

ANNUAL REPORT 2001 - 2002



Tata Chemicals Society for Rural Development

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Introduction

Tata Chemicals Limited (TCL) acknowledges that business and society are interdependent and there is a need to balance the interests and needs of many diverse groups in society. Being a responsible corporate citizen is a commitment and a guiding force that is reflected in the mission statement of the company –

“ by reinforcing our commitment to environment and community around us, and by conducting ourselves with integrity.”

This commitment is further reinforced as a part of the company’s quality policy.

The company pledges to -

“Take adequate care to ensure safety at the workplace, environmental preservation and to respond sensitively to the needs of the community.”

Commitment to the community motivated TCL to promote and establish Tata Chemicals Society for Rural Development (TCSRSD). The main aim of the society is to promote the growth of rural economy, develop facilities for public education and the socio-economic development, welfare and upliftment of the rural communities.

In November 2000, guiding principles being followed for community development were formalized in a community development policy.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Tata Chemicals Limited pledges itself to serve the community by

- ◆ Designing, evolving and implementing sustainable community development programs in its area of influence, that lead to measurable socio-economic development of the community.
- ◆ Involving the beneficiaries in all stages of the process in the true spirit of participatory development.
- ◆ Having a focused and transparent beneficiary selection criteria, that provides for equal opportunity, favours the economically weaker sections and promotes enthusiasm.
- ◆ Partnering and networking with central and state governments, development bodies and NGOs to implement appropriate community development programs.
- ◆ Involving the employees in volunteering for community development programs.

The main focus of this policy is sustainable and participatory development. As we shift more and more towards working in participation with the target beneficiaries the structure of project implementation has also changed and ownership of development is becoming evident.

The Year 2001-2002

The year 2001-2002 was the year of self-reflection, of revisiting various projects. At Mithapur, community development initiatives emphasized watershed development and management. The project completed its implementation stage in four villages that have now moved to the operations and maintenance phase. Two new villages were incorporated in the watershed development program- Batisa & Vasai taking the total to eight villages.

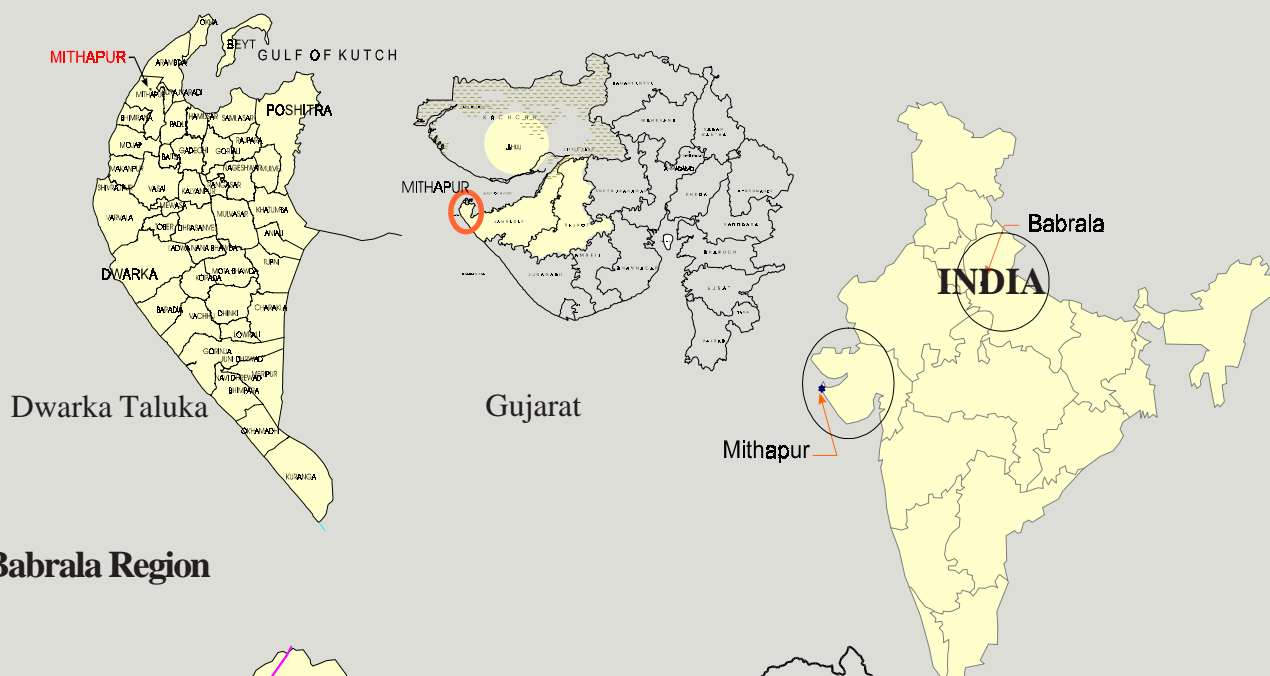
At Babrala, a midline survey was conducted to find out the socio-economic development and the reach of various development initiatives. Beneficiaries of land reclamation project were also revisited and based on their feedback a “consolidation of land reclamation program” was taken up.

All Community initiatives undertaken during the year at Mithapur and Babrala are detailed in this report. The projects have been divided into development projects – that give direct economic benefit to the beneficiaries and service projects – that do not give direct benefit but nevertheless are important for the socio economic development of the region.

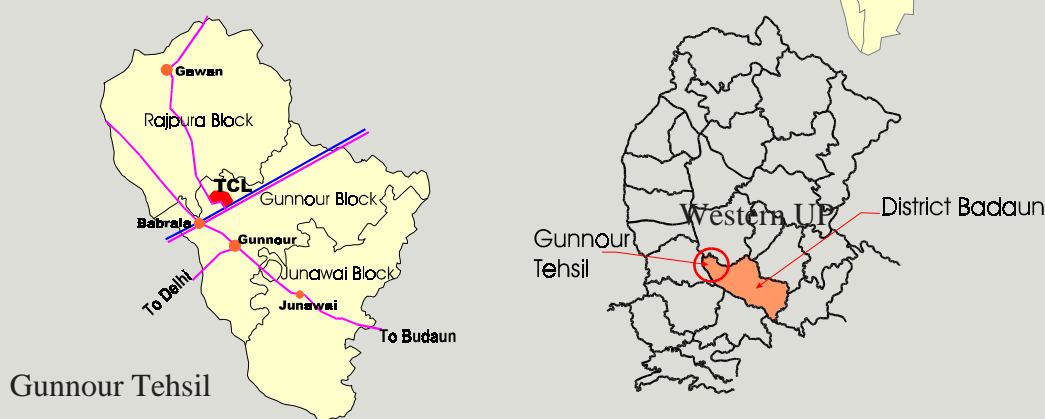
Area of Interest

Mithapur Region

Mithapur Region: Mithapur is located on the western most tip of the Saurashtra peninsula of Gujarat. This region of Jamnagar District of Gujarat is one of the most drought prone regions of the country, but still agriculture is the predominant activity in this region. Vaghers constitute the main community in this region, with Lohanas, Rajputs, Ahirs, Muslims, Rabaris and Harijans making up the rest. The region consists of 42 villages where developmental work is carried out. Relief work is location specific depending on the need of an area. Most often it is in the districts of Jamnagar and Rajkot.



Babrala Region



Babrala Region: Located in the Ganga basin, Babrala region is a part of Badaun District of Uttar Pradesh. The area of activities includes three development blocks of Rajpura, Gunnour and Junawai. Yadavs constitute 81% of the population with Goswamis, Muslims, artisan communities like Kumhars, Jatavs, Koris, Telis and other schedule castes making up the rest. Agriculture is obviously the most important occupation followed by cattle rearing. The Rajpura block has 67 gram panchayats, Gunnour block has 58 gram panchayats and Junawai has 54 gram panchayats.

Mithapur Region

Mithapur region includes the Dwarka Taluka that is located at the tip of the Saurashtra peninsula in the Jamnagar District of Gujarat. It supports a population of nearly 1.2 Lac people. The important towns in this region are the holy city of Dwarka and the port Okha.

Last year was an eventful year with two natural calamities striking the region : severe drought and the killer earthquake. Relief activities continued during the current year also and construction of earthquake proof houses was taken up in earnest. Most of the activities carried out were done under the umbrella of 'Tata Relief Committee'.

TCSRDR on its own continued the development activities concentrating on both Development Projects (projects that give direct economic benefit) and Service Projects (projects that do not give direct benefit but nevertheless are important for the socio-economic development of the region).

The main development emphasis in this very drought prone region is watershed development. Other activities, though important are an offshoot of undertaking water conservation and watershed development. Agriculture and animal husbandry are both dependent to a large extent on the availability of water. Development of cottage industries that are independent of water is the other focus area of TCSRDR's development initiative. TCSRDR has taken up promotion of traditional handicrafts providing training, quality control and to some extent marketing of the finished product.

Development projects

1. Agriculture & watershed Development
2. Self- help groups
3. Handicrafts Development

Service projects

1. Education & training
2. Health
3. Infrastructure development



Dam at Tupni village after the rains

Watershed & Agriculture

The region is a severely drought prone area where deficient monsoons have resulted in total crop failures, but, agriculture is still the predominant occupation. Improving the socio-economic status of the people means improving agriculture. Improving agriculture means improving the availability of water. Watershed development – harvesting of water is the prime requirement of the area. TCSR D has also focused its energies towards this end and after successfully completing watershed development in four villages it has taken up watershed development in four more villages taking the total to eight villages. Other interventions in agriculture and watershed development include promotion of horticulture and demonstration of crops & distribution of seeds.

TARGET AREA

Watershed development program is being carried out in 8 villages of Dwarka Taluka. Agriculture development targets all 42 villages of the Taluka but during the year under review 38 villages have participated



Farmers irrigating their fields with water stored in the dam.

Watershed Development:

Under the Government of India's Desert Development Program, TCSR D has been selected as the Project Implementing Agency (PIA) for implementing the Watershed Development project in five villages of the Okhamandal Taluka. The funding for the project is through the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) Jamnagar. In the first phase of the project, five villages (Poshitra, Tupni, Beyt Dwarka, Dhinki & Samlasar) were selected; Subsequently one more village (Mojap) was added, with a project duration of five years for each village. Watershed

Development program has been successfully completed in four villages (Poshitra, Samlasar, Tupni & Beyt Dwarka), after which two new villages have been selected. At present watershed development is being undertaken in four villages. (Dhinki, Mojap, Vasai & Batisa). In each of these villages participatory appraisals were done to identify the needs of the village, micro-watershed

Summary of Watershed Project

Name of Work	Poshitra	Samlasar	Tupni	Dhinki	Beyt Dwarka	Mojap	Vasai	Batisa
No. of Medium Dams	5	5	4	5	3	3	2	1
No. of Small Structures	32	40	26	63	48	53		42
Afforestation (in Hectares)	6	7	4	1		1	0.3	0.2
Entry point Activity (Training)	1	1	1	1		1	1	1
Total No. of Direct Beneficiaries (Households)	149	120	141	122	93	108	28	53
Total Expenditure (In Lacs)	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	12.00	3.30	2.80
Status of Project	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	completed	In progress	In progress	In progress

Methodology

The most important aspect of this project is people's participation. In a marked diversion from conventional projects, the management and ownership of watershed structures rests with the villages. This results in a system of ownership, responsibility, and more importantly, the participatory environment created becomes a launching pad for further downstream projects.

The methodology followed for implementation of the project is:

- Create awareness about the project, its objectives and the concept of participation through village meetings, exposure and training programs.
- Formation of a village committee with representatives from each community, including women.
- Conduct participatory appraisals of the possible watershed projects that can be undertaken and prioritizing them as per their feasibility, number of beneficiaries and the cost benefit.
- Training the villagers, especially the committee members in decision-making and project planning through implementation of a pilot project. The villagers make all the decisions from selecting a project, cost analysis, implementation and account keeping. All the activities are carried out under the guidance of TCSR.
- Construction of the water harvesting structures and initiating other downstream activities.

potential and to identify various water conservation sites. Maps of the village and the possible watershed sites were made with the help of the villagers.

Training: The first step in the process of watershed development is training. The village level watershed committees are trained for project planning, decision making and implementation of projects through public participation. Under this training, a small project (entry point activity) is taken up and implemented by the watershed committee. 50% of the cost for this is collected as contribution from the village.

Water Harvesting Structures: In each of these villages, small & medium water harvesting structures are being constructed. During the year under review, two medium dams were constructed and two farm ponds



Cattle shed constructed as a part of entry point activity.

and twenty four farm bunds were constructed. As this was the seventh year after starting implementation of the watershed project, some of the dams constructed in the first year were repaired for minor leakage and cracks.

The suggestions of the villagers are incorporated while planning the project and the village people are offered job opportunities in these projects. All jobs that are planned are implemented including those, which are not related to the watershed project.

*Bharabha Samiyabha
Dy. Sarpanch & Watershed Committee Member
Mojap.*

Construction of farm bund has helped reduce the soil salinity, which has resulted in higher crop yield and increase in availability of water in the well.

*Ranabha Dadabha
Lalpur*

The villagers have an assurance of a good crop as there is plenty of water for irrigation. Along with irrigation activities such as plantation are also being carried out.

Agriculture Development

The agriculture development program's main role is to create awareness about different varieties of crops and seeds and to make available the seeds that have proved to be successful in this area. The other objective is also to promote horticulture, which acts as a fallback for the farmers during drought years.

Distribution of hybrid seeds: Hybrid Bajra seeds of Proagro - 7701 & Pioneer were made available to farmers of Okhamandal. 450 farmers of 38 villages have purchased bags of Bajra seeds. This programme was jointly organised by TCSRSD with Kheti Vikas Agency. This program has been successfully implemented since the last ten years. Effort is now being made to link the self-help groups with this program for ensuring quality seeds for the farmers.

Horticulture Promotion: In an area where rainfall is erratic, horticulture is an activity which can act as a buffer. Horticulture has been actively promoted and results from previous years has indicated the success of this approach. This year 50 farmers were supplied saplings of different fruit species in 5 villages. 1284 saplings were distributed.

Crop Demonstration: Crop demonstrations are an important means for increasing the awareness of the farmers. Various crops are demonstrated in the farmers fields and just before harvest a meeting of farmers is arranged for discussion on the suitability of the crop for this region. Every year new varieties and new crops are tried out. The trials are conducted for at least two years in a row so as to provide data that is more authentic.

Crop demonstration taken up during this year were :-

1. Cotton :1 farmer of 1 village
2. Bajra:1 farmer of 1 village.

Self-Help Groups

Establishment & Promotion of self-help groups was initiated by TCSRDR as a part of the Watershed development program. The initial success of the program and the demand from other villages has taken this program to 14 villages. Women & child development programmes have taken a new dimension during this year with increased small savings, internal lending, economic activity, new group formation & women empowerment.

TARGET AREA

The program at present is being done in 14 villages of Dwarka Taluka.

Micro-credit & Downstream Activities:

Primary activity of the self-help help groups has been "bachat" or small savings. Till the year end, 38 groups (32 Mahila Mandal, 6 Yuvak mandals) are functioning in 14 villages. The membership has also increased over the year. A total of Rs.1,19,260/- was collected as monthly savings by 641 members, Rs.2,96,800/- was given as loan for the SHG members and Rs. 2,08,542/- was recovered during this year as loan repayment.

Economic activities for women's group, Bhimrana: The groups also took up other economic activities to increase their earnings. Groups purchased a thresher, took up goat rearing and did nursery raising. This year members of village Bhimrana women's group undertook a contract for supplying 300 food packets for "Lok Kalyan Mela" at Jamnagar.

Bank Loan : During this year, loan amount of Rs. 90,000 was made available through Bank of Baroda to five SHG groups (3 Mahila Mandals & 2 Yuvak mandas) to carryout development activities. Of this loan, Rs.49,232 have already been repayed to the bank.

We now have the facility of internal loans. 5 women members of the group have availed of the loan facilities and started their first year study with the Ambedkar University. The group has also started computer training classes and total 15 persons are being trained.

**Sarojben Panjriwala,
Arambda**

(Sarojben is the group secretary and the pioneer member at establishing this group. She too has availed of a loan from the group and is doing her studies under the Open University program. She is also taking keen interest in running the tailoring classes.)

The members of Madhusudan Mahila Mandal have given a loan of Rs.4,000/- to me and I have thus been able to purchase a TV set. I participate in all activities of our Mandal and have also attended the 8 days food processing programme. I now prepare my own masalas, pickles and tomato sauce.

Nimooben Hasumukhbhai Chavda,



Exposure visit of members of the Mahila Mandals

SGSY Scheme : Registration of 5 new groups was made under SGSY program. DRDA Jamnager will give revolving funds of Rs. 10,000/- to each of these five groups.

Community Well :On a participatory basis a community well was deepened by the Mahila Mandal of Arambhada to mitigate drinking water problem. The mahila mandal was able to motivate the entire village to participate with free labour. The well is main water source of 70 households

Training:

SHG Training: To strengthen the concept of Self-help Group (SHG) activities among the village women, 3 different training pro-

grammes were organised during this year where 270 women & 76 men beneficiaries were trained. Various issues like group formation, capacity building & enhancing monthly saving were discussed in the training programme.

A parliamentary standing committee on urban and rural development attended one of the SHG training programmes. Speaking on this occasion Mr. Madanlal Khurana and other committee members emphasised the importance of self-help groups in development activities.



Members of the parliamentary standing committee address the self-help groups members

Self Help Groups

Number of Self help Groups	: 38 groups
Number of women members	: 548 women in 32 Mahila Mandals
Number of Male members	: 141 men in 6 Yuvak mandals
Average number of members per group	: 18 members
Average savings per member per year	: Rs. 300/-
Average number of loan beneficiaries/ group/ year	: 6 -7
Percentage Loan for non-economic activities	: 40%
Percentage loans for economic activities	:60 %
Loans availed from banks	: 7 groups Rs. 1,30,000/-

Handicrafts Promotion

In an area that is richly endowed with the skills of producing exquisitely embroidered handicrafts, the promotion of these handicrafts have been central to providing alternative source of livelihood, especially for the women.

TARGET AREA

The program at present is being done in 14 villages of Dwarka Taluka.

Handicraft & Cottage Industries:

Traditional handicrafts items of Okhamandal were manufactured by 35 women beneficiaries of Arambada, Poshitra, Bhimrana, Hamusar and Gadechi. During this year,



Finished product



Handicrafts being produced by a women's group

handicrafts worth Rs. 1.34 lakhs were sold. The feedback from buyers reflected the good product quality. Efforts were also made to identify new areas for marketing. New product range was also added.

We attended the 2 day handicrafts training session at Mithapur where we were trained on cutting, designing, stitching of cut pieces etc. We also visited the handicrafts show room where we got to see samples of cushion covers, bed-sheets, purse, wall pieces etc.. This training has encouraged us to initiate handicraft activities in our mandal.

Indiraben H. Chavda,

President, Jagruti Mahila Mandal, Bhimrana.

Education & Training

Learning is a life long process. If one is a resident of rural India, it may just have been sheer luck to have received formal education. One of TCSR's aim is to improve the education facilities/ infrastructure available in the rural areas. But, formal education is not the end of the learning process and adults who so desire can receive education at any age. TCSR also targets the facilitation of this learning process by conducting adult education programs and other non-formal education activities.

TARGET AREA

The program at present is being done in 2 villages of Dwarka Taluka. Education camp covered schools from Ahmedabad, Anand, Baroda, Bhavnagar & Rajkot

Education:

Adult Education: This year, on a request by the rural population, adult education initiative was started at Devpara &



Aganwadi building repaired

Bhimrana village. The classrooms for conducting adult education classes are arranged by the villagers and TCSRDR has arranged for the study material and the teachers. 40 women from both villages are on a journey towards literacy.

Support to Marine life Education camp at Sagardam: Necessary infrastructural facilities including power and water supply, tent material etc. were extended to the Ahmedabad Nature Lovers' Association (ANALA) for conducting marine life educa-



Training in food preservation in progress

Health

Health care is an important aspect in the overall socio- economic development of an area. Tata Chemicals, since the 70's has been operating a mobile clinic servicing the 42 villages of Okhamandal. Over and above this, TCSRDR has also taken up other health care programs to provide health care services at the doorstep of the rural population.

TARGET AREA

Health care programs are being conducted in 8 villages of the Dwarka Taluka

First Aid Training Programme : 23 youth volunteers both male and female from 8 villages (Surajkaradi, Devpara, Batisa, Arambada, Poshitra, Samlasar and Lalpur) underwent a three day training on handling first aid cases. After the completion of this training, first aid kits were given to volunteers so that first aid and health emergencies could be treated at the village level. Villagers are encouraged to use this facility by paying a token amount. 1936 first aid cases have been handled by these volunteers till date.

Mid Wife Training: Continuing the previous years program, 17 traditional birth attendants (TBA) or dais of 6 villages were trained by

tion camp for school and college students at Mithapur. In the camp, education sessions and field visits were organised for the study of marine life and migratory birds. 465 students from Ahmedabad, Anand, Baroda, Bhavnagar and Rajkot attended the camp in six batches.

Repair of School : Continuing the effort of improving education infrastructure, reconstruction and repair of earthquake affected schools and anganwadi at Arambhada and Bhimrana was undertaken during the year.

Training:

Training in Food preservation : Two training programs each of 5 days duration on food processing and preservation were arranged at village Bhimrana. 65 village women were given training for preparation of various food items. This programme was arranged in collaboration with Dist. Horticulture Dept. Jamnager. They arranged for an expert teacher for this programme.



First aid training in progress. Inset - Dai training in progress
Tribhovandas Foundation, Anand to handle difficult delivery cases. 210 sets of safe delivery kits were distributed among these TBAs. Till date 24 TBAs from 11 villages have been trained and are now providing their services to the rural areas.

Infrastructure Projects

Infrastructure development is important for the overall development of an area. In an area which was ravaged first by the cyclone in 1998 and then by the earthquake in 2000, building good earthquake resistant “pucca” houses is a priority. TCSRDR has continued the previous years efforts in building houses for the rural poor.

Target Area:

Infrastructure projects have been taken up in 12 villages of the Okhamandal Taluka. The selection of villages was done in consultation with the district authorities. These villages are Beyt Dwarka, Gadhechi, Kalyanpur, Lalpur, Padli, Samlasar, Surajkaradi, Tupni, Tober and Varvala.

Sardar Awas Yojna (Low cost Housing project) : Sardar Awas Yojna (Low cost housing project) sponsored by Govt. of Gujarat is being implemented by TCSRDR. A total of 28 houses each costing Rs. 40,000 were constructed during this year in 7 villages. The total expenditure incurred was Rs. 11.20 lakhs. The entire fund of the project is received from Dwarka Taluka Panchayat. For the construction of these houses, TCSRDR has extended technical support and has supervised the construction work to make this venture a success.

The houses constructed under this project have facilities of a living room with an attached bathroom and latrine. The Taluka Panchayat selects the beneficiaries that are



Completed low cost rural house

of low income group, and allots a free plot of 25'x36' size to the beneficiary.

Almost all beneficiaries are from landless families or from the backward community. The beneficiaries are motivated to participate and they contribute their labour for excavation work and painting work. Till date TCSRDR has constructed 81 houses.

As no civil contract is given and the beneficiaries are involved in each and every stage of construction, the houses built are felt to be more durable and cost effective.

TCSRDR which has assisted me in the construction of a new house under the government's "Sardar Awas Yojna" scheme. The payment system was good and there was no need to go to the Taluka office several times for payment."

Beneficiary of low cost housing - Khetabha Khimabha of Tober

For the last seven years there was no room for the anganwadi and the children were sitting in a rented house. We are grateful for this help in constructing a new anganwadi room.

**Smt. Rasilaben - Anganwadi worker
Mahadevpara village**

Babrala Region

The Babrala region includes three development blocks Gunnaur, Rajpura and Junawai of the Badaun District of Uttar Pradesh. At the end of the year under review, an audit of all the community development works undertaken by TCSRDR was done with an aim to find out the current status and the reach of community development projects. Even though, development work is carried out in the three development blocks, the audit was restricted to the three villages adjacent to the fertilizer plant. The social audit survey was divided into four parts : Socio-economic and demographic data, change in status since the last ten years, benefits from TCSRDR projects and future need assessment.

The results of this survey indicate that since the last ten years there has been a sea change in the socio-economic status with 80% population having pucca houses and 95% of the village roads covered by kharanja. Beneficiaries of land reclamation project were also revisited and based on their feedback a consolidation of land reclamation program was taken up.

The main development emphasis in this region located in the Ganga basin is agriculture. This is the main occupation of the residents and TCSRDR emphasised upon agriculture by undertaking the agriculture growth program. The other important project related to agriculture is improvement of land fertility. The land reclamation project targets this aspect and every year the project includes additional area for reclamation.

Animal husbandry is the next important occupation and therefore is of equal importance. Cattle health care, breed improvement and fodder have all been targetted during the year.

This region also has the dubious 'distinction' of being the least progressive and has very

Development projects

1. Agriculture Development
2. Animal Husbandry Development
3. Self- help groups

Service projects

1. Education & training
2. Health
3. Infrastructure development

high fertility rate and high maternal and infant mortality rates. Looking at this aspect, TCSRDR initiated the Intensive Family welfare project. TCSRDR also took up implementation of UNICEF supported Child's Environment Project.



Farmer's training program

Agriculture Development

Agriculture is the main occupation of the population in the Babrala region. This has led this area to be referred to as 'harit (green) pradesh'. The main crops grown in this region are bajra and maize in Kharif and wheat in Rabi seasons. Other crops grown are mentha, vegetables, sugarcane etc. TCSRDR's agriculture development program targets at all the main identified issues for improving agriculture in this region such as: the lack of knowledge & exposure to modern agricultural practices, low finances and low returns from small landholdings.

Target Area

33 villages of three development blocks of Rajpura, Gunnour and Junawi in the Babrala Region. Concentration in eight villages – Pawari, Noorpur, Baghou, Mehua Hasan Ganj, Kail, Pavsara, Sihawli and Pathakpur.

Agriculture Development

Through the years, TCSRDR has taken up many projects for the development of agriculture in this region. Most of the projects undertaken in the previous years were evaluated and reviewed. This led to including the consolidation of the land reclamation project carried out during previous years. The other interventions targetted improving the fertility of soil, improving yields and increasing the awareness levels of the farmers. The projects undertaken during this year are:

- Land Reclamation
- Consolidation of land reclamation
- Farmers Awareness Programs
- Agriculture Growth Program

Land Reclamation: Land reclamation project has been undertaken since the establishment of TCSRDR. This region, which for most part is very fertile, has some pockets called 'Usar land' that is severely saline. These 'usar' patches reduce the overall productivity of land. TCSRDR set about identifying such patches and to undertake their



Paddy crop in reclaimed land

reclamation. This reclamation process involves land levelling, bunding, application of gypsum, leaching of salts and green manuring with Dhaincha.

The project has for most part been a tripartite one with the beneficiary, TCSRDR and funding agencies like CAPART or DRDA working together. Till date reclamation has been completed in 240.16 hectares of land with 50 hectares being targetted during the current year.

Consolidation of land reclamation: This project was initiated based on the feedback from the previous land reclamation projects, which gave indications of the need to consolidate with additional application of gypsum. This year 35 farmers from 3 villages availed the opportunity.

Farmers motivation and training: Information and technology dissemination aims at increasing the awareness levels of the target beneficiaries so that they are able to adopt

We were explained about the process of land reclamation in a common gathering in the village. We have started work as per these guidelines. We have cleared the grass, ploughed the land and spread gypsum on the land. The land was then filled with water. After this process we have again ploughed the land. The fertility of the land has improved and we are thankful to TCSRDR for helping us improve this.

Chotelal

Vill: Pavsara

Land Reclamation

S.No.	Name of Village	Area in Ha. (Target)	Achievement in Ha.	No. of Beneficieries	Status of Project
1	Kail & Noorpur	50	50	111	Completed
2	BC - 1	50	50	99	Completed
3	BC - 2	24	24	34	Completed
4	Baghou, Mehua, Pawari	16	19	38	Completed
5	Pawari, Mehua, Noorpur Baghou(SRY)	40	46.92	119	Completed
6	Mehua, Baghou, Pawari	50	50.24	127	Completed
7	Mehua, Baghou, Pawari, Pavsara	35			
8	Kail, Noorpur, Baghou, Mehua, Pawari, sihawali, Pathakpur, Pavsara	20	50	146	60% Completed
	Total	285	290.16	674	

agriculture growth measures. Information dissemination is done through training programs, visit to agriculture fairs and by conducting meetings for the farmers. Two training programs are conducted every year – one before Kharif season and one before Rabi season. 75-80 farmers from the nearby villages attend these three-day training programs in which the farmers are introduced to modern farming techniques. In the training program, agriculture experts from Pantnagar Agriculture University also participate. Farmers are also taken for visits to Kisan Melas at the Pantnagar Agriculture University. Every year two batches of 50 farmers



Farmers motivation and training program

visit these kisan melas.

Agriculture Growth Program: Aiming to achieve increased agriculture productivity, the agricultural growth program, initiated and advocated the use of best agricultural practices.

Agriculture growth program involves adopting a multi pronged strategy where the farmer is exposed to a number of options that he can adopt. Everywhere the stress is on putting into practice what is learned in the training sessions. The strategies advocated were:

- Introducing the use of high quality high yielding new varieties
- Ensuring that farmers adopt agriculture growth measures in their standard rabi crop by using:
 - High quality seeds
 - Balanced dose of fertilizers
 - Timely irrigation,
 - Modern pest and weed control measures
 - Modern sowing techniques so that proper crop spacing is maintained for optimum growth.

In this training program, we learnt about agriculture and related topics such as increased productivity of crops, preparation of fields, seeds, balanced fertilizers, appropriate time for interculture, animal husbandry etc. The topics were limited to the Kharif season. We feel that the same group should be considered again for training in September for the rabi crops to complete the training. If possible, kindly arrange to actually show the farm implements during the training.

Rajveer Singh - Pathakpur village

Agriculture Growth Program

S.no	Activity	No. of villages	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Minikits containing high yielding varieties		
	a) Kharif (Bajra, Urad)	5	27
	b) Rabi (Wheat)	5	38
2	Agriculture Growth Program - Wheat Crop	2	254
3	Agriculture Growth Program - Vegetables (Capsicum, Tomato, Brinjal)	5	14
	Total		333

- Advocating vegetable growing in small landholdings.

The farmers who opted for the minikits were provided with foundation seeds so that they could produce quality seeds for use in the next crop.

The wheat program was extended to two villages this year. Previously, only one village had been targeted. This village served as a model for other villages to follow. The farmers had been motivated to adopt a complete package of agricultural practices.

In this program, after soil analysis, certified good quality seeds are made available along with right amount of fertilizers, micro-nutrients and plant protection chemicals. Sowing is done by using seed cum fertilizer drills instead of the traditional broadcasting method.

As the cost of these inputs are obviously higher than the traditional methods, the project is devised with the intention of demonstrating that the cost difference between traditional farming and modern farming is more than made up by the increase in yield.

The cost difference between traditional



Bullock driven seed cum fertilizer drills for agricultural growth

farming and modern techniques is given as an interest free loan to the farmers, to be repaid after the sale of the produce. Seeing the results and 100% repayment by farmers the fourth year running, village Mehua Hasan Ganj was included this year.

The promotion of vegetable farming in the area as a back up to growing staples aims at ensuring better returns from small landholdings. Vegetable farming was promoted on a pilot basis and the feedback from this will be the basis of promotion of vegetables in a big way in the coming years. The project will then look at the total process inclusive of training to grow saplings to marketing the produce.

The population of our country is more than ten crores, so we have to adopt hybrid seeds because of the continuously increasing population and cultivating land has become smaller. The farmer has to take advantage by utilizing such hybrid seeds or good quality seeds and finally get a good crop as well as profit.

Rajveer Singh - Pathakpur village

Animal Husbandry Projects

The predominant caste in the Babrala region is the Yadavs who have traditionally been a livestock rearing community. Almost all households here own at least one or two heads of cattle. Therefore, animal husbandry development programs are an important means of increasing and supplementing the household incomes.

The intervention is three pronged, viz., Breed improvement, health care and improvement in type and quality of fodder. During the year under review, special emphasis was given to animal health care. Projects undertaken this year were:

- Extension of Murrah Buffalo
- Health care and vaccination
- Sterility Camp
- Pashupalak Mitra
- Green fodder demonstration and extension

Extension of Murrah Buffalo: Farmers of this area are being motivated to procure the Murrah breed buffalo of Haryana. This is a hardy and high milk yielding breed giving gives more returns than the local breeds. A good specimen of this breed is able to give milk yields as high as 25 litres as compared to 10-15 litres of the local buffalo breed. It was felt that if more numbers of such buffaloes were introduced in this area and these in turn breed with the local breed, the overall breed quality would improve.

Selected beneficiaries who are either small to medium farmers or are landless are taken to cattle fairs in Haryana where they are helped in purchasing the buffaloes. This year 8 farmers from 2 villages participated and out of these only 4 farmers could purchase the buffaloes as this year the cost of buffaloes has risen. Till date, 49 cattle owners from the three target villages have benefitted from this program.



Treatment of animals during the camp

Target Area

Animal husbandry development programs are mainly taken up in 14 villages of Gunnour, Junawai and Rajpura development blocks. Some projects are concentrated in Pawari, Mehua Hasan Ganj and Baghou, the three villages just adjacent to the fertilizer plant.



Inauguration of the sterility camp

Sterility Camp: To improve the breed quality of the cattle and to provide expert treatment to the cattle in the area a sterility camp was organized. The camp was conducted in collaboration with the District Animal Husbandry Department and the veterinary department of Pantnagar Agriculture University. 114 cattle belonging to 114 farmers from 18 villages were treated and surgical operations were also conducted.

Health care and vaccination program: A good healthy animal ensures better returns to its owner. The general health care of the animals in the surrounding villages is provided for. Special emphasis is for routine vaccination of the animals so that the cattle population around is healthy and productive. Due to regular vaccination camps, the incidence of both HS and FMD has reduced drastically in this area with only a few stray cases being reported. Due to this sustained health care effort the overall productivity of the cattle has gone up. During this year 8795 animals owned by 2342 HHs from 20 villages

Animal Husbandry Programs

S.no	Activity	No. of villages	No. of beneficiaries
1	Extension of Murah Buffalo	3	49
2	Sterility Camp	18	114
3	HS Vaccination	20	8795 Animals / 2324HH
4	FMD Vaccination	14	3650 Animals / 912 HH
5	Pashu Palak Mitra	2	3
6	Fodder Extension	3	220 Farmers
7	Dairy Extension	7	47 Women

were vaccinated for HS and 3650 animals owned by 912 HHs from 14 villages were vaccinated for FMD. This program is conducted in collaboration with the Block Veterinary doctors and with beneficiary contribution.

Pashu Palak Mitra: To improve the availability of health care in the villages it was decided to train 4 educated unemployed rural youths as 'Pashu Palak mitra' (Para vets). The training was for a duration of six months and was provided through the District Animal Husbandry Department. Three youths have successfully completed their six month training and are now providing first aid to the animals in their villages. An AH first aid kit was also provided to these 'Pashu Palak Mitras' so that they are well equipped to provide their services.

Dairying extension: 47 women from 7 vil-



Vaccination of cattle

lages who are interested in dairying activity visited PCDF Daultapur MBD and Dairy and Poultry farm at Pantnagar University to understand the processes involved in dairying activities.

Green fodder demonstration & extension: Continuing the previous years program which aimed to supply cheap and nutritious fodder for improving the economics of animal husbandry, two fodder grasses were promoted during this year. Seeds of improved varieties of fodder grasses berseem (*Trifolium alexandrium*), and oat were made available to farmers of three villages. This year 186 farmers opted for growing berseem and 34 farmers opted for the oat fodder project. Most of the beneficiaries are small and medium farmers.

The multicut fodder extended in this area has also ensured more nutritive food for the cattle.



Green fodder extension program

Education, Health & Self-Help Groups

Setting up of self-help groups is an important step towards capacity building of the community. When the SHG is of women members it is even more significant as this directly leads to their empowerment.

Education and health are service activities that are vital for the socio-psychological development of people and are an important component of the community development programs. TCSRDR has from time to time undertaken health care camps for the rural population. This year there was a major push in this direction with TCSRDR taking up two important projects - the Intensive Family Welfare Project in collaboration with Population Foundation of India and the Child's Environment Project in collaboration with UNICEF.

Self-help Groups:

The record of credit for rural or urban poor especially for women is dismal. Banks regard women as poor credit risks since few own assets (landed property). In all credit schemes, women have to overcome traditional customs and practices which relegate them to inferior social, economic and political status. The aim of establishing self-help groups is to empower the economically weaker sections especially women and bring about their economic independence.

Mahila Mandals: During the year 20 new mahila mandals and self-help groups were established and they set up their bachat samittees. This has taken the total to 28 groups with a membership of 358 women and 63 men. Total Savings and Credit are Rs. 1,950,33 Savings and Rs. 1,10,800 as revolving loans. These women are also being exposed to important aspects of farming, kitchen gardening, facts on nutrition etc. The project is being undertaken under the auspices of the "Swaran Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojna"



Training in house wiring in progress

Target Area

Health care and education programs are conducted in all the three development blocks of Junawai, Rajpura and Gunnour.



Self-help group's training program

Education:

In the Babrala region, TCSRDR has not as yet given any major thrust to formal education, though, repair and construction of schools have been taken up. The main thrust has been on vocational training targeting the educated rural youth so that their employability / income generation capability increases. Sports have also been promoted with formation of cricket clubs in two villages. TCSRDR provided these clubs with a complete cricket kit.

Vocational training program: Since the beginning various vocational training programs have been conducted. The main vocations covered till date are sarkanda furniture making, rope making, housewiring, motor rewinding, and diesel pump repairing. During this year three vocational training programmes were conducted which are house wiring, motor rewinding and diesel

pump repair. A total of 45 youth from 3 blocks registered and 39 youth completed this sixmonth training. Till date a total of 145 men and 285 women have been benefited by the vocational training program.

Training in tailoring and stitching: Every year two batches of 25 students are trained in tailoring and stitching. This training program is for the duration of six months. This year 45 students from 3 blocks completed their training. Till date 286 women have been trained by TCSRDR.

Health

Health issues are important in an area which has the 'distinction' of being one of the least progressive areas in terms of health care and has high infant and child mortality, maternal mortality and high fertility rates. This year these issues have been targeted with initiation of projects on rural sanitation, Intensive Family Welfare Project and water and sanitation based Child's Environment Project.

Eye Camps: As has been done every year, an eye camp (Neshulk Netra Chikitsa Shibir) is conducted in collaboration with Gandhi Eye Hospital – Aligarh. The camp is held in the month of February. In this region there are no qualified eye doctors treating the rural poor. All patients with eye ailments have to travel a distance of 65km upto Aligarh town. This involves not only the cost of travelling, doctors and the hospital fee but also the expenses of lodging and boarding, that is very expensive for the rural poor. This year, 519 Patients registered from 172 villages. Out of these, 123 were operated for cataract and others were given general treatment. Of the 123 operations, 34 opted for 'intra ocular device' which was a new addition in this year's program.

Rural Sanitation Program: Through the years, construction of low cost latrines had been taken up in the nearby villages. According to the rural people low cost latrines have a very short life and what they required was a more permanent solution. Based on peoples inputs a model latrine was constructed and based on this design the rural sanitation program was restarted. The program was for all households with benefits varying according to the economic status of



Cataract operation in progress

These free eye camps are conducted for a period of seven days in which the first two days are for OPD and selecting the appropriate patients for cataract operations. The operations are conducted on the third day of the camp. The patients are discharged on the seventh day after distribution of spectacles and medicines. After one month the patients visit again for the removal of stitches.

The beneficiaries of this camp include persons, mainly senior citizens residing within a radius of 25 Kms from the Tata Chemicals Complex. This year 471 registrations were done from which 104 patients were operated for cataract.



Completed rural toilets

the household i.e. the poorer households got more benefit. The beneficiaries were free to add on features so that the finished latrine would be as per the individual household's need. 21 Latrines were constructed in two villages during the year.

Child's Environment Project: This project was initiated in 58 Gram Panchayats of the Gunnour Block. The project is in collaboration with UNICEF & DFID and TCSRDR has

been selected as the Project Implementing Agency for the Gunnaur Block. The project seeks to increase the awareness among rural communities on issues having a direct bearing on a child's immediate environment - the availability of pure drinking water, proper disposal of waste and sanitation and seeks to bring about a sustainable behavioural change in the practices followed by the communities with regard to each of the above issues.

The project started in March 2002 and after selection of village level workers and their orientation and training the baseline survey in all the 58 GPs was completed. The next step of the project involves conducting 'participatory rural appraisals' in each of the 58 Gram Panchayats.

Intensive Family Welfare Project: In 1998, TCSR along with the Population Foundation of India (PFI) started an intensive health program targeting 84 gram panchayats of the Rajpura development block and 5 villages of the Gunnour development block. The project was completed in December 2000. An independent evaluation of the project was undertaken by J.N. medical college - Aligarh. It was felt that information, education and communication activities needed to be given a greater emphasis.

A new project was initiated during the current year in Gunnour Block. All formalities were completed and the project kicked off from the month of March with contact programs and appointment of village level workers.



Handing over the cricket kit to members of the village cricket club

Other initiatives by TCSR were promotion of village cricket clubs. Cricket kits were provided to two youth cricket clubs.

Young rural couples were the beneficiaries of a



Orientation & training of village level workers

The main aim of the project is as follows:

- To reduce the fertility rate to 2.7 per women
- To reduce the maternal mortality rate by 50% from 707 to 394 per 1000,000 live births
- To reduce infant mortality rate from 85 per 1000 live births to 73 per 1000 live births.
- Sustainability of the process with village level capacity building.

To achieve the aim of the project various programs that will be conducted are mobile clinic services, ante natal care, vaccination services, nutritional supplements, training and awareness programs, family planning techniques, etc. The duration of the project is for five years. First two years would cover half the block, the next two years would cover the remaining block and the last year would be the withdrawal stage to see that the benefits accrued are sustainable.

Other Projects



Program for rural couples - Art of living

program conducted in collaboration with the labour welfare department titled "Jeevan Ki Gunwatta". the program dealt with social issues and targeted gender sensitization.

Infrastructure projects

Improving infrastructure is an important goal as this raises the living standard of the rural population. The infrastructure projects also act as entry point activities and help establish relationships for undertaking further activities. This is also the most visible activity and benefits not one individual but the whole community.

TCSRSD has taken up many infrastructure projects in the past which include, building schools, constructing Primary Health Center and constructing approach roads and internal brick paved tracks. Infrastructure projects undertaken this year were:

- Brick Paved Tracks
- Culverts
- Rural electrification
- Mahila Chikitsalya
- Construction of class room for a rural school
- Service station
- Biogas plants

Brick paved Tracks: The villages surrounding the fertilizer plant at Babrala had very poor approach roads and internal road. In the beginning brick paving of these roads were taken up in collaboration with CAPART. After the completion of this program, TCSRSD in collaboration with the rural residents has continued the task of brick paving. At present, 99% of the internal roads in three villages have been paved. Before starting

Target Area

Infrastructure projects, though mainly concentrated in the three villages around the fertilizer complex and in the Babrala town, have now been extended to cover ten villages of the three Blocks.



Construction of brick paved tracks

construction, area wise meetings were conducted seeking participation of the rural community. The residents thus motivated decided to take up earthwork for levelling the roads. TCSRSD then completed the brick

Brick Paved Tracks

Village	Length of Brick Paved Tracks in Meters				
	95-97	97-99	99-00	00-01	01-02
Mehua Hasan Ganj	257	2143	695.4	942.55	998
Mehua Majra		439	173.15	147.16	
Nagalia Kazi	1002				
Baghou	326.4	559			496.9
Baghou Madhiyan		361.12	726.4	335.25	
Lodhi Nagla		236.5	133.9		33
Pawari	1600	1916	757.2	663.6	883.5
Dadpur					252
Kail	46				322
Kail Madhiyan				149.5	120
Noorpur	1988			249.5	538.2
Sirora Kazi	402				
Isampur Danda	498				210
Pavsara				205.4	
Pathakpur-I					125
Pathakpur-II				238	178
Bhakta Nagla					94.3
Bengali colony -II					292
Bakrauli	200				
BRSBS College	118				
Total	6437.4	5654.62	2486.05	2930.96	4542.9

laying on the prepared surface During this year 4.543 KMs of new brick paved tracks were constructed in 13 villages. This is one of the most essential requirements of this region.

Culverts : At many places in the villages seasonal rivulets would restrict the movement of people. There was a need for construction of culverts at these locations. During this year two such culverts were constructed.

Rural Electrification: The electrification of three villages was completed. The project was implemented by UPSEB and was financed by TCSR. A total of 114 connections were taken. The process of taking more connections is going on in the villages.

Mahila Chikitsalya at Babrala : On a request by the 'Babrala Vikas Samiti" construction of a new building for the 'Gendadevi Mahila Chikitsalaya" is being taken up. The detail design of the Mahila Chikitsalaya was completed and the construction has been taken up. The building is scheduled to be completed in August 2002.



Construction of Bio-gas Plant in progress



Completed classroom at Saraswati Shishu Mandir

Construction of classroom for Saraswati Shishu Mandir-Babrala: Construction of one classroom for the Saraswati Shishu mandir - a rural school was completed and inaugurated. The classroom can seat 45 students.

Construction of Biogas Plants: Promotion of Biogas benefits both the women of the household who is able to cook in a smokeless environment and the farmer who can utilize the cow dung that is 'predigested' as high quality manure. 10 biogas plants (TERI Model) were constructed in three villages. This project was undertaken in collaboration with Tata Energy Research Institute, Along with this, 25 masons were also trained in construction of biogas plants. A separate training was also conducted for the users for the proper utilization and maintenance of the biogas plants.



Training of masons for biogas construction in progress

Summary of Expenditure

Projects	Expenditure / Contribution in Rupees million							
	2000-2001				2001 - 2002			
	TCSR/D/TCL	Funding Agencies	Beneficiaries	Total	TCSR/D/TCL	Funding Agencies	Beneficiaries	Total
Agriculture, Watershed & Land Reclamation	0.45	1.08	0.89	2.42	0.93	0.55	0.52	2.00
Animal Husbandry Development	0.08	0.03	0.17	0.28	0.15	0.05	0.06	0.26
Rural Infrastructure and Rural Energy	2.00	1.19	0.41	3.60	1.63	1.16	0.97	3.76
Education & Health	0.55	1.54	0.00	2.09	0.15	0.26	0.00	0.41
Vocational Training, Cottage Industry	0.15	0.00	0.02	0.16	0.27	0.02	0.17	0.46
Relief Work	19.40	0.19	0.00	19.59	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.05
Total	22.62	4.02	1.49	28.13	3.18	2.04	1.72	6.94

Partners in Development :

District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) - Jamnagar dist.

Council of Peoples Action and Rural Technology (CAPART)

Kheti Vikas Agency - Jamnagar

District Horticulture Department (Jamnagar District)

Tribhovan Foundation - Anand

District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) - Badaun dist.

Population Foundation of India - New Delhi

District Animal Husbandry Department - Badaun Dist.

U P State Power Corporation

UNICEF - India

Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Ujhani

Pantnagar Agriculture University

St. Johns Ambulance Society

Volunteers:

Mr. Sanjay Kumar ,Mrs. Bindu Bhaskar, Mrs. Mohapatra, Mrs. Smita Bhayani, A.B. Khare, A.J. Gupta, A.K. Gupta, Abuzar Shibli, Amit Bhatnagar, Anuj Gupta, Ashish Goel, Asif Iqbal, Axay Shah, Ajay Sharma, B.K. Ghosh, Bharat Bhushan, Bindu Bhaskar, C.S. Prasad, Capt. V.A. Sharma, D D Sharma, D. Mohapatra, D.D. Chaturvedi, D.K. Singh, Dinesh Kumar, Dr. Mallik, Gulrez Azam, H.K. Rajpoot, Hari-om Yadav, Imran Siddiqui, Lavinder, M.K. Tiwari, Mansi Mohapatra, Manjula Mathur, Mukesh Bhayani, Narendra Nath Tiwari, Nilesh Dumane, Nitin Agarwal, P.C. Pandey, P.K. Sur, Pankaj Varshney, Piyush Jain, Pradeep Kumar, Prakash Mandal, Pramod Kandelwal, Pankaj Verma, Puneet Tripathi, R.C. Saxena, R.R. Mishra, Rachna Pandey, T. Radhakrishnan, Rahul Singh, S.K. Das, S.K. Pandey, S.K. Srivastava, Sandeep Kumar, Sanjay Gupta, Sanjay Kumar, Sanjay Sharma, Sanjeev Saxena, Smita Bhayani, Subbodbh Kumar, Sudhir Gupta, Sujeet Kumar, Sarita Sharma, S.P. Srivastava, Tom, U. P. Singh, Umesh Bharadwaj, Ved Prakash, Y.K. Rohila.

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