

NAROTTAM LALBHAI RURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Annual Report 2000 – 2001

AGRICULTURE ;

Vermicompost :

Earth worms rearing is done under this activity in village called Paroya Chhapra. Beds are made in the farm where regularly cow-dung, food, water are provided to earthworms. In order to protect earthworms and their eggs beds have been covered by making a shed on them.

After a period of 3 months soil from the beds are shifted to the field where earthworms are required. Earthworms are germinated from the eggs in the soil and make the land fertile and porous. Compost manure is removed and supplied to needy farmers. Due to extensive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in crops natural ingredients like earthworms have disappeared from the land. Now the need of earthworms has been realised by farmers and development agencies due to which vermiculture and vermiculture has been given importance in the fields.

HEALTH, NUTRITION & SANITATION :

Anganwadi Project :

Operation of twenty anganwadis has been handed over to NLRDF in Khedbrahma taluka of Sabarkantha District. As a part of the programme a supervisor visits all anganwadis to monitor the activities.

Pre primary education of children between 3 to 6 years of age, Care of pregnant and nursing women, immunisation, weighing and maintaining growth record of children in growth chart, organising women for activities of their benefits, nutritious food etc. are carried out in anganwadis. Under this programme training regarding Tuberculosis was attended by supervisor in April 2000. Also talk was attended by her on water borne diseases, vegetable seeds, nutrition.

Out of 2470 children below 6 years of age in 20 operational village 2232 children are enrolled in anganwadis. As a part of this programme physical growth record of the children reveals that out of 1167 children weighed 31 children are in malnutrition grade

III and only 2 are in grade IV so totally 33 children are severely malnourished in 20 villages.

Recipe demonstration was organised in a village where alongwith demonstration information on nutrition was given for recipes like shiro, thepla of gaurd (doodhi) spinarh and pulses.

Low Cost Sanitation :

NLRDF is Nodal Agency in Sabarkantha and Gandhinagar Districts for Low Cost Sanitation project sponsored by Govt. of Gujarat through Rural Development Corporation. During the year 3468 low cost latrines were constructed by twenty two organisations of both the districts. All the latrines were inspected by NLRDF and Rural Development Corporation.

School Sanitation :

31 School Sanitation blocks in Khedbrahma, Idar and Meghraj talukas of Sabarkantha district have been completed during the year. Grant mobilised was Rs. 5,47,400/- for the project. This project was sponsored by Education Department, Govt. of Gujarat.

EDUCATION :

Balwadi :

For pre primary education, a Balwadi is being run in a tribal village called Kherivav. A Balwadi teacher/worker and an attendant are employed in this Balwadi. 30 children between the age of 3 to 6 years are given pre primary education, simple tips on health care and sanitation. During the time of balwadi they are given nutritious diet, games, told stories sung songs etc. in order to form habit of going to school.

Swa-Shakti Project:

A project of women empowerment through organising them in groups, capacity building, savings, income generation etc. is being carried out. Till the end of the year 40 Self Help groups have been formulated in 27 villages of Khedbrahma taluka covering 768 members. Out of 40 groups 39 have started savings activities and in the process 35 have opened saving bank accounts of the groups and have mobilised savings to the tune of Rs. 58,390/-.

Alongwith savings, activities being taken up for the members are literacy classes, cultural programmes, blood test, meetings to discuss common problems like health, cattle care, agriculture, sharing of Govt. programames, discussing problems with Govt. officials, motivation for being self sustaianed etc.

Field workers was sent to Lucknow – Sahabagi Shiksha Sansthan for 3 days and was trained in screening process.

RURAL INDUSTRIES :

Bio-gas Plants:

Bio gas plants are erected in the courtyards of interested farmers. Bio gas plants provide gas for cooking and better quality of farm yard manure to owners. Village meetings are called to make farmers aware of the benefits of the plant and motivate them to go for it.

A training programme for bio gas supervisors was organised at Ahmedabad with technical support of Regional Bio gas Training Centre Udaipur, in which knowledge on various models of biogas plants and system of working was imparted to the participants.

Khadi and Polyvastra :

Under Khadi and Polyvastra project, employment is provided to 90 women through spinning on amber charkha in six villages of Khedbrahma taluka in Sabarkantha district. Cotton (Khadi) yarn and polyvastra cotton (Polyvastra) yarn of different counts is prepared in form of hanks. The yarn is sent to villages of Limdi taluka for weaving different varieties of clothes like shirting, coating, etc. During the year polyvastra yarn produced was 478 kg. in form of 20,483 hanks Khadi yarn produced was 796.7 Kgs. In form of 21880 hanks. spun yarn

Production of Khadi cloth for the year was 6823.8 sq. meters worth Rs. 3,34,760. Employment generated through production of Khadi was Rs. 1,15,583 for 107 persons during the year. Total sale of khadi during the year was worth Rs. 5,58,582/- Production of Polyvastra was 4204.59 sq. meter worth Rs. 2,26,415. Employment generated through production of polyvastra was ^{worth} Rs. 1,23,239 and provided to 94 persons.

Polyvastra cloth produced under the project is further used for manufacturing suitcases of different size and variety and shoulder bags which are sold by NLRDF. Selling of all the products is done at depots, in Ahmedabad and Khedbrahma.

Weaving Centre at Gadu village is being run for weaving Khadi and polyvastra. The activity is done on a small scale. Remaining cloth is woven at Limdi and Karol centers in limdi takuka, dist. Surendranagar.

Minor Forest Products Collection :

Tribal village committees for collection of minor forest products are formed and registered with Forest Development Corporation. People in tribal villages collect minor forest products like seeds, flowers, soap nuts, leaves etc. and honey declared by the Corporation which they supply to the depots of the Corporation through NLRDF and get the price decided for the products.

The minor products collected are karanj seeds, soap nuts, gums of various trees, chandni, Mahuva flowers, Ratanjor seeds and other useful seeds etc.

Community Forestry Didhiya :

live

Plantation of Eucalyptus, subabul, Bamboo and other plants was done on the plot. For protection of the trees and plants fencing was done. Mature trees were cut from the plot and sold in form of wood and bamboo sticks etc.

Plantation of new saplings has been also done on the plot.

Scarcity Relief work :

People employed for relief works during scarcity were provided works during scarcity were provided gram and jaggery as food for work. Each worker was provided a packet of one kg. Per day.