lack of emotional security, loss of group identity, etc have also been created by the modern industrialisation and urbanisation. Philanthropy and willingness to work for the benefit of others which are considered as good qualities fail to solve the modern social problem like emotional insecurity, marital problem, emotional insecurity, marital problems and economic problems like unemployment, costly health care system etc. These problems could be tackled by a systematic approach of social work volunteered by scientifically educated groups of social workers. Henceforth the first school of social work named Sir Daborji School of Social Work was set up at Bombay

in 1936. The present Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) is the successor Institute of this school. Following the development of this nowadays almost all Indian Universities offer courses in professional social work. Availability of professional social workers with scientific training, definite philosophy and techniques is possible in India mainly because of these Institutions.

After Independence India has made herself a democratic Welfare State. The Government Of India (GOI) has taken the responsibility of rendering social assistance to her citizens. Institutions like Central Social Welfare Board, Rehabilitation Council, ^{National Commission for} Ministry of Welfare, ^{etc} Scheduled Castes ^{and} ^{untouchables} Commission, Women Commission, are results of Govt.'s intention to do welfare.

Considering the vastness of the country and complication of the Indian population the government of independent India encourages non-governmental organisations (NGO's) to undertake voluntary social work for the benefit of needy countrymen morally as well as materially.

The Five Years Plans have brought various new services on the map of social welfare. Now social service ^{and} social work are considered as a factor^s of production in National life.

Need of the Study :

The planning process of independent India under the Planning Commission put forwarded the concept of people's participation in development. Common people of India can participate in the various development activities sponsored by the government through ^{their} ~~thir~~ elected representatives as well as ^{through} ~~voluntary agencies~~ also called non-governmental organisations. The result of the planned Indian economy is not free from controversy. With the changes of Indian economy to a market oriented liberalised atmosphere after 1991, there is a need to study the activities of NGOs which are volountery organisations participated ⁱⁿ ~~ed~~ in the social and economic activities of our country.

Assam Gandhi Smarak Nidhi (AGSN) is such a reputed voluntary organisation of Assam which has co-operated with the government and the common public from the date of it's inception to bring mental peace and material happiness to the people of Assam. So, it is felt that a critical evaluation of AGSN is needed at this juncture.

Aims and Objectives of the Study :

Assam Gandhi Smarak Nidhi (AGSN) is a voluntary agency, set up 30 years ago by a few social workers having faith in Gandhian principles. It did some voluntary works in Tetelia initially, but gradually became dormant in due course of time.

The study will try to diagnose the problems of AGSN and formulate an Action Plan for it's revival as well as development schemes for rural re-construction and sustainable development.

The aims and objectives of the study may be stated as follows-

- 1] To design an action plan for the revival of AGSN.
- ii] To design a micro level planning for the development of Tetelia Gaon Panchayat, under Dimoria Block in the district of Kamrup, Assam.

There will be an effort to examine following issues in the light of the aims & objectives stated above.

- i] The proposed study will explore the ways and means to make AGSN self sufficient utilising land resources and other existing infrastructural facilities. It is envisaged that by applying appropriate technology effective demonstration can be made in the following fields viz; Khadi production, Fishery, Dairy, Nursery raising and Farm forestry.
- ii] To identify the area by which people of that locality can enrich themselves.

Selection of the Topic:-

Welfare measures expectedly improve the physique, intelligence and standard of living of the people which in turn improve their efficiency and productivity.

Voluntary organisations or NGO's are a means to provide welfare to the socially and economically backward members of the community. Voluntary organizations try to provide security that a society furnishes through appropriate organization and management even against certain risks to which community members are exposed. These risks are essentially contingencies against which the individual of small means cannot effectively provide for by their own ability or foresight. ~~It is the characteristic of these contingencies that the impartial ability of the under previledged man to support himself.~~

AGSN is a voluntary organization guided by Gandhian principles, devoted to the upliftment of underpreviledged sections of the society. AGSN has been working in the Tetelia area since its inception. But the organization fails to carry out its mission in recent times. Therefore the fellow has selected the topic to diagnose the problems of AGSN with a view to formulat^{ing} an "Action Plan" which will

- make AGSN finacially self-sufficient.
- generate employment for the people at the grassroot.
- encourage alternative methods for development of the Tetelia Goan Panchayat (G.P.) area.

The fellow has selected this topic especially because very few have made studies, strategies, tactics and targets of organisation development.

Relationale of the Study :

The study is connected with functions which are designed for welfare measures of the under privileged community members along with their satisfaction with it. As the fellow is a student of Social Work, he is interested to take the study as it helps him in his area of specialization.

The findings of the study will be useful for the further improvement in the welfare measures and social security and their implementation. Hopefully ^{these} findings may also help in modifying and improving the welfare and social security in Assam and efficient functioning of voluntary organizations engaged in community development.

So the fellow has decided to undertake the study entitled "Participatory Diagnostic Study, an Action Plan for the revival of Assam Gandhi Smarak Nidhi".

Scope of the Study :

The study covers organizational set up of the AGSN and socio-economic conditions of the people residing in the Tetelia Goan Panchayat. The study will examine the issues indicated under aims and objectives.

Coverage of the Study :

In the study the fellow has tried to review the entire activities of AGSN. A revamp strategy has been formulated by the fellow for the revival of AGSN by covering

- Organizational set up
- Elements of management in the organization
- Infrastructural development
- Managerial control

Apart from the above, in the socio-economic survey of the Tetelia Goan Panchayat area with the help of an interview schedule the fellow has collected the following items.

i) Personal Information :

Age, Marital Status, Education, Occupation, Annual Income, Status of the entire family.

ii) Assets and Other Information :

Land, Livestock, Agriculture and Farm.

iii) Social Facilities :

Drinking Water, Health & Sanitation, Educational and Veterinary.

iv) Basic Infrastructure :

Bank & Other Financial Institutions, Transportation, Electrification, Post & Telegraphs and Market.

Universe of the Study :

The Universe of the Study is 60 No. Tetelia Goan Panchayat under Demoria Development Block in the District of Kamrup, Assam. It consists of ten villages namely —

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| i] Khat Tetelia | ii] Tetelia Goan |
| iii] Tetelia Pathar | iv] Lumsum Goan |
| v] Teteliguri Goan | vi] Lumsum Pathar |
| vii] Teteliguri Pathar | viii] Rewa Goan |
| ix] Mettoni Goan | x] Meetoni Pathar |

According to the census of 1991 total population in the G.P. is 5222 comprising of 828 households.

AGSN also as an Universe has an individual and separate entity in this study. By strengthening this cellular people's institution at the goan panchayat level, it can synthesise to implement the planned programmes in an integrated manner. The long existing Nidhi should be utilized because it is already functioning in the area with requisite infrastructure and also ^{has} have the proper backing.

Selection Sample :

The sample of the study consists Executive Committee members of AGSN and 25 per cent of the households in the Tetelia Gaon parchayat. Households are selected in stratified random basis, the fellow purposely selected different households for the study from the Universe which is

purposive selection. Then from, each household certain number of respondents are taken in random basis.

Method of data collection :

The major tool which the fellow used for the data collection was interviewing through a pre-prepared interview schedule. "Schedule is the name usually applied to a set of questions which are asked and filled in by an interviewer in a face to face situation with another person."³

After establishing rapport with the respondent, the interviews were conducted in Assamese language. Some informal questions ^{were} ~~was~~ also put to the respondents and information was collected.

The fellow ^{also} collected ^{also} some other important data ~~Secondary Data~~ by personal observation during visits and by discussion with Executive Committee members of AGSN, members of Tetelia gaon panchayat, Officials of Dimoria Development Block, Office bearers of District Rural Development Agency (DRDA), Officials of Public Health Engineering (P.H.E.), Range officer of Social Forestry & Sub-Divisional Medical officer (SDMO) attached to the Primary Health Centre (P.H.C).

3. S.R.Bajpai (1987). Methods of Social Survey and Research.

Coding and preparation of Master Chart :

After interviewing the schedules were scrutinised, a code book was prepared coding each answer against all the questions. Then a master chart was prepared for all the answers by each respondent for the whole sample size.

Analysis and Interpretation :

The availability of welfare measures and social security for the household with their satisfaction is analysed. Their answers were interpreted. Based on the analysis and interpretation an "Action Plan" for the revival of AGSN is suggested.

Report writing :

As the fellow is a student of Social Work he thought to conduct a survey which is related with community welfare and scientific management of a voluntary organisation. The study helps him in his real practice.

~~It was not enough to say that selection of topic but to know how to co-relate selection and topic in a casual relationship was essential for the fellow. Hence by repeated discussions with the supervisor the fellow finalised this study .~~

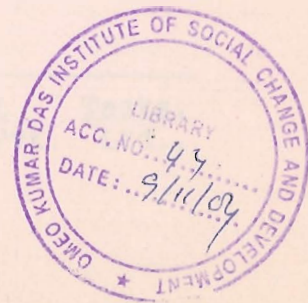
Field Experience :

The fellow faced a variety of difficulties in explaining the purpose of the study to a few workers of AGSN

and the respondents of Tetelia G.P. area. Some workers were under the impression that the study was connected with their employment. Some respondent of the households felt that it was a governmental survey for their financial benefits. But as a whole ^{etc} this difficulties did not create any serious problem to carry out the study. The interviews with the Executive Committee members as well as other office bearers of AGSN were held in their residences, only fellow and respondent were present thus there were very little interference to hinder spontaneous responses.

Only one respondent at a time was interviewed with due care to maintain a climate of privacy and confidence. The interview was carried out in Assamese, Hindi and English as few office bearers of AGSN were multilingual. A conscious effort was taken to keep questions crystal clear. They were very co-operative and gave all necessary help asked by the fellow. While interviewing the members of the households of the Tetelia G.P. effort was taken to maintain a climate of mutual trust. The interview was done in Assamese as most of the members of households were not well versed in any other language.

The government officials of various departments were also very co-operative & provided relevant data to the fellow.



Hypotheses of the study are as follows :

1) AGSN can be revived following the principles of management.

1i) Full employment in Tetelia Gaon Panchayat in possible through AGSN.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The present human society is a society of institutions and organisations. Most of the persons are employed in these organisations. These organisations serve the humanity through their work force. Therefore there is a need to integrate the aims and objectives of the organisation, the interest of it's employees as well as the interest of the people who are served by the organisation. Most of the organisations fail to fulfill their objectives because of lack of integration. Particularly in the field of development activities there is an increasing awareness of the high wastage.

Peter Drucker has stressed on managing service institution for performance. "To make service institutions perform, it should by now be clear, does not require great men. It requires instead a system. The essentials of this system are not too different from the essentials of performance in a business enterprise, but the application will be quite different. The service institutions are not businesses; performance means something quite different in them."⁴

4. Peter F. Drucker (1975) Management Tasks, Responsibilities, Practices ; Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi-110064; Page.159.

Development projects have an unduely failure rate through out the world in general and in the third world in particular. To analyse the causes of high failure rate many social scientists have conducted many thought provoking researchs. Almost all of them opine that due to improper management of resources & planning the developmental projects have failed. "A recent expert evaluation of 230 projects found only 5 per cent successful; of the remaining 95 per cent half were considered even as harmful."⁵ The realisation of the urgent need to improve the project success rate has laid an increasing number of agencies to explore different possibilities of improving the quality of developmental assessments.

Ms. T. Scarlett Epstein has suggested the application of Market research in the activities of NGO, developmental processes and non-profit making ventures to achieve success. In market research the needs and wants of the consumers are identified and means to meet these ones are suggested. Culturall Adapted Market Research (CMR) can very well identify the actual needs and suggest remedies. The efficacy of CMR is yet to be appreciated by the government machinery and the NGO activities in India.

5. Hagen, 1986; Quoted by T. Scarlett Epstein in A Manual for Culturally - Adapted Market Research (CMR) in the Development Process ; RWAL Publications (1988) East Sussex, Great Britain; Page.01.

"Just as commercial organisations, charitable institutions and government agencies around the world, from the US and the USSR to small developing countries, have increasingly turned to the techniques of behavioural and attitudinal research "6

"MR (Market Research) reduces the risk in commercial activities. Similarly, DMR (Development Market Research) reduces the risk of project failures. All international and national development agencies and non-governmental organisations want their projects to benefit the groups for whom these projects are designed ^{and to} ~~and to~~ lead to sustainable development. DMR plays a strategic ^c ~~role~~ role in the increase of project success rates."7

The slow pace of development in India can be increased by engaging the services of voluntary agencies. The voluntary agencies should be managed economically and effectively following the principles of modern management sciences. In management one follows Planning as the first step, Organising ^{as} the second step, Staffing as the third step, [^]

6. Robert M. Worcester (1988) A Manual for Culturally Adapted Market Research (CMR) in the Development Process.; RWAL Publications, East Sussex, Great Britain; Foreword I, page v.

7. T. Scarlett Epstein, Janet Gruber, Graham Mytton (1991); A Training Manual for Development Market Research Investigators.; BBC world service, London WC2B4PH; page 6.

Leading & Directing as the fourth step, Co-ordinating and Controlling as the fifth step as well as the feedback of the achievement as the last step.

"NGOs are few in number and limited in strength. The issues they have attempted to address and the challenges they have tried to meet have always been formidable. It appears that, at least in the short run, an even rougher time is ahead for them."⁸

Therefore application of the principles of management and Market Research can effectively help voluntary agencies like AGSN to achieve its objectives without wastage of scarce resources at their disposal.

Limitation of the study :

There are certain limitations of the study, ^{and} main limitations are as follows :-

1) The success of a NGO or voluntary organisation depends upon the attitude, aptitude, motivation, value system & dedication of its members and work force. Due to the nature of the study these were not included in the study.

8. Kirtee Shah in the Article NGOs in the Wake of Ayodhya.; published in Business India 15th Anniversary Issue : 1993; Bombay-400001, Page 199.

2) Due to rapid changes in the social and economic life of Assam the "Action Plan" suggested may suffer from many constraints & defects in due course of time.

3) Suggested project proposals are not free from errors as the fellow doesnot possess formal qualification in Engineering and Technology.

CHAPTER- II

ASSAM GANDHI SMARAK NIDHI - A PROFILE.

The Assam Gandhi Smarak Nidhi (AGSN) came into being as an autonomous registered body under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 with effect from 18th September 1962. Earlier it was the Assam Branch of Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Rajghat, Delhi.

The Gandhi Smarak Nidhi which is also known as Gandhi National Memorial Trust has been functioning in India since the demise of Mahatma Gandhi. The main purpose of the trust is to further the manifold constructive works in which Gandhiji was interested and such other activities of a like nature which give concrete shape to his ideals. One can feel the existence of this Trust throughout the country as most of the states are having State Gandhi Smarak Nidhi. It has also established the Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation which functions from Wardha, Maharashtra and Gandhi Peace Foundation with its headquarters at New Delhi. There is then the Gandhi Sangrahalaya Board whose main object is to have some seven Gandhi Museums and Libraries and Columns in various suitable places. The Kasturba Hospital founded by Gandhiji in Sevagram near Wardha in Maharashtra is now an entity by itself.

Later, to achieve the goal of the trust effectively and economically the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi established local

managing committees to oversee the various activities in the respective states, for the better administration these local committees were converted to autonomous registered societies as a result of which AGSN was born.

The necessary particulars of AGSN may be stated as follows :-

1. Name : The name of the society Assam Gandhi Smarak Nidhi.
2. Jurisdiction : The whole territory of Assam or such other area approved by the General body of the Nidhi.
3. Head office : The head office of the Nidhi is at Gandhi Nagar (Khetri-Tetelia) or at such other places as may be decided at a special meeting called for the purpose.
4. Objects : (i) To conduct and promote in the state the manifold constructive activities and all such other activities required in furtherance of the ideals of truth and non-violence and to establish real Gram Swaraj envisaged by Mahatma Gandhi;
(ii) To work for National unity and International peace, communal and social harmony, removal of untouchability, prohibition of alcoholic and Narcotic drugs;
(iii) To work for Khadi & Village and Cottage Industries, -Naitalim, adult education, mass literacy, Health and hygiene education, promotion of National language;

(iv) To take necessary steps for the purpose of agriculture, animal husbandry, agri forestry and all sided development of Kisans, adivasis and the down-trodden.

(v) To propagate the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi & Acharya Vinoba,

(vi) To fulfil the above purpose establishment of training institutes, centres and to have any other activities i.e. publication of Gandhian literature, arranging ^{symposium} symposium, workshop, extension lectures etc.

5. Membership:

(i) Membership is open to any person who believes in the object of the Nidhi and a citizen of Assam and who has attained the age of 21 years. The person can become a member of the Nidhi on application to the Nidhi and on being admitted to the membership by the Karyapalika of the Nidhi.

(ii) There will be three categories of members:

(a) General members : Members paying subscription of Rs.101/- per term (three years) shall be general members of the society subject to conditions (1)

(b) Life Members : Life members will be those members who pay the subscription of Rs. 5000.00 or above and who satisfied the conditions mentioned in clause in (i)

(c) Patron Members : Persons paying minimum of Rs.10,000.00 or above are eligible to become patrons of Nidhi subject to fulfilling the condition in (i)

6. Accounting Year :

Accounting year of the Nidhi shall be commencing from 1st. April to 31st March of Christian era.

7. General Body:-

(A) Constitution:-

The body shall constitute with the following members the minimum No of which will be 21.

(i) All general members.

(ii) All life members and patrons.

(iii) All ex-chairman of the Nidhi. Provided they have paid the amount due to Nidhi.

(B) Period - Three years generally.

(C) Sitting - Generally the General Body shall meet once a year.

(D) Quorum - 9 (Nine) members or 1/3 of the total members (whichever is bigger) will form the quorum of the body.

(E) Chairmanship - Generally the Chairman of the Nidhi shall preside over the general meeting. In his absence the Vice-Chairman ~~President~~ will preside over the meeting. In the absence of the both any members selected by the meeting will preside over.

(F) Power and Functions - General Body of the Nidhi shall be supreme authority of the Nidhi and its decision shall be final.

(1) To elect the office bearer - Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, General Secretary and members of the Karyapalika.

Due representation shall be given for all categories of members in Karyapalika.

(ii) ^{The General body} It shall supervise the working of the Karyapalika and ensure that the resolutions or directions of the General Body have been implemented by the Karayapalika.

(iii) To discuss and approve the previous years annual report and accounts etc.

(iv) To accord sanction to the budget of new year.

(v) To ammend, after, abrogate, substitute rules and regulations of the Nidhi by 2/3 majority.

(vi) To approve the scheme for the new year.

(vii) To adopt all the activities for the fulfilment of Nidhi's object.

(viii) To decide affiliation with other bodies.

(ix) To decide the arrangement for (Karyapalika) bank operation.

(x) To appoint internal ^{auditor} audit etc.

8. Karyapalika Sabha; (a) Generally the Karyapalika shall be constituted fourteen mambers including Chairman, Vice-Chairman Treasurer and the Genaral Secretary etc.

(b) Tenure-Three years will be ^{The} tenure of Karyapalika.

(II) Sitting;

Once in a quarter of the year; The sitting of the ^Karyapalika will be held and the same will be convened by the General Secretary consulting with the ^{with} Chairman about the date and venue ¹⁰ days notice.

(iii) Quorum;-

At last 5 members will from the quorum of the ~~K~~aryapalika.

(iv) Power and function ;-

(a) To carry out the working of the Nidhi as per objects and rules and regulations.

(b) To keep supervision and control over the activities of the Nidhi.

(c) To appoint staff of Nidhi and to decide their remuneration and to dismiss, suspend or take any disciplinary action against any employees who are acting against the interest of the Nidhi or on gross mis-conduct.

(d) To look after management of all the activities of the Nidhi.

(e) To appoint sub-committees and to give special power to a member of members for doing particular work or project.

(f) To frame necessary rules, sub-rules etc. for day to day activities of the Nidhi and to place them before the General Body for approval.

(g) To comply with resolution and direction of generation body.

(h) To keep list of members.

(i) To arrange for the fund.

(j) To prepare the budget, account, annual reports to present in the General Body.

(k) To prepare different projects, schemes etc. for the fulfilment of the Nidhi's objectives.

(l) To decide to convene any special sitting of the General body.

9. Chairman :

of the Executive

(i) To conduct the proceeding ~~body~~, special sitting of the General Body and Karyapalika as a Chairman.

(ii) To issue necessary orders in the Nidhi and to exercise control over management of the Nidhi and its different projects.

(iii) To appoint employees in emergency temporarily and to have formal approval from the Karyakalika.

10. Vice ^{Chairman} ~~president~~;-*Chairman*

(1) To look after the work of ~~President~~ in his absence.

(2) To extend necessary help in the working of the Nidhi.

11. Treasurer :-

(1) To shoulder the joint responsibility of management of fund of the Nidhi with General Secretary.

12. General Secretary :-

The General Secretary will be Chief Executive Officer of the Nidhi. He will be elected by the general body and will be in the office for three years, provided he works for the best interest of Nidhi.

Following will be his powers and functions :-

(a) To convene meetings of the general body and Karyapalika.

(b) To keep watch and supervision ~~once~~ the working of the Nidhi.

(c) To control over the office of the Nidhi.

- (d) To prepare annual accounts of the Nidhi and the annual report to be placed in the Karyapalika and general body.
- (e) To keep the record of all the movable and immovable properties of ^{the} Nidhi and to have their security.
- (f) To keep control over the staff of the Nidhi,
- (g) To deal with correspondence of the Nidhi
- (h) To have close contact with the Central Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Rajghat, New Delhi.

13. Funds:-

The following will be the source for fund-

- (a) Membership Fee;
- (b) Donations;
- (c) Dividend from the Fund of Central Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Gandhi Peace Foundation etc. *Central Govt.*
- (d) Grants from State Government, of India or from any other agencies such as Khadi & Village Industries Commission.
- (e) Loan from Nationalised or any other Scheduled Banks and Agencies.
- (f) Foreign funding agencies;
- (g) Other Indian and local funding agencies.

14. Bank Account:

The funds of the Nidhi will be deposited in the name of the Nidhi in any nationalised or scheduled Bank. The bank accounts will be operated as decided by the Karyapalika. This shall be operated by joint signature of General Secretary and one member of the Karyapalika.

15. Amendments:

The Nidhi shall amend, substitute ^{and} ~~delete~~ any provision of the rules and regulations of the Nidhi by passing resolution of general body by two-third majority.

16. Dissolution of Nidhi :

If the Nidhi intends to close down the activities of the Nidhi and to dissolve the Nidhi, it will be done by passing resolution of General body by 3/4 majority. The property after final accounts will be donated to any Regd. Constructive Society, with similar objectives.

Working principles :

Gandhian principles are the guiding principles of AGSN. It does not believe in relief or charity or ~~satyagraha~~ but a positive programme to provide an alternative society and an alternative methodology for social transformation.

While carrying out its activities with the active help and support of the people, AGSN follows certain working principles which provides guidelines to the workers in their effort to achieve the goal of the organisation. Some of the cardinal principle adhered to ^{by} the workers of AGSN may be described as follows -

[i] Working on non-profit and non-political lines:

Working on non-profit and non-political lines forms one of the cardinal principles of the organisation. This has found expression in its constitution also. This has been given emphasis to ensure involvement of the local people in the programmes of the organisation and to turn the Nidhi into a people's organisation.

[ii] Respect for the community members:

Respect for the community members is another cardinal principle of the Nidhi.

[iii] Maintenance of working as well as friendly relationship with the local people and government officials:

The Nidhi always ^{tries} ~~try~~ to maintain good relations with local people, government officials and organisations. It believes that without active support from different agencies and organisations ^{it} ~~if~~ is very difficult to carry out its work in ^a ~~proper~~ manner. As a measure to promote friendly relationship, the Nidhi has made provision for representation of the local people and the government officers in its general body.

[iv] Development of need based programme:

The programmes initiated and organised by the Nidhi are all based on felt needs of the people. The workers felt

that need based programme helps in securing people's participation and co- operation. The needs of the people form the basis of the programme and this cannot be ascertained unless good relationship is maintained and people feel free to express their needs and problems.

Organisational Structure :

The internal organisation of the AGSN is composed of two bodies --

- [i] General Body
- [ii] Karyapalika Sabha (Executive).

The Karyapalika follows the practice of de-centralised administration for the functioning towards the attainment of the goals of AGSN. It has a permanent secretariat as well as different Project Implementation Committees (PIC) according to the need. The composition as well as powers and functions of Karyapalika, General Body and other office bearers are ⁸² accorded earlier in the chapter. However, the socio- economic background of the Karyapalika members are given in Table ~~No.~~ I and the 'Organisational Chart' of AGSN is depicted under Fig.I.

TABLE-I

Name	Designation	Age	Sex	Occupation
1.Dr.Paresh Ch.Deva Sarma. Ph.D.	Chairman	56	M	Retd. Principal.Hindi Teachers Training Institute,North Guwahati.
2.Smt.Suchibrata Rai Choudhury.	Treasurer	59	F	Retd. Director,Dept.of Social Welfare. Govt. of Assam.
3.Sri Dwarika Barua.	Member	73	M	President,Assam Gramdaan & Bhoodan Board.
4.Sri Deben Das.	Member	65	M	Social Worker.
5.Smt.Prafulla Bala Das.	Member	62	F	President,Mouman Ashram,Boko.
6.Sri Tarini Rai Choudhury	Administrative Secretary	54	M	Retd.Hindi Pracharak.
7.Sri Ramesh Sarma	Member	67	M	Naturopath & Social Worker.
8. Sri Priya Das	Member	45	M	Headmaster. Maharguri-ghat High School, Gandhi Nagar.
9.Md. Abdul Matin	Member	44	M	Secretary. Universal Brotherhood Association Nowgaon .
10. Sri Rabi Baishya	Member	58	M	Homeopath & Social Worker.
11.Sri Mukunda Rahang	Member	62	M	Agriculturist.
12.Sri Balladev Sarma	Member	38	M	General Secretary. Sodou Asom GramyaPuthi Bharal Santha,Chandmari Road, Nowgaon.

General Body

Karyapalika
(Executive)

Chairman

Administrative Secretary

Project Secretary

Project Staff

Office Assistant &

Other Staff

Assets & Infrastructure of AGSN :

As far as immovable assets ^{are} of AGSN ~~is~~ concerned it has three plots of land, the details are as follows :-

Plot No.I :

The total area of this plot of land allotted to AGSN by the Revenue Department, Govt. of Assam, was 150 ^B bighas. But gradually in due course of time AGSN was unable to maintain such a big ^{sum} of land. So, it allotted 50 bighas from this plot to the Department of Sericulture for 'Mulberry Farm'. Later 5 more ^B bighas ^{were} ~~was~~ given to Dept. of Health Services to construct a sub-centre. Hence, at present 95 bighas of land in this plot remains ^f with AGSN. The plot is a hillock with gradual and steep slopes with some flat portions. The buildings i.e. Office, Workshed etc are erected on this flat portion.

Plot No.II:

50 bighas of agricultural land ^{are} ~~is~~ in a single plot at village Helagog near the railway track between Dimoria and Khetri railway stations. It is about at a distance of 3 kms. from the H.Q. of AGSN at Gandhi Nagar. But the output of the cultivation is meagre.

Plot No.III:

The third plot is 24 bighas in area which is marginally cultivated, this plot is lowland adjacent to the H.Q. of AGSN.



**MAHILA BOYAN BIBHAG & TRYSEM
BUILDING**

Buildings

All the buildings are of semi-permanent nature (Assam Type) with brick wall and GIC roofing. The buildings can be classified as follows according to their use and purposes.

i) Building I : Ashram Yuva Niwas for the inmates of nearby Nahargurighat H.S. School with min. furniture.

ii) Building II: Training hall.

This has been constructed by District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) Kamrup, under the scheme TRYSEM (Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment), ~~of IRDP~~. It was completed in the year 1991-92. At present it is used as lecture cum demonstration hall in youth camps or any other programmes of AGSN.

iii) Building III: Office and 'Mahila Boyan Bibhag'

This building is about 25 years old, all the activities related to spinning and weaving etc. are done here. It has 25 looms and other necessary accessories.

iv) Building IV: Mahila Niwas.

This building is for the residential accommodation of the weavers and spinners who are full time workers of AGSN.

V) Building V: Secretary's quarter and Guest House.

Cow Shed :

A cow shed was constructed by DRDA during the year 1991-92 under IRDP infrastructure. The object^{ive} was to promote Dairy Farming in the area through a demonstration unit at AGSN, ~~alongwith it will~~^{and also} able to generate some fund. But unfortunately since completion of the construction it is not used because AGSN is unable to mobilise the working capital.

Machinery:

The machinery^{ies} that ~~is~~^{are} available with AGSN can be recorded as follows --

- i) One Ghani Machine.
- ii) One Diesel Pump.
- iii) One Water Pump.
- iv) Two Sewing Machines.
- v) One Knitting Machine.
- vi) One Type^t writer.
- vii) Thirteen Looms with Accessories.

Water Supply:

In the whole premises of AGSN HQ's at Gandhi Nagar it has three wells with concrete rings. Their depth is sufficient to provid water throughout the year. There is an overhead tank, water is pumped from a well by a 1 H.P. pump. Same water is also used for drinking purposes.

Programmes & Achievements of AGSN

Following Gandhian principles, AGSN has been trying to achieve its objectives through constructive works. Major achievements of AGSN may be recorded as follows :-

Gramseva Centres- There were eight Gramseva centres functioning at different places of Assam till 1970. The activities at these centres with certain variations from centre to centre consisted of agricultural improvement, Khadi and Village Industries, Basic and Adult education, Goseva & Bee-keeping.

Tatva Prachar - The programme of popularising Gandhian philosophy is known as Tatva Prachar. The target group of tatva prachar is students and youths. The programme has its appeal in the rural areas.

Krishi Vistar - Through Krishi Vistar, AGSN has been trying to educate rural folk about the efficacy of modern method of cultivation. The means of motivation are audio-visual shows, lectures as well as practical demonstration.

Gandhi Study Centres- These are the permanent platforms of Tatva Prachar, located at educational institutions. The centre regularly holds group discussions, seminars, conferences etc.

Gandhi Corners - These were the window centers to sell and distribute the Gandhian literature.



**CULTURAL ACTIVITIES ORGANISED
BY AGSN**

Sarvodaya Vichar Pariksha- AGSN also conducted various examinations on Sarvodaya philosophy sponsored by the Central Gandhi Smarak Nidhi. At present this programme is abandoned.

Khadi & village Industries :

Since inception AGSN is working for the development of Khadi & Village Industries. Spinning and weaving is undertaken by the "Mahila Boyan Bibhag" of AGSN at Gandhi Nagar. It has been trying to promote and popularise this cottage industry in Tetelia area. A small centre of Khadi production was opened at Nibira Naya Talim Kendra near Jagiroad in the year 1987-88. But this centre is now defunct since activities could not be monitored due to lack of personnel in AGSN.

Local youths were trained in 'Pottery Making', weaving & spinning, tailoring and knitting in collaboration with department of Rural Development, under the scheme TRYSEM. However this training programme is not in operation now.

During the last financial year (1994-95) AGSN has taken a 'Soft Loan' of Rs 1.5 lakh from Rastriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi (RGVN) Rajgarh, Guwahati. The loan is taken to upgrade the existing techniques of spinning and weaving in the, 'Mahila Boyan Bibhag' of AGSN. The project is entitled as "Centralised weaving & De-Centralised spinning". The aims &

objective of the project ^{are} is to increase the production and to produce "Design clothes" which will find a much easy and ready market. The marketing is done through Khadi and village Industry ^{Board} Board, Assam, or through other organisations ^{which} ~~who~~ have 'Sale counter' at Guwahati.

Training Programmes ^{on} 'Food preservation' are also arranged by AGSN for the rural youths from time to time in coordination with government agencies. Local youths were also trained in "fibre works" in 1991-92. But unfortunately all these activities are curtailed now due to paucity of funds.

Homeopathic Dispensary:

A Homeopathic Dispensary was run by AGSN at Gandhi Nagar premises by Ex.General Secretary Dr. Ravi Baishya(H). The dispensary is closed nowadays due to non availability of any homeopath.

Publication Works :

AGSN has published following books and periodicals :

i) A quarterly journal entitled 'Gandhi Darshan' was first published in January 1964. Sri Sarat Chandra Goswami was its founder Editor. The publication of the Journal was discontinued since 1972.

(ii) A biography named "Rastramata Kasturba" was published in 1968.

iii) "Dakhin Africat Gandhi" was translated into Assamese by Late Omeo Kr.Das which is one of the finest publications of AGSN.

Coordination Works :

AGSN has coordinated with many voluntary agencies, financial institutions and various Govt. Depts. for the achievement of its aims and objectives. The following voluntary organisations have a close coordination with AGSN.

- Tamulpur Anchalik Gramdaan Sangh, Kumarikata.
- Mouman Ashram, Boko.
- Narayanpur Anchalik Gramdaan Sangh, Charaidalani, North Lakhimpur.
- Gram Swaraj Parishad, Rangia.
- Gram Lok Sewa Sangh, Dhamdhama, Nalbari.
- Barkhetri Unnayan Samiti, Mukalmuwa, Nalbari.

Other Activities : There were 8 Balwadi schools run by AGSN around the Dimoria Development Block during 1988-89 ^{and} 300 students were provided with pre-primary education.

One Student's Home is also maintained at Gandhi Nagar in the premises of AGSN. A few Students stay in the hostel with very limited facilities. They are trained in kitchen garden and taught Gandhian principles regularly. At present the hostel building is in a deplorable condition and needs ^{major} heavy repairing.



**VOLUNTEERS OF AGSN ARE WORKING
IN A PLANTATION PROGRAMME**

With the help of Dept. of Forest (Social Forestry), Govt. of Assam, plantation was done in the hillock of AGSN during 1989-90. But due to improper fencing and poor maintenance the rate of survival of plants is very less. Recently AGSN organised an 'Environment camp' under National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC). It was assisted by Ministry of ^{Environment and Forest,} ~~Forest and Environment~~, New Delhi. During the camp period apart from lectures, demonstration and rally, a plantation programme was also arranged in the land of AGSN.

Chapter - III

GEO - SOCIAL PROFILE OF THE TETELIA GAON PANCHAYAT.

Tetelia gaon panchayat is one of the four Panchayats under Dimoria ^{Tribal} Development Block in the District of Kamrup, Assam. The Tetelia gaon panchayat consists of ten villages namely - Khat Tetelia, Tetelia gaon, Tetelia pathar Lumsum gaon, Teteliguri gaon, Lumsum pathar, Teteliguri pathar, Reba gaon, Meetoni gaon and Meetoni pathar.

As per ~~the~~ ^C census of 1991 there were 828 households in Tetelia gaon Panchayat, with a total population of 5222 of which 2646 males and 2576 females. ~~Although the Dimoria Development Block is categorised as Pt. (Plains Tribe) Block under Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITDP), this Gaon Panchayat has a low concentration of ST people. Only mere 303 out of 5222 total population.~~ ^{a Tribal Development}

Occupational Pattern:

A look at the occupational structure of population reveals a heavy dependence of population on primary sector, which is the characteristic of an underdeveloped economy. The total working force was 1911 persons which works out to be 36 per cent of the total population. Table II represents the occupational structure of the population in the ^G ~~gaon~~ panchayat.

Table II
Occupational Classification of Workers.

Sl. No	Category of Workers	Male	Female	Total
1.	Cultivators	935	150	1085
2.	Agricultural Labourers	92	32	124
3.	Livestock, Forestry and Fishing	25	0	25
4.	Mining and Quarrying	1	0	1
5.	Manufacturing, Processing servicing and repairs	13	0	13
6.	Constructions	13	0	13
7.	Trade and Commerce	23	1	24
8.	Transport and Communication	18	0	18
9.	Other Services	105	28	133
10.	Marginal workers	32	448	480
11.	Non Workers	1389	1917	3306
	TOTAL --	2646	2576	5222

Medical Facilities:

There is a Government PHC at the Block HQ's Sonapur. But it is not provided with the required facilities. Apart from it there were 10 Sub-Centre in different parts of the Block. One of the sub-centres falls in the Tetelia gaon panchayat at village Gandhi Nagar. The available medical and health facilities are either in-adequate or defunct. This is

particularly unfortunate as the area is afflicted by certain skin diseases. Moreover malaria is also prevalent in the area. The Gaon panchayat area has no private medical practitioner, nor a Pharmacy. Five Mahila Syastha Sangha (MSS) falls in the G.P. namely Tetelia MSS, Lumsum MSS, Teteliguri MSS, Chokari Para MSS, Meetoni MSS. Unfortunately they were also defunct due to paucity of Government fund.

Drinking Water:

The data on drinking water provided by the Block Development office show that almost all the villages are provided with borewells as well as open wells. But actually in the entire gaon panchayat there is no provision of well protected drinking water. Out of 200 households interviewed 52 per cent maintains their own hand pump, 45 per cent drinks water from pucca or kuccha wells and rest depends upon streams & community tanks.

Transportation

Dimoria development block being one of the important blocks in the district of Kamrup, the road communication facilities are developed to a considerable extent. The National Highway no.37 connecting the upper Assam cities of Jorhat & Dibrugarh passes through the block. The total length of the National Highway passing through the block is roughly about 20 kms. Five Villages in the Tetelia Gaon panchayat falling on the mini-bus route between Tetelia

& Meetoni gaon have a pucca road. The other villages are connected by kutchra roads usually found in deplorable condition during the monsoons. The railway line connects Brahmaputra & Barak Valley. From Guwahati to Lumding it is now broad gauge and ^{the railway line} passes through the block with four small stations.

Market Facilities

Marketing of goods generally refers to the physical transfer as well as economic terms on which the transfers are made. The efficiency of physical transfer could be achieved by minimising the wastage, cost of transport, tariff etc. Markets and marketing of produced goods have now been assumed to be an integral part of the economy in the entire production process. Markets which are existing in the block could be classified into three categories :

- i] Hats, which are periodically held once or twice in a week and sometimes on special occasions.
- ii] Wholesale regulated markets, which command larger zones of influence, where the sales and purchases are systematised keeping in view the interests of producer and the purchaser.
- iii] Retail daily market, where day-to-day commodities are made available during all the days in a week.

In the Dimoria Development Block there are 5 hats in five different prominent villages. The wholesale market is

at the block headquarter Sonapur. On every tuesday it is Tetelia hat bazar. Apart form this 11 other small daily market^{are} ~~is~~ found in the block.

Agrarian Structure:

The size distribution of land holding is one of the important factor^s to be taken into account in considering the productivity of land in the gaon panchayat or the block. Here, in the Tetelia gaon panchayat out of 200 households interviewed by the fellow 30 families were owning agricultural land between 1-3 bighas i.e. less than an acre. 70 families own 4-6 bighas i.e. slightly more than an acre but less than two acres. 60 families own between 6-9 bighas, 20 families own above 10 bighas and 20 families were without agricultural land of their own.

In other words, there were 15 per cent marginal farmers, 35 per cent small farmers, 30 per cent medium farmers and 10 per cent big farmers in the gaon panchayat.

CHAPTER - IV

VIABLE OPTIONS

SCHEME FOR AGRICULTURE :

Increase in the agricultural production is necessary mainly for the following reasons.

- (1) Agriculture is the tradition of Tetelia Gaon Panchayat area.
- (2) Agriculture can provide employment to all sections of the society both directly and indirectly.
- (3) A successful agricultural project can be a source for many labour intensive and low capital agro-industrial business activities.

AGSN has 3 plots which could be utilised for model agricultural projects. Being a voluntary organisation consisting of well informed citizens, AGSN can also interact with various government and non-government agencies effectively for improvement in agriculture. Success of such project will be able to inspire the agricultural community of Tetelia Gaon Panchayat area to practice agriculture as a profitable venture.

AGSN, therefore, can take up a paddy cultivation project which will create employment opportunities for the landless farmers and educated youths. Moreover, paddy produced from this project can very well be used as seed money for future constructive activities.

The financial implication of the project are as follows :

(1) Tractor	one	Rs.1,60,000/-
(2) Disc plough	one	Rs. 15,200/-
(3) Cultivator	one	Rs. 9,600/-
(4) Harrow	one	Rs. 12,000/-
(5) Land leveller	one	Rs. 7,200/-
(6) Trolley	one	Rs. 16,000/-
(7) Threshers	five	Rs. 50,000/-
(8) Power sprayers	five	Rs. 22,000/-
(9) Power dusters	five	Rs. 16,000/-

Total	Rs.3,08,000/-
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Fuel consumption in Tractor/annum

@Rs.24.00/acre	--	Rs. 36,000/-
Maintenance	--	Rs. 18,800/-
Driver cum Mechanic/annum		Rs. 16,000/-
House rent/annum	--	Rs. 7,200/-
Depreciation/annum	--	Rs. 29,800/-
Miscellaneous	--	Rs. 12,000/-

Total	Rs. 1,19,800/-
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Interest on capital

@12% per annum	--	Rs. 46,960/-
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Custom Rates

Cultivator (double ploughing)	Rs. 120/- per acre
Disc harrow (double ploughing)	Rs. 140/- per acre
Disc plough (double ploughing)	Rs. 180/- per acre
Land leveller	Rs. 180/- per acre
Carriage of goods (4 tonnes trolley)	Rs. 0.40 quintal/acre
Power engine operation cost for threshing etc.	Rs. 80/- per hour
Threshing of different crops	Rs. 4/- per hour
Spraying and dusting	Rs. 4/- per day

It is expected that a tractor will cultivate 1,200 acres of land in a year. Sprayers and dusters would operate for 150 days and threshers for 720 hours each in a year.

Returns per annum

Ploughing of 1200 acres of land	Rs. 1,44,000/-
Carriage of goods	Rs. 20,000/-
Supply of powers for other works	Rs. 6,000/-
Threshing for 3,600 hours	Rs. 14,400/-
Spraying & dusting	Rs. 6,000/-
Total	Rs. 1,90,400/-

ABSTRACT INVESTMENT

Non-recurring	Rs. 3,08,000/-
Recurring	Rs. 90,000/-
Total	Rs. 3,98,000/-

EXPENDITURE

Recurring	Rs. 90,000/-
Depreciation	Rs. 29,800/-
Interest on total investment	Rs. 46,960/-

Total	Rs. 1,66,760/-
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GROSS RETURN	Rs. 1,90,400/-
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Net profit (gross return minus expenditure)	Rs. 23,640/-
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The little profit which might accrue from custom service is proposed to spend in the demonstration services. This way AGSN will render the extension services to the farmers on popularising improved machinery for agricultural purposes.

PROMOTIONAL SERVICES :

(i) Agricultural Credit - The credit needs of the small and marginal farmers are not adequately met by the existing credit institutions in the block. Hence, these farmers often do not use chemical fertilisers and the high yielding seeds. In order to encourage farmers and to promote modern agriculture their credit needs must be fulfilled. Care has to be taken to extend these facilities to all the farmers, particularly small and marginal farmer in the Tetelia G.P.

area. It is proposed to extend the credit facilities by extending the area of operation of different banks and other financial agencies as also by opening some new branches wherever feasible. Moreover it is proposed to establish 'Primary Agricultural Credit Societies' through the initiative of AGSN in the Tetelia G.P. area where there ^{are} ~~is~~ no such societies.

(ii) Agro Service Centres - Due to poor economic status of most of the farmers they can not afford to purchase modern agricultural implements. In view of this, one agro-services centre is suggested to be started by AGSN. This is suggested keeping in view ^{of} the poor conditions of the farmers, geographical situation as well as the potential in the area.

SCHEME FOR SERICULTURE :

Sericultural activity is one of the traditional part time occupations of the people of the Tetelia Gaon Panchyat area. Mulberry trees grow in this area spontaneously. People nurture and depend on mulberry trees for silk worm rearing and cocoon production. AGSN has donated an area of 50 bighas to the Department of Sericulture, Government of Assam to set up a Mulberry plantation farm. The farm is working successfully since 1985. Therefore AGSN can take up a Sericultural Project which will create part time jobs for the womenfolk of the Tetelia Gaon Panchayat area.

Cocoons produced from these can very well be sold to market for profit or use as raw materials for spinning and weaving by AGSN.

Infrastructure for sericulture

Mulberry cultivation, silkworm rearing, cocoon production, reeling and weaving are the different activities of sericulture industry. At every phase of these activities, it needs different types of infrastructural facilities and training to promote ^{this} ~~these~~ industry.

(1) Seed farm - In order to supply high-yielding cross breed disease free layings (CBDFLS) to sericulturists, local and exotic cocoons are needed. It is therefore, necessary to have seed farms for producing local and foreign race cocoons for distribution to cocoon rearers. At present there is not a single seed farm in the block. In view of proposed expansion of sericulture, it may be necessary to go for establishing at least one seed farm in the area.

As discussed earlier one mulberry farm is located adjacent to the head quarters of AGSN. It also functions as a training centre for the new entrants in sericulture. But this farm ^{does} ~~do~~ not distribute seeds to the growers. It is therefore, proposed to upgrade this farm as a seed farm with improved techniques.

(ii) Grainage - Silkworm eggs are produced in the grainages. As soon as grainages come to bearing, the sericulturists will have to be supplied with disease free silkworm eggs. At present, sericulturists of the block are procuring eggs from Government Grainage Centre at Khanapara, Guwahati in the district of Kamrup.

(iii) Silk Reeling - At present reeling is not done in the block. The cocoons are ^{sent} transported to middle men at Jagiroad the nearby whole sale market in Nowgaon district. In the process, there is loss of cocoons resulting in the loss to the farmers. It is, therefore, necessary to introduce silk reeling in the Tetelia Gaon Panchayat to ensure better price to the cocoon growers and employment opportunities in silk reeling. Hence, it is proposed that to begin with improved charkha units and five basin reeling units would be preferable in the Boyan Bibhag of AGSN since it is already engaged in sericultural activity.

(iv) Twisting and weaving - The twisting and weaving of silk constitute the last phase of this industry. Twisting is an important pre-weaving activity. A "Malda type" twisting machine unit project is proposed ^{on} in the behalf of AGSN which is a minimum labour intensive unit.

(v) Training - Training to the sericulturists in mulberry cultivation, silk worm rearing reeling and weaving is an indispensable input to place the programme in a goodstead.

The Mulberry farm at Gandhi Nagar is proposed to ^{be} developed as Technical Service Centre to impart training in mulberry cultivation & silk worm rearing. Moreover it is suggested that families of small farmers and marginal farmers should be encouraged to take up mulberry cultivation and silk worm rearing. The agricultural labour and artisan households should be provided with handlooms and improved charkhas. Necessary training can be imparted with the assistance of Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and the beneficiaries can be covered under TRYSEM. For this AGSN can initiate the spinning and weaving training in its 'Mahila Bayan Bibhag'.

At present AGSN provides employment to 7 women artisans (full time) in the on going Rastriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi (RGVN) funded project ^{named} 'Centralised Weaving & De-centralised Spinning'. They were ^{are} ~~were~~ paid wages according to the norms of KVIC. Considering the employment generation capacity and low investment involved in this activity, the industry needs to be expanded further. So, to work as a booster for the on-going project, another new project proposal is prepared by the fellow for submission to Assam Science and Technology Environment Council (ASTEC) as per ^{its} ~~their~~ given guidelines.

Project Summary :

Title : Training-cum-Production of Design Khadi Silk.

Objectives :

- (i) To demonstrate the ways and means of elevating the status of women in their families as well as in the society through productive income generating programme and to make them self supported.
- (ii) To revive age old traditional practices and instal appropriate machinery for production of design Silk Khadi.
- (iii) To impart training on "Design Weaving" with Mulberry and Muga Yarn on "Dobi" and improved looms with other equipments to put simple design on Eri Scarf and Chadar.
- (iv) To assist the women belonging to the down trodden SC and ST families of the area giving them provision of self employment.

Nature of Project :

Appropriate machinery and few accessories / equipments are proposed to instal in the existing Mahila Boyan Bibhag i.e. Khadi Production Unit of Assam Gandhi Smarak Nidhi (AGSN) at its Head Quarter Gandhi Nagar. Few machinery will have to be purchased from Malda, West Bengal, since at present the technical skills of these improved machinery are limited to them only. ~~So, during~~

The beneficiaries will be identified through Mahila Samities, Mahila Co-operatives and Gaon Panchayats within Dimoria ~~(Pt)~~ Block. T. D. Block.

Introduction to the Project :-

Origin of the Proposal : AGSN already possesses the requisite infrastructure i.e. workshed with 13 nos. of looms and other accessories. But it was lying sick due to lack of working capital. Recently RGVN, Guwahati, sanctioned a soft loan of Rs.1.75 lakhs to AGSN for the project entitled Centralised Weaving and De-Centralised Spinning. Now, the proposed project is planned to implement as Phase II for better outcome of the ongoing project mention^{ed} above.

ⁱDefination of the Problem: The on-going project on spinning and weaving is suffering due to non-utilisation of modern equipments as;

- * Less quantity of yarn
- * Inferior quantity of yarn
- * Less competent in the market being producer of plain silk khadi clothes.

And also traditional artisans not being exposed to innovative ideas and skills in spinning and weaving are deprived ^{of} from higher income out of maximum labour.

Specific Objectives:

- * Qualitative and Quantitative production of yarns.
- * Dissemination of technical skills through training.
- * Sustainable employment and income generation.
- * Design and colourful silk khadi production to be more competent in the market.

Review of status of the project and ongoing development activities in the area selected :

Assam Silk Khadi has a prestigious status in the entire Nation. The Nidhi will be able to find market of its products.

Importance and need of the proposed project :

- * A trust to up-grade traditional culture of spinning and weaving among the tribal people.
- * By imparting training with improved machinery in the Khadi and Village Industry Sector more people will be motivated to take sericulture as primary source of income.
- * By improvement of working conditions/culture of spinners and weavers they will earn more with lesser labour.

The area selected is Demoria ^{T.D} (PT) Block, AGSN is already implementing a project of sericulture development entitled "Centralised Weaving and De-Centralised Spinning".

Details of expertise available with proposed group/institution in the subject of the project:

Since the inception of ASGN it is engaged in Khadi Clothes production, few of the weavers are working in the unit since then. So competent workers are available with the Nidhi for smooth implementation of the proposed project.

Methodology :-

During installation of machinery a master trainer from Malda will visit the centre for demonstration and orientation of the trainers for a month. The ongoing project of "Centralised Weaving and De-Centralised Spinning" supported by RGVN and the proposed one will be carried out hand in hand. Batches (15 Nos. in one batch, 10 in weaving and 5 in reeling/spinning) of traditional tribal women artisans will be identified from the area, they will be given on the job training in the following implements :-

- i. Dobi Loom :- Design weaving of Mulberry and Muga Silk.
- ii. "Ghai" :- Small Malda type reeling equipment which can be operated by women more efficiently for reeling mulberry cocoons only.
- iii. Choudhury Charkha :- For quantitative and qualitative Eri Spinning.
- iv. Special Charkha (Malda Type) - For reeling of waste of Muga, Mulberry Cocoons (After usual Reeling) this can be blended together especially for Khadi Casual Wollens.

- v. Muga Re^elling Machine (Choudhury Tech.) - For qualitative relling of Muga Cocoons.

The training will be non-residential without any stipend or T.A. to the beneficiaries. However, they will be able to earn wages for spinning and weaving as per Khadi and Village Industry ^{ies} Norms. This expenditure of wages and raw materials will be incurred from the aforesaid ongoing RGVN project.

Time schedule of activies for completion of the project.

Altogether the project will take 13 months. One year specifically for training of four batches (Single batch = 3 months) ^a And one month initially for installation of machinaries demonstration by master trainer.

Suggested plan of action for utilisation of expected outcome from the project.

The beneficiaries after training may start ^e their own venture. The Nidhi will supply the spinners with cocoons and even yarns to the weavers provided they give the finished product back to the Nidhi. In return they will earn wages as per Khadi norms. Others can also be absorbed by the Nidhi to work in its Mahila Boyan Bibhag which will be enlarged in course of time and ^{to} ^m accomodate more workers. Moreover if the beneficiaries ^a ^{ed} wishes they may even be formed in small groups and the Nidhi along with them will approach funding agencies/Banks for their individual unit of looms etc.

Budget Estimate

A. Recurring expenditure for 12 months.

Item	Budget
1. Honorarium to one master Trainer from Malda for 1 month only including his T.A. etc.	Rs. 2,500.00
2. Honorarium to 1 no. Design Weaving Expert @ Rs. 1000/- p.m. for one year.	Rs.12,000.00
3. Honorarium to 1 no. Weaving guide @Rs.600/- p.m. for one year.	Rs. 7,200.00
4. Consumables viz; cocoons/yarns etc are not proposed or valued since this expenditure will be done by the on going RGVN project. (not estimated)	NIL
5. House rent is not proposed as requisite infrastucture is available	NIL
6. Travelling expences including one worker's visit to Malda to buy machinery etc also boarding and lodging expences	Rs. 3,500.00
7. Contingency	Rs. 2,000.00
Total	Rs.27,200.00

B. Capital Expenditure :

Item	Budget
1. 3 nos. Dobi Loom for Design Weaving of Muga and Pat with all accessories @ Rs.4500/- each (Including packing, transportation Installation)	Rs.13,500.00
2. 2 nos. Malda Reeling (Small type) "Ghai" for reling of mulberry cocoons only @Rs.2000/- each including supply cost from Malda, Insurance and Instalation.	Rs. 2,000.00
3. 5 nos. Malda Charkhas which ^{are} specially designed to spin the waste of mulberry and muga cocoons (after usual spinning), @ Rs.400/- each including supply cost from Malda, Insurance etc.	Rs. 2,000.00
4. 2 nos. of Choudhury Charkhas for Eri Spinning @ Rs. 12,00/- each including packing transportation and installation	Rs. 2,400.00
5. 1 nos. Muga Reeling Machine (Choudhury Tech.) including packing transportation and installation @ Rs. 2400/-	Rs. 2,400.00
6. Wooden furniture like one Almirah, one table and two benches for use in the unit (Estimated lump sum)	Rs. 5,000.00
TOTAL	Rs.29,300.00

C. Total Recurring + Non Recurring

Rs. 27,200 + Rs. 29,300

= Rs. 56,500.00

(Rupees Fifty six thousand five hundred only.)

PROCESSING OF MINOR FOREST PRODUCE (MFP).

A scheme of Leaf Plate Making Production Cum Training Centre.

This project proposal is prepared by the fellow on the behalf of AGSN for submission to the Ministry of Welfare for grant-in-aid under the Central Sector Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of scheduled Tribes.

Project Title : Leaf Plate Making Production cum Training Centre.

Introduction: Assam Gandhi Smarak Nidhi (AGSN) is precisely operating in its various developmental activities within the jurisdiction of Demoria ^{T.D} (Pt) Block, Dist. Kamrup, Assam.

The proposed training cum production centre will be set up at the organisation's head quarter situated in Gandhi Nagar under Tetelia Gaon Panchayat, ~~ITDP~~ ^{Tribal} Dimoria Development Block, Dist. Kamrup, Assam.

The project will be feasible for the area as raw material i.e. Sal Tree leaves will be locally available from the Reserve Forest under Sonapur Range, Deptt. of Forest, Govt. of Assam, Moreover leaf Plate Making will be an innovative effort in this area.

Objectives:

- 1) to organise poor ST rural woman into groups for their own development.

ii) to create and increase employment opportunities for women by strengthening their productive activities through training.

iii) production of Leaf Plates.

Need and Importance of the project :

Leaf plates are abundantly used during any social function by all the classes of people in the State of Assam. The market is captured by monopoly business by the state of West Bengal and Orissa. The raw material is very much available in almost all parts of the state of Assam. But, due to lack of appropriate technology and skills this industry is still unexplored by the indigenous people. At present the indigenous raw material i.e. sal tree leaves gets wasted in the forest of Assam, they are even set fire during the falling season of leaves.

Moreover, as proposed in the project apart from the trainee beneficiaries other grassroot tribal people will also be benefitted. They will collect raw materials and sell it to the organisation's production centre and other envisaged units in the future.

Thus, paving an alternate source of income to the indigenous people rather than going to the extent of destruction of forest for their livelihood, ^{will be a commendable act} This will help to balance our eco-system too.

al for
Proposed Implementation/Methodology :

The project will start with "Training" on Leaf Plate Making for six months.

The training is envisaged to enable them -

- *to understand the caused of their poverty.
- *to understand the need to come together.
- *to learn new techical skills which will provide them higher income.
- *to acquire the capability to gradually manage their own programme and activities.

Follow-up: After completion of the training few of the beneficiaries will work as wage earners in the Leaf Plate Making Production Centre of the organisation. Rest would be organised into development associations. And along with these beneficiaries the organisation will approach Rastriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi (RGVN) Guwahati, or CAPART, New Delhi and help them to help themselves by establishing their own unit.

Marketing: The organisation (ASGN) has already made a survey of the local market and got assurance for the consumption of the finished products within the district itself. And as the district head quarter Guwahati the biggest market of NE Region is just 40 Kms from the organisation's head quarter marketing *would not* ~~would~~ be a problem.

The production from the envisaged units of the beneficiaries will also be marketed by the organisation. And

the procurement of the raw materials will be also assured by the organisation. This will keep both the organisation and the beneficiaries in close co-operation and co-ordination.

Sustainability: The proposed training period is six months, after that follow-up action for the permanent rehabilitation of the beneficiaries will begin which is expected to complete within next six months. The grant-in-aid to the organisation ends after one year. But it is envisaged that the project will sustain since by this time the organisation will be able to hold a small working capital for purchase of raw materials, which will be the only recurring expenditure ^e than. Moreover at this phase the project will only need a single personnel as Accountant-cum-Salesman for smooth running of the organisation's production centre henceforth.

No of beneficiaries to be covered under the projects and estimated expenditure involved. Item wise details of expenditure of non-recurring and recurring natures *are given hereunder.*

Beneficiaries :

50 Nos of rural ST women below the poverty line will be identified from 10 villages falling under the Tetellia Gaon Panchayat of Demoria ^{T.D.} (Pt) Block, Dist. Kamrup, Assam.

List of beneficiaries will be identified through the Gaon Panchayat.

Budget:

A. SKILL TRAINING :

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Work centre on Rent basis
@ Rs.600/- p.m.for one year. | - NIL
The organisation
has its own
workshed with
brick wall & GIC
roofing, Rs.
7200/- will be
organisation's
contribution |
| 2. | Equipments & Machineries : | |
| | (i) Leaf Stitching machines 3 nos.
@ Rs. 1000/- (including transp-
ortation & instalation charges) | - Rs. 3,000/- |
| | (ii) Leaf processing machine 1 No.
@Rs. 11,000/- (including transp-
ortation & instalation charges) | - Rs. 11,000/- |
| 3. | Stipend to trainees 50 Nos, @ Rs150/-
p.m. for six months (150X50X6) | - Rs. 45,000/- |
| 4. | Instructor's salary 1 No. @Rs.1400/-
p.m. for six months. | - Rs. 8,400/- |
| 5. | Raw materials calculated only for tra-
ining period @ Rs.30/- per trainee
p.m. (30X50X6) | - Rs. 9,000/- |
| | Total | Rs. 83,600/- |

B. PRODUCTION :

1. Leaf Stitching machines & Leaf processing machine	- NIL Will be transferred from training to production.
2. Salary to co-ordinator (one) @ Rs 1200/- p.m. for one year	- Rs. 14,400/-
3. Salary to Office-Asstt. cum Accountant (one) @ Rs.800/- p.m. for one year.	- NIL This contribution of Rs.9,600/- will be organisation's own since they already have competent Office Asstt. cum Accountant
4. Salesman (one) @Rs.800/- p.m. for one year	- Rs. 9,600/-
5. Social support services	- Rs. 8,000/-
6. Contingencies including stationary	- Rs. 7,000/-
7. Misc. expences	- Rs. 4,000/-
Total	Rs. 52,600/-

Grand total A.Training + B.Production = Rs. 1,36,200/-

Organisation's own contribution = Rs. 16,800/-

Grant in aid sought for = Rs. 1,19,400/-

(Rupees one lakh nineteen thousand four hundred only)

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Besides agriculture, animal husbandry has the potential of providing gainful employment to a substantial number of rural poor. Animal husbandry mainly includes dairying, goat rearing, piggery and poultry.

Planning for livestock development

Livestock development is of considerable importance as a subsidiary as well as whole time occupation. It is suggested that pasture development and management should be given priority. This can be achieved by controlling and regulating the grazing on the one hand and by converting the fallow and cultivable wastelands into productive pastures.

SCHEME FOR DAIRY UNIT

A. UNIT COST (CAPITAL EXPENDITURES)

- | | | |
|----|--|----------------|
| 1. | Cost of construction of one cattle shed to accomodate 20 nos. of cows with a minimum requirement of 30 sq. ft. space per cow @ Rs. 80,00/sq.ft with all fittings. | Rs. 48,000.00 |
| 2. | Cost of construction of another cattle shed to accomodate 20 nos. of calves with a minimum requirement of 15 sq ft. space per calf @ Rs. 80,00/sq.ft with all fittings. | Rs. 24,000.00 |
| 3. | Cost of construction of one office cum store room of size 30'x15' @ Rs. 80/sq.ft. with all fittings. | Rs. 36,000.00 |
| 4. | Cost of 20 nos. cross breed jersey cow (F-1) yielding 7 litres of milk per cow/day preferably in their 1st. or 2nd lactation and 1st. batch of calving (10nos. of cow should be purchased at first instance and the 2nd batch of 10 nos. should be purchased after 6 months @ Rs. 8,000/ per cow | Rs.1,60,000.00 |
| 5. | Cost of transporation of cows @ Rs. 200/- | Rs. 4,000.00 |

TOTAL =	Rs.2,72,000.00
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B. OPERATIONAL (RECURRING EXPENDTTURE)

1.	Cost of concentrate feed for the Ist. batch of cow (i.e. 10nos.) for initial 1 month @ 3.5 kg./cow/day at the cost of Rs. 5.50 per kg.	Rs. 5,775.00
2.	Cost of fodder for the Ist. batch of cows for initial one month @ 15kg./cow per day, at the cost of Rs. 1.00 per kg.	Rs. 4,500.00
3.	Insurance premium for 20 nos cows for a period of 3 years @ Rs. 8.62% to cover all risk.	Rs. 13,792.00
4.	Cost of medicines, Vety aid, Utensils etc. (Lump Sum)	Rs. 4,000.00
5.	Cost of 2 labour @ Rs. 35.00/day/labour for initial one month.	Rs. 2,100.00
TOTAL		Rs. 30,167.00

C. TOTAL COST OF UNIT (A+B)

Rs. 2,72,000/- + 30,167/- = Rs. 3,02,167/-

(Rupees three lakhs two thousand one hundred sixty seven) only.

D. ECONOMICS

Sl No.	Items	Particulars	Scheme Period (Days)				
			1st yr.	2nd yr.	3rd yr.	4th yr.	5th yr.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Days in Milk	1st. batch of cow i.e. 10 nos	250	280	280	270	240
		2nd batch of cow i.e.10 nos.	180	240	240	240	240
		Total	430	520	520	510	480
2.	Days in Dry	1st. batch of cow.	110	80	80	90	120
		2nd batch of cow	---	120	120	120	120
		Total	110	200	200	210	240

N.B:-1. Production year = 360 days.

2. The firm will be short of milk for 30 days, as cows were purchased after one month of lactation, after calving.

3. Lactation period = 280 days.

4. Lactation interval = 120 days.

5. Calving interval = 400 days.

6. Sexual rest = 60-90 days.

7. Service period = 120 days

8. Gestation period = 270± 10 days.

9. Sex ratio = 50 : 50

10. Production life = 10 years to 12 years.

11. Average milk yield = 7 litres/day/cow.

12. ^{Depreciation} Depreciation = Nil.

E. RECURRING EXPENDITURE

Item	Particulars	1st yr.	2nd yr.	3rd yr.	4th yr.	5th yr.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Feeding of concentrate during lactation @ 3.5 Kg/Cow/day @ Rs. 5.50/kg.	82,775	1,00,100	1,00,100	98,175	92,400
2.	Feeding during the dry period @ 1.5 kg/cow/day @ 5.50 per kg.	9,075	16,500	16,500	17,325	19,800
3.	Vety. aid/breeding etc. @ 4,000 (L.S.) Per year.	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
4.	Insurance Premium for last two years @ Rs4.50% per annum (all risk)	---	---	---	7,200	7,200
5.	Labour Cost @ Rs30 day/head for two labour	21,600	21,600	21,600	21,600	21,600
6.	Feeding of fodder during lactation @ 15 Kg./cow/day @Rs.1.00 per kg.	64,500	78,000	78,000	76,500	72,000
7.	Feeding of fodder during dry @ 10Kg /cow/day @ 1.00/Kg.	11,000	20,000	20,000	21,000	24,000
Total Rupees		1,92,950	2,40,200	2,40,200	2,45,800	2,41,000

F. INCOME

Items	Particulars	Scheme Period (Rupees)				
		1st.YR.	2nd.YR.	3rd.YR.	4th.YR.	5th.YR.
1.	Income from the sale proceeds of milk @ 10.00/- litre.	3,01,000	3,64,000	3,64,000	3,57,000	3,36,000
2.	Gross surplus (Profit) of the farm (F-E)	1,08,050	1,23,800	1,23,800	1,11,200	95,000

Note : (i) Cost of insurance premium for 1st 3 years has been capitalised.

(ii) Income from the selling of male calves and manure will be utilised for feeding of milk to the calves and maintenance of the farm.

(iii) Water supply and electricity cost will be born^e by AGSN.[^]

POULTRY :

There is no organised poultry farming in the area. All the birds are 'Desi' birds and are being maintained on the pattern of backward poultry. As a result, the egg production is very low. Poultry farming can be viable and economical in the area since it requires less space, low capital investment and quick returns. A well distributed turnover throughout the year makes poultry farming a remunerative enterprise. And lastly since a ready market is there the rearing of poultry provides a good opportunity for gainful employment to idle or unemployed members of rural families.

Veterinary health cover or Services :

There is always a need to develop the animal husbandry sector for the economic development. This would help the cause of employment promotion. So, a well organised animal health service is necessary for the success of livestock development programme. This applies particularly to

the programme of improving the production of indigeneous stock by cross breeding with exotic animals as the exotic and cross breed stock are more susceptible to diseases.

FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT :

Pisciculture has a vital role in the economy of people in the rural areas. In addition to providing nutrient food, its contribution to income and employment is also quite high.

But in Tetelia gaon panchayat or even in the entire block pisciculture offers only a limited scope. There are no fishermen co-operatives in the gaon panchayat. It is observed that fisheries is not ^a fulltime occupation of any family. There are no fish seed farms either in the entire block. However, an attempt is made to propose a plan for pisciculture to exploit the existing potential in the gaon panchayat as well as in the entire block.

Important cultivable varieties of fish :

The three major carps viz., catla, rohu and mrigal are widely used in piscicultural practices all over the country. These are indigenous quick growing varieties.

In the composite fish culture technique developed by Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), three more varieties of exotic carps viz., silver carps, grass carps and common carps are also used along with the major indigenous carps.

Factors influencing fish production :

Improved technology in fish culture should eventually lead to maximization of fish production per unit of water spread area. Fish production is influenced by different factors mentioned below.

- i) Soil nutrients and the quality and quantity of water contributing to the production of palankoton, nekton and benthos which form natural feed for fish.
- ii) Manures and fertilizers for augmenting the biological production of natural foods.
- iii) Supplementary or artificial feeds which are directly consumed by the growing fish.
- iv) The proper balance of different types of fish feed to make the most efficient use of all types of foods produced and introduced.

The inputs comprising manures, fertilizers, artificial feeds and seed fish constitute an important set of factors adjusted to make the best use of the holding capacity of water for maximum fish production.

Proposed plan :

The commercial pisciculture in the gaon panchayat is proposed in one tank only. The other tanks have to be converted into long seasonal tanks before pisciculture can be introduced in them. For this purpose tanks need to be

desilted and deepened so as to increase the water holding capacity of the existing tank and ponds. This work may be taken up under Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY) in case of community tank or pond. It is proposed that deeper tanks are dug below the sluice level so that fish farming could be practiced throughout the year.
