

Place of agriculture
in India economics

(typed paper
essay)

[Socio-economic development
of Seloo bloc. (Waroh Tehsil)
National Extension Service]

I N T R O D U C T I O N

The place of Agriculture in Indian Economics

Agriculture Commission Report : The most striking characteristic of the economic life in India is the overwhelming preponderance of agriculture over other occupations, the great mass of human life and effort, represented by three out of every four persons in the country being devoted to agriculture. Agricultural production provides practically all the food-grains consumed in the country, and yields large quantities of raw materials like cotton, jute, oil-seeds, etc. for the principal manufacturing industries. And yet a study of the present position of Indian agriculture must lead every one to endorse the gloomy words of Dr. Clouston, Agricultural Adviser to the Government of India, when he said, "In India we have our depressed classes; we have, too, our depressed industries and agriculture. Unfortunately, is one of them. G. D. Cole said, "It is evident that the key to the Indian Economic problem lies even more in improving agricultural standards and productive power than in the creation of large scale industries. Only a rise in standards of peasant consumption can provide a secure basis for intensive industrial development.

Shri K. K. Dewett has written in Indian Economics, "Agriculture supplies them with food products as well as provides raw material for their industries. It enables them to purchase plant and equipment as well as consumers goods fro

foreigners. It is a source of employment for the trading classes and revenue for the Government. Thus the prosperity of agriculture is synonymous with the prosperity of India."

Planning in Agriculture

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Quantitative control of production is much more difficult to exercise in agriculture than in industry. The crops are to a great extent dependent on weather conditions, which cannot be controlled. But the volume of agricultural production is an important item in the balance of national economy. The size of the national income, the balance of foreign trade, the volume of consumers goods available for works in industry, the earning capacity of farmers, are to a great extent dependent to the harvest.

The planning authority tries to overcome this difficulty by mechanization of agriculture, by greater use of artificial fertilizers and by application of scientific methods of production which tend to diminish the influence of weather conditions on the harvest.

Agriculture is almost suitable for planning by means of advice and propaganda.

Community development and Rural Extension

Community development is the method and rural extension the agency through which Five Year Plan seek to initiate a process of transformation of the social and economic life of the villages.

National Extension Service

No plan can have any chance of success unless the millions of small farmers in the country accept in objective, share in its making, regard it as their own and are prepared to make the sacrifices necessary for implementing it. The integrated production programme has failed to arouse enthusiasm for the reasons we have given. The food problem is a much wider one than mere elimination of food imports. It is the problem of bringing about such a large expansion of agricultural production as will assure to an increasing population progressively rising levels of nutritions. In other words, the campaign for food production should be conceived as part of a plan for the most efficient use of land resources by the application of modern scientific research and the evolution of a diversified economy. In its turn, agricultural improvement is an internal part of the much wider problem of raising the level of rural life. The economic aspect of village life cannot be detached from the broader social aspects; and agricultural improvement is inextricably linked up with a whole set of social problems. The lesson to be derived from the working of the G.M.F. programmes thus confirms the experience of States and private agencies engaged in village development. It is that all aspects of rural life are inter-related and that no lasting results can be achieved if individual aspects of it are dealt with in isolation. It is only by placing this ideal before the country and ensuring that the energies of the entire administrative machinery of the States and the best

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non-official leadership are directed to plan for its realisation that we can awaken mass enthusiasm and enlist the actual interest and support of the millions of families living in the country-side in the immense task of bettering their own conditions.

This analysis led to the Committee to propose the establishment of a national extension organisation for intensive rural work which reach every farmer and assist in the coordinated development of rural life.

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DEVELOPMENT BLOCK SELOO

NATIONAL EXTENSION SERVICE BLOCK SELOO, WARDHA TAHSIL

Introduction

The working plan of National Extension Service Block Seloo has been designed from the individual working plans of all the villages included in the block area. Every Vikas Mandal of the village has worked out its plan suiting their conditions and economic status and have decided to operate on it for a period of three years. The plan is thus intended to present a realistic picture of the requirements and needs of villages in the block and their willingness to get their needs fulfilled. It would, therefore, be exaggeration to say that every village is a unit of development in some sphere or the other and with their cardinal principal an integrated plan has been presented.

The details showing the items and progress that would be taken up at different villages in the block and the expenditure involved and the years in which the items are intended to be taken up are enclosed herewith.

General and Geographical Condition

The development block Seloo forms the North, East, North and North West portion of Wardha Tahsil. On the extreme North it touches Nagpur and Katol Tahsils and to the South East side, a portion of Hinganghat Tahsil. The Block ~~is~~

comprises of the area of three Revenue Inspector Circles, viz. Seloo, Sindi and Wardha, the portion of Seloo being major. Two rivers - Dham and Bor traverse through the Block area. They retain water throughout the year.

The block has an area of 1,51,846.24 acres i.e. 237 square miles with a population of 55,756 persons grouped on 11,151 families. It consists of 154 revenue villages out of which 39 are uninhabited. The extreme North and North West portion of the block forms the Reserve Forest area of the Tahsil. It may be noticed that the extreme South portion of the block B is a forest with practically no means of easy communication excepting the village tracts. The principal occupation of the tract is agriculture and allied industries. Agricultural development of the block, therefore, needs primary consideration. It will also be our concern to provide suitable occupations to the landless and others.

No part of the area of the block is served by Electricity. Presently, only two roads - Nagpur - Wardha and Wardha - Arvi run through the Southern and Western borders of the block. A railway also passes through the part of the South-East portion.

Economic Status.

Agriculture forms the chief source of the income of the people. In general the peasantry consists of the middle and the labour class groups and the soil being of medium and light quality with no means of irrigation facilities, the income fr

the land is insufficient to meet the normal needs. In the first year the items selected for execution are of such a nature that they will appear distinct in the block and will appeal to the mind of the masses.

Agriculture

The soil of the block is mostly medium black and light the average rainfall being about 30". The conditions being suitable for cotton and juar crops, they figure as the main crops of the area. The average area under the different crops is as under :-

<u>Crops</u>	<u>Area in Acres</u>
1. Cotton	64,736.46
2. Juar	44,602.18
3. Wheat	6,223.29
4. Oilseeds	1,923.68
5. Pulses	1,604.11
6. Vegetable and spices	789.00
7. Fruits	530.99

The main objective is to increase the yield of the farms through intensive cultivation and by popularising improved methods of cultivation. The perusal of the individual plans of the villages also reveal that the Vikas Mandals have laid greater stress on the development of agriculture.

Ploughing

Although deep ploughing is essential once in three years this programme is not followed correctly. The main difficulties

are the shortage of bullocks and ploughing implements. In order to overcome this difficulty, of cultivators, taccavi loans for the purchase of tractors and other ploughing equipments will be advanced to the needy cultivators during the period of the plan. Presently there are four private tractors operating in the tract and the cultivators will be persuaded to avail of them by advancing taccavi loans for ploughing. The well-to-do cultivator will be persuaded to have their own tractors.

It is thus expected that the block will have 10 (ten) tractors at the end of the plan period and every year 1000 acres of land inclusive of owners will be tractor-ploughed. Ploughing by other ploughs will also be encouraged.

S E E D S

Cotton :- There is no heavy black cotton soil in the tract, however, by experiment it has been found that the following varieties of long staple cotton have given better results and hence distribution of these improved varieties will be taken up as per demands of the Vikas Mandals. Though the demands are heavy, attempts will be made to provide as much seed as possible. At present the acreage under the improved varieties is negligible. After trails and results concentration of suitable varieties will be made in tract. It is, therefore, proposed to distribute the following quantities of seeds and achieve the following quantities of target in a period of three years. Buri 0394 will be tried in low lying soils and where the irrigation facilities are available.

S.No.	Varieties of cotton seed	Quantity to be distributed	Acreage expected to be covered.
1954-55			
		Mds.	
1	H 420	1,500	3,000
2	Buri 0394	750	1,500
3	197-3	1,000	2,000
4	91	100	200
		-----	-----
1955-56			
1	H 420	3,000	6,000
2	Buri 0394	1,500	3,000
3	197-3	2,000	4,000
4	91	250	500
		-----	-----
		6,750	13,500
		-----	-----
1956-57			
1	H 420	5,000	10,000
2	Buri 0394	2,000	4,000
3	197-3	5,000	10,000
4	91	500	1,000
		-----	-----
		12,500	25,000
		-----	-----

The demands of the Vikas Mandals exceed the target figures worked out in different year of the plan period but they could not be considered fully as the quantities demanded may not be actually supplied by the department in the first year. If, however, additional supplies could be obtained a greater area under the improved seed will be brought under cultivation and thus during the plan period attempts will be made to cover about 75% of the area under cotton under the improved seeds. Even of the major number of the cultivators are uneducated it is expected that with the introduction of the new varieties it would fetch an additional income of Rs. 20% per cent on an average.

In order to maintain the purity of the seed, the seed farmers will be registered and arrangements to pool the cotton through the association will be made. Thus the pure seed will be procured and distributed through the different distribution centres either on cash or on taccavi.

Juar :- In respect of Juar, sufficient experimental work has been carried out by the agricultural department and the particular high yielding variety as compared with the varieties in use have been introduced. Juar Saoner however, is found to be a popular variety of the tract and is also recommended by the department. It is, therefore, proposed to popularise Saoner and N.Y.164 Juar varieties in the tract. The nucleus seed obtained in the first year will be distributed to one or two good farmers and will be multiplied for the use in the next year. The following targets are therefore fixed :-

S.No.	Variety of Juar	Quality to be distributed	Area to be covered.
		<u>1954-55</u>	
1	Saoner	4000 lbs.	800 acres.
2	N.J. 164	200 lbs.	40 acres.
3			
		<u>1955-56</u>	
1	Saoner	16000 lbs.	3200 acres.
2	N.J. 164	800 lbs.	160 acres.
		<u>1956-57</u>	
1	Saoner	50000 lbs.	10000 acres.
2	N.J. 164	3200 lbs.	640 acres.

Wheat :- As regards wheat the acreage under this crop is not much. The improved varieties Bansipalli and Hawra are prevalent in the tract, but number of cultivators still favour "Chawalkantha" which is a mixed variety and hence attempts will

be made to popularise the above variety of wheat. Besides the above, the rust resistant variety of wheat will be experimented and concentrated if found suitable to the tract. The following target is fixed :-

S.No.	Variety	Acreage during		
		1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
1	Bansipalli	200	300	500
2	Hawra	400	600	1000
3	Rust Resistant	10	30	50

Ground Nut, Tur and Gram :- The small quantities of groundnut, A.K. 12-24, Tur 38 and Gram 28 improved seeds have been requisitioned from the department and they will be distributed and popularised in the block area.

M a n u r e s

(1) Compact : Manure has a major roll in food production and the cultivators are gradually realising the importance of organic and inorganic manures. Still much of cow-dung is wasted for want of other cheap alternative article for fuel. Intensive propaganda to popularise the methods of systematic manuring by composting every pound of waste and cow-dung available. Considering the heavy acreage under crops and the figure of cattle population, it appears that the organic manure thus produced is not sufficient and hence it is necessary to lay greater stress to introduce green manuring with urine and sun help. For systematic composting the following target have been fixed:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Pits</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Total production</u>	<u>Acrag to be covered</u>
1954-55	500	20 x 5 x 3	2,000 tons	400 acres
1955-56	1,500	- do -	6,000 tons	1200 acres
1956-57	2,000	- do -	8,000 tons	1600 acres

Mass compost

1954-55	500	20 x 5 x 3	2,000 tons	400 acres
1955-56	1,500	- do -	6,000 tons	1200 acres
1956-57	2,000	- do -	8,000 tons	1600 acres

Urine earth

1954-55			1,000 tons	400 acres
1955-56			1,200 tons	480 acres
1956-57			1,500 tons	60 acres

(ii) The target for distribution of fertilisers shall be as follows :-

<u>S.No.</u>	<u>Fertilizer</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Area to be manured</u>
<u>1954-55</u>			
1	Amm. sulphate	40	1,200
2	Phosphates Fertilizers for fruits	20	600
<u>1955-56</u>			
1	Amm. sulphate	200	6,000
2	Phosphates-fertilizers for fruits	20	900
<u>1956-57</u>			
1	Amm. sulphate	3,000	9,000
2	Phosphates-Fertilizers for fruits	40	1,200

The purchase and store of these manures and fertilizers. Arrangements to keep the stocks with three societies at Seloo, Sindi and Anji will be made to facilitate the convenience of the cultivators.

Eradication of seed

Special drive would be organised with the help of Gram Panchayats and Gram Vikas Mandals to eradicate Gokharu seed which is observed at number of places. The sites cleared of these weeds near the abadi would be used for growing grass for the village cattle. The weeds so eradicated would be used for composting. Propaganda about timely weeding would also be made to save crops. The process of uprooting by hand or by use of weed killers would be followed in this respect.

Soil Erosion

Considerable damage has been caused due to soil erosion at number of places, particularly because the tract is hilly and unevenness is a common feature of land. Contour pouding at number of places in the tract is necessary and it will be done with the help of the tractors available for the purpose. The cultivators will also be advanced taccavi loans for this purpose. The cultivators will also be advanced taccavi loans for this purpose. The well-to-do cultivators will be encouraged to take to bunding their fields where necessary at their cost. The assistance of E.A.D. (soil conservation) will be obtained in the matter. It is proposed to construct bunds 10,000 feet long during 1954-55, 15,000 feet long during 1955-56 and 20,000 feet long during 1956-57.

Rotation of Crops

Proper rotation of crops is also an important method of improvement of agriculture. To ensure balanced cropping and to improve soil fertility three course rotation of cotton, juar and groundnut or cotton, juar and rabbi can well be advocated and popularised.

For experimenting the new methods suggested by research stations and gaining further experience under field conditions a farm of the size of 50 to 60 acres should be maintained near about the block head-quarter as State farm where all the new methods will be tried and experience gained before passing on to the cultivators. This farm will naturally be, useful as a seed multiplying centre, where suitable seed for the tract will be available at hand. This farm, besides being a demonstration plot could also be used as a training centre for the sons of cultivators who will be trained in improved methods of farming. Further, this farm will also serve as an implement depot where from certain costly ^{implements} could be available to cultivators on reasonable charges. A farm if provided with a chain type tractor and other implements can also demonstrate mechanised farming. As there is no provision in the N.E.S. budget, the expenditure over the farm should be suffered by the State in view of the fact that the N.E.S. proclaim to be a permanent feature of development.

Irrigation

(a) Ordinarily main crops juar and cotton are not irrigated here. It is however, found that irrigating Buri 0394

gives excellent results and this is likely to become popular also. Irrigation is, therefore, needed for cotton, wheat, fruits and vegetables. Moreover, wet cultivation has also to be attended to more carefully as a safe measure against the water scarcity and vagaries of monsoons. The sinking of new wells on taccavi in the low water levels tract will, therefore, be encouraged by giving taccavi loans for wells and pumping sets. The old wells which are also useful, will be repaired by grants of taccavi loans.

(b) The Western portion of the block is known for plantain gardens and the water level is also low. The people of this tract will be advanced loans for new wells and will be encouraged to irrigate the food crops. The present irrigated area is 456.53 acres from 781 wells. Further programme would be as follows :-

<u>S.No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>1954-55</u>	<u>1955-56</u>	<u>1956-58</u>
1	Fitting of irrigation pumps with engines on wells, rivers, etc. either by grant of taccavi or otherwise	15	20	30
2	Construction of new wells	20	30	40
3	Repairs to old wells	20	40	50
4	Small project	-	2	-
5	Distribution of Rahats for irrigation	2	3	5

Much of the above programme would depend on the supply of electricity in the area. Attempts to get the electricity for irrigation purpose are afoot and it is expected that some part of the tract would have the electricity. This would give a phillip to lift irrigation projects from rivers or wells.

(c) Lift irrigation plants :- In the block area two points on Dham and Bor rivers at Dorli and Kopre respectively have been examined. Detailed investigation in the matter is being made. If the scheme is materialised, it would bring an area of about 200 to 250 acres under wet cultivation and double crop. The cultivators concerned have agreed to avail of the plant and pay the meter rates. The plants are expected to cost about Rs. 20 to 25 thousand each to Government.

Improvement of Grass Reserves

With the abolition of proprietary rights, the grass reserves have diminished in value and are producing poor quality and quantities of grass which has little food value and are little relished by cattle. It has already been pointed out that the whole of the ex-maluguzari and Government forest areas lie in the block and so also the grass reserves. It is, therefore, proposed to improve these grass reserves by using improved seed, which in future, would be great asset for dairy farming and grazing of village cattle. The expert advice would be sought in this matter. The following targets are proposed to be achieved in the plan period. The expenditure over this would be suffered by the Government.

1954-55	50 acres	Juwadi, Khairi, Main Khairi.
1955-56	100 acres	Nanbardi, Salai, Manoli.
1956-57	200 acres	Kelzar, Hingani, Jungadh.

Babhul Bans and Tree Planting

Special drive in the first and second week of July every

year could be organised in the selected areas to plant Babhul Bans and other kinds of trees on the village wastes and sides of roads. The plantation of babhul will not only provide wood for agricultural implements but also serve as fuel saving enormous waste of cow-dung manure. Every cultivator will be induced to plant trees in the boundaries of his field. The cultivators would be requested to take care of these trees. The following target^{are}/fixed. The Vikas Mandals also appear to be vigilant in the matter.

Year	Babhul trees	Teak
1954-55	10,000	500
1955-56	20,000	1,500
1956-57	20,000	2,000

Demonstrations and Propaganda.

Ocular demonstrations have a greater value in so far as they appeal to the common man. The Agricultural Extension Officer and the Gram Sevaks have selected 10 plots at different villages where the people of the neighbouring villages would be collected for demonstration of seed and plant treatment. The field staff working in the block area and the Agricultural Assistant will be in charge of this. The expenditure on this account will be charged to the development fund. As per recent instructions from Agriculture Department, these demonstration plots will be manured by Government. The plots selected are from Juwadi, Antargaon, Mahabala, Zadashi, Hingani, Moi, Kopra, Junona, Amgaon and Sindi.

Agriculture and Cattle Exhibition.

It is proposed to hold cattle and Agriculture shows at the Block head-quarters every year, where prizes would be awarded to the highest producers of various crops and also to those owning high milking cows, good bullocks and bulls and she-buffalows. The amount of Rs. 5,000/- for three years has been set apart from the development fund.

Animal husbandry

As there is no veterinary hospital at the block head-quarter nor in the block area, it is absolutely essential to have a veterinary hospital at Seloo centre. An expenditure of Rs.7000/- exclusive of people's contributions has been provided in the budget. Another veterinary dispensary would be constructed at Sindi in the block area which will be financed by municipal committee, sindi, the recurring expenses being suffered by the municipal committee and government on 50% basis.

In the hospital itself a provision need to be made for artificial insemination centre. As the V.A.S. is a touring officer, it would not be possible for him to attend to the dispensary regularly and as such it would be essential to appoint a stock supervisor who would be a whole time worker at the dispensary. As there is no provision for the appointment of the stock supervisor his pay would be drawn from the veterinary department.

Poultry units

A model poultry unit is proposed to be started at the

block head-quarter for demonstration as one of the good cottage industries. The construction of this unit would be taken up in the year 1954-55 and the funds would be made available from the other head. As many as 3 Gram Vikas Mandals have decided to start three small poultry units in the year 1954-55 at their cost. Arrangements would be made to provide birds recommended by the department. At the end of the plan period the block will have 10 poultry units.

One Gosadan is to be provided in the block at a suitable centre. People would be encouraged to send their surplus cattle to this area. This may be extended as a cattle breeding farm if found suitable.

Fodders cuttern and silage making.

Special drive would be undertaken for the introduction of better and improved fodder cutters to suit different classes of cultivators and they would be persuaded to purchase fodder cutters 4 in the first year, 6 in the second year and 10 in the last year.

Cooperative Dairy.

As the ex-malguzari and Government forests of the block provide enough grazing facilities, the Vikas Mandals of Salai, Moi, Hingani, Dongargaon, Bhanoli, Nanbardi, and others have agreed to start a cooperative dairy and by contributing to it in the form of animals. The proposal is under scrutiny of the authorities of the cooperative department. With Seloo, Hingani as head-quarter, the dairy will work considerably well.

Key village Centre

There is however, one key village centre in the block at Seldoh, but it does not serve the purpose. The natural conditions in the block are favourable for opening the cattle breeding centre. Being a forest area, the cattle population of the part is appreciably greater and hence with these considerations it has been proposed to open four key village centres at suitable places in the block area.

The people of the block are, however, willing to accept the terms and conditions of the centre. It is, therefore, decided to open two centres in 1955-56.

Slaughter houses

It is proposed to construct a slaughter house at the block head-quarter and two at other big places and to ensure that all goats and cattle are slaughtered at the house only.

The work of prophylactic inoculations as against the periodical cattle epidemic would in fact require the service of a mobile van to go through the block area, but with the appointment of trained Gram Sevaks who will have preliminary knowledge about these things, the services of a van could be dispensed with in future. The village level workers and the V.A.S. will render first aid and advise the cultivators from time to time. Prevention of epidemics and preventive inoculations would be carried out on a large scale.

Health and Rural Sanitation

There is only one human dispensary in the block at Sindi under municipal committee Sindi. As it is one corner of the block, it serves only 25 villages. Hence as already provided in the N.E.S. budget, a human dispensary well equipped at the block head-quarter will be constructed. The hospital should have the staff of one Asstt. Medical Officer, one compounder, two trained mid-wives. Even though, no contribution from the people is expected in respect of dispensary yet attempts will be made to secure the same for construction of a staff quarters and good equipment.

Leprosy Control

Leprosy appears to be spreading in the block area and effective measures to control and eradicate it are essential. Dattapur Kushta Dham at Dattapur is doing good deal of work in this respect. They have also weekly centres for treatment, but for want of sufficient funds small dispensary buildings ^{not} could/be constructed. It has, therefore, been proposed to open 4 centres at Anji, Kelzar, Sindi and Hingni, where weekly treatment will be given to the Leprosy patients. The A.M.O. in charge of Seloo and Sindi dispensaries will be posted for training at the leprosy colony Dattapur who will be doing their work in the field under the advice of the A.M.O.

Funds for this purpose are, however, not forthcoming from the N.E.S. budget. Sindi Municipal committee has however agreed to grant Rs. 500/- for a small building and for the rest, Janapada Sabha is being requested separately. These

leprosy centres will, however, be given grant in aid from the N.E.S. budget. Two centres would be opened in the year 1954-55 and 2 in the year 1955-56.

Maternity Homes and child Welfare Centres

At present there are only two maternity homes at Dahegaon and Anji. They were without the buildings but the buildings are now under construction from the ministerial grants. The Janpada Sabha is suffering the recurring liabilities of the homes. Two more maternity homes at Kopra and Juwadi are also completing their building construction.

The villagers at both these places have contributed their shares and the Janpada Sabha has accepted the recurring charges of the same. Thus these four maternity homes are no charge on the N.E.S. budget, though they happen to be in the block area. It is proposed to have one more maternity home at the block head-quarter. The dispensary staff will look to its work. Contributions of villagers will be obtained for this purpose as the N.E.S. fund would fall short of such a provision. This work is expected to be completed by the end of 1954-55.

A child welfare centre at Sindi has been opened by municipal committee Sindi. There are Proposals for opening two more child welfare centres with 50% contribution from villagers at Juwadi and Kopra. These works are expected to be completed by the end of the year 1954-55. The provision

of grant in aid from the N.E.S. fund has been made for them. Dispensary at the block head-quarter will provide training of suitable trainees every year so that they may be useful in the other village dispensaries of the block.

Malaria and D.D.T. Spray

All possible anti-malarial measures will be taken up in order to check the spread of malaria. Village level workers will be supplied with first aid boxes for service of the people and the stocks of palludrine and Mepacrine will be kept with them. In addition, propaganda and exhibition of films by magic lantern will be effectively done. Vikas Mandals will also be persuaded to maintain first aid boxes and the stock of medicines. Some portion of this would be met from the development fund. A provision in the budget has been made.

Drinking Water Supply

It is observed that in the Northern portion of the block particularly area adjacent to forest do always suffer due to scarcity of water every summer. Efforts will be made for improving the drinking water supply of the scarcity areas. About 60 drinking wells will be repaired and 15 new wells constructed in a period of three years. Gram Sevaks will be responsible for permanganating all the drinking wells. It will be impressed upon the villagers that they should use only well water for drinking purposes. A suitable budget provision has been made.

Village Sanitation.

(a) Cleanliness

The programmes of Gram Safai will be arranged with cooperation of the Vikas Mandals and the public at least once in a fortnight. In order to maintain clean roads within the villages every house owner will be persuaded to keep clean half the breadth of the road and length parallel to his house, so that the roads would be maintained neat and clean. The Vikas Mandals will frame suitable rules for keeping the village area clean and sanitary.

(b) Drainage

The villagers have already taken to the preparation of soak pits for draining the flow of waste on roads. Wherever possible Particularly in big villages pucca drain constructions will be taken up if sufficient contributions are assured. Propaganda to divert waste water for kitchen gardens will be given priority.

(c) Latrines

The necessity of latrines in village has been impressed upon the villagers and the Gram Vikas Mandals have taken to this work. The non-availability of sweepers in villages is an obstacle in construction of pucca latrines and hence the villagers are persuaded to have Sevagram type trench latrines, which are quite cheaper in cost and can suit the village conditions. Some well to do cultivators will be persuaded to have sceptic or pit privy type latrines. Where the villagers are not willing to have the latrines for some reasons or the

other, the Vikas Mandals have been directed to earmark the places.

The following target have been fixed.

1954-55	...	20	Latrines-
1955-56	...	20	"
1956-57	...	20	"

For all the latrines 50% grant will not be made available as the funds are not adequate. The villagers will be persuaded to construct them at their cost.

(d) Village Roads

The roads in the villages will be repaired by the villagers themselves. Efforts will be made to convert some roads in big villages into 'C' class roads. Attention will be paid to the roads leading to the bathing ghats, burial ground and sinking grounds.

(e) Housing

Housing is a difficult problem in villages. Since the localities are packed and are situated without any plans, it is not possible to disturb them at this time. In M.P. especially the Abadi areas have not been surveyed and hence there are no systematic lay outs. Encroachments on unsurveyed roads have also become a common feature in villages. The survey of the abadis is therefore necessary, so that at least the new constructions would be systematic and planned.

There is also a great necessity for extension of abadis and action for this has already been taken by the Nistar department. The Gram Sevaks will emphasise needs for clean and neat house wherever possible and necessary new colonies will be constructed as per model plans.

Education

(1) There are 39 schools in the block area. Out of these 5 are Middle Schools, 17 Upper primary schools and 17 lower primary schools. All the schools are under the Janpada Sabha, but no Schools are without school building of their own and are therefore proposed to take up the work of construction of school buildings at 12 villages in the years noted against each. The Vikas Mandals at these places are willing to contribute 50% of the total cost of the building.

Under this head a balance of Rs. 2,850/- has been left and hence it is proposed to construct a separate building for girls school at Hingni.

Efforts will be made to convert the present I.E.M. School at Block head-quarters with full fledged High School to provide better education facilities. It will also be seen that Agriculture is added as one of the subjects in the curriculum. In the extra-curricular activities training in different crafts will be arranged. If the cottage industry department extends cooperation it will become a separate subject.

(b) School Education

In spite of the fact that there are number of schools in the block the number of illiterate adults is considerably large. Provision of remuneration and rewards to teachers to conduct Social Education classes in the backward areas in the block had been made in the plan. It is proposed to give remuneration of Rs. 10/- p.m. to 10 teachers to conduct Social Education classes of 20 adults. Provision of pay and contingencies at Rs. 5/- P.M. is also made for each Social Education class. Rewards are also proposed for successful adults in order of merit as an encouragement.

With a view to encourage and propagate the cultural aspect of the Social Education, provision has been made in the plan to give grants in aid to the institutions, clubs, cultural squads etc. for imparting education to the masses through the cultural activities, such as dramas, Kirtans etc. Social talents will also be encouraged for the spread of education.

(c) Libraries

Three libraries will be opened by supplying some useful books from the Government. The education staff will arrange for moving libraries and circulating literature on rural developments.

Recreation Centres-cum Sports clubs

The village having good schools would be given additional help for village sporting clubs and they will be

encouraged to purchase sports material. This will stimulate activity in young blood. Recreation centre-cum-sports clubs both for males and females will be organised at the block head-quarters. People would be encouraged to purchase the material and donate the same to the clubs. Sports tournaments would be organised at the block head-quarter along with exhibition.

Panchayat Ghar

It is necessary to have a general meeting place for the villagers. In order to get over these difficulties, it is proposed to construct 5 Panchayat ghars in the plan period.

Destruction of Wild animals

The Northern portion of the block is a forest area both comprising of ex-malguzari and Government reserve forest and as such the wild animals are regular menance to the cultivators. The mukaddams of the villages will be persuaded to get licences and gund.

Communications

As already pointed above the North and North East portions are covered by forest and the villages situated are not connected by roads, either with Nagpur-Wardha or Wardha-Arvi. Seloo-Hingni road of 6 miles length has been approved and the work has also been started. Besides the construction of this road, there are a large number of villages which need to be connected by approach roads. One road at the length of 5 miles is under consideration.

The following are proposed -

<u>Place</u>	<u>Distribution or road</u>	<u>Year in which proposed</u>	<u>Total Expendi- ture.</u>	<u>N.E.S.</u>	
1.Kopra	Kopra to Sewagram 3 miles.	1954-55	45,000	22,500	22,500
2.Dorli	Dorli to Wardha, Arvi Road 3 miles.	-do-	5,000	2,500	2,500

Kachcha roads connecting villages to the nearest metal road will be got constructed by voluntary labour as adequate funds under this head are not available.

Cooperation and Panchayat Activities.

There are 32 credit societies functioning in the block and cover all the villages in the block. It is, therefore, proposed to provide short term loans to the cultivators for the purchase of improved seeds, manures, implements etc. The Growers' Association at Wardha is doing the work of distribution of fertilizers. It is intended that multipurpose societies if found fit will be given functions of credit societies and similarly others will also manage the marketing side of the agricultural produce.

Cottage Industries

There are no well organised cottage industries in the block. The scale industries common in the block are oil seed pressing, smithy, carpentry, lime-making, brick making. They are quite in small number and hence cannot meet the

demand of the villagers who have per force to look up on city markets for their needs.

The working of these cottage industries is also found to be quite uneconomic for various reasons. It is, therefore, proposed to form a cooperation of these rural craftsmen and to advance them loans. A sound cooperative organisation is essential to ensure superior economic production, which will also to a great extent solve the unemployment problem.

Vikas Mandals

Gram Vikas Mandals have been established in all the villages of the block. In order that Vikas Mandals should have Proper recognition they have to function in all spheres of activities and establish themselves. The real development of the village depends on the talents and resourcefulness of the members of the Vikas Mandals.

F I N A N C E.

The children's day celebrations promise for grants to the tune of Rs. 3,500/- which have been obtained together with the gifts of land.

The following contribution for School building have been received.

<u>Name of village</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Labour</u>
1. Paunoor	500	100	--
2. Mahabala	500	500	--
3. Jungarh	500	500	--

Local Works

The following construction work during the last four months has been undertaken :-

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>People's contribution.</u>	<u>Govt.</u>	<u>Area.</u>
1. Panchayat Ghar, Kelzar	1,500	1,500	Comp.
2. Maternity Home, Kopra	1,100	1,900	"
3. &do- Juwadi	1,500	2,000	"
4. Schoo Building -do-	1,300	1,300	"
5. -do- Mahabal	1,000	1,000	"
6. -do- Paunoor	500	--	"
7. Repairs to Harijan Well at Juwadi	250	250	"
8. Repairs to Well at Juwadi	250	250	"

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>People's contribution.</u>	<u>Govt.</u>	<u>Area.</u>
9. Repairs to Harijan wells at Jungarh	281	281	Comp.
10. Repairs to drinking wells at Seldoh	200	200	"
11. Public Latrines at Kelzar	68	68	"
12. Construction of new well at Amgaon.	280	--	"
13. Construction of new drinking well, Kopra	800	1,005	
14. Construction of drinking well at Kotamba.			

	<u>Budget sanctioned for the</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1. Personnel	1,00,000	31,098
2. Transport	50,000	7,092
3. Local Works	1,50,000	13,325
4. Social Education	25,000	3,145
5. Grants-in-aid		
(a) Schools.	16,000	
(b) Hospital	1,500	
(c) Other	7,500	
6. Loans for minor irrigation Schemes	1,00,000	1,000
7. Loans for providing short term credit facilities.	3,00,000	

...

P R O G R E S S

The block was inaugurated on the 2nd October 1953, but the first four months were utilised mainly for spade work, preparation of plans and collection of useful data. The time when the block was inaugurated the agriculturists were busy with their operation and were seldom available jointly for consultation. Work has, therefore, started in right earnest only for the last four months or so.

(1) Agriculture

The village level workers and the extension officers presently available are vigorously touring in block in and are attending to their respective duties. Preparatory Kharif operations are Practically over. Following are the achievements in the agricultural sphere.

<u>(1) Manure</u>	<u>Prog. Total.</u>
(a) Compost pits ...	632
(b) Urine Manure by spreading earth and litter in the cattle-sheds	129 tons.

Intensive Propaganda about mass composting has been made and the cultivators are gradually realising the importance of the same. They have taken up this work now in right earnest. I may point out that a target of 500 pits for the year 1954-55 has been fixed.

(ii) Improved Seeds : Cotton

The demands for supplying the improved varieties of cotton seed viz. H. 420, Buri 0394 and 197-3 were received from the villagers individually and also through the respective Gram Vikas Mandals. The requirements were thus obtained and distributed. The following quantities of cotton seed of different varieties have been distributed. Acreage

<u>Cotton seed.</u>	<u>Quantity Distributed</u>	<u>Acreage.</u>
(a) H 420 Cotton Seed	1,720	
(b) Buri 0394	1,720	
(c) 91	700	

Juar

The demands from the cultivators for supplying improved juar seeds were also received. The stock of juar Saoner and NJ 164 variety have been received. The distribution is in progress.

<u>Variety.</u>	<u>Stocks available for distribution</u>	<u>Distributed.</u>
(1) Juar Saoner	3,200 Lbs.	3,000
(2) Juar NJ 164	200 Lbs.	100

Tur and Groundnut

Similarly small quantities of improved varieties of Tur EB 38 and Groundnut AK 12-24 have been received from the Agriculture department and will be made available to the selected

cultivators in the block area. The cultivators have been advised to treat cotton seed with Agrosan Groundnut.

(iii) Fertilizers

Propaganda about the use of fertilizers to improve the fertility of the soil was carried on and consequently following demands have been received. The stocks have also been obtained and the association has been entrusted the distribution. To facilitate the convenience of the cultivators the supplies have been arranged through three sub-centres in the interior viz. Anji, Seloo and Sindi.

	<u>Total demands received so far</u>	<u>Quantity Distributed</u>
(a) Amm. Sulphate	2,409 Hdw.	39 tons
(b) Super phosphate	1,120 Lbs.	6 "
(c) Bone meal	1,344 "	Stocks are yet to be received.

The distribution of the above fertilizers is mostly on taccavi. Recently the Government have allotted 800 tons of Amm.Sulphate to the district out of which 200 tons have been placed at the disposal of the block.

(iv) New area brought under vegetables.

(v) After the distribution of cotton seed the following taccavi loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act and Land Improvement have been distributed through the above mentioned

<u>Sub Centre</u>	<u>Total Allotment</u>	<u>Total distribution (bullocks and Khalkumdu)</u>
Agriculturist Loans Act	90,000	70,000 (Bullocks)
Land Improvement Act	3,430	3,430 (Khod.)

In the above distribution taccavi loans for Agricultural implements and seeds have also been granted to the fire sufferers of Mouza Salai who had suffered immediately. The balance of Rs. 20,000/- from the above allotment has been made as per the policy laid down by the D.C. and particularly the small cultivators upto 20 acres with good paying capacity have been assisted under the policy.

(vi) A tractors ploughing station with a unit of 11 tractors has been opened at Sindi in block area and the following progress in ploughing has been made in this respect. Besides the cultivators were also advised to plough their lands every alternate year. The following acreage has been ploughed by Kirloskar plough.

- (1) Acreage ploughed by T.P.S. Sindi .. 5,713
- (2) Acreage ploughed by Kirloskar plough 1,357.14

(vii) The Gram Sevaks of the block carried out practical demonstration against diseases especially "churda" on chillies and Inderbala on orange in block villages. They treated 130 plants of oranges with Kaoptera and 2 acres of vegetables with Gammexane D.O.25. The treatment of Churda on chillies was also done over an area of 6.1/2 acres with Gemmexane D.O.25.

(a) The practical demonstrations by Gram Sevakas, Agricultural Assistants in respect of composting, urine, conservation, soak pits, use of Amm.Sulphate, treatment of crops vegetables and fruits against diseases - 222.

(b) Demands for Rotary dusters received from villages 5.

(viii) The staff working in field has also selected plots for demonstration at Mahabala, It has ✓

(4) Castrations	42
(5) Operations	27
(6) Contageous cases treated	239
(7) Non-contageous cases treated	384
(8) Post-mortems	3
(9) Foot and mouth cases	139
(10) R.I.R. eggs distributed in block	80
(11) R.I.R. cocks distributed in block.	40

(ii) Besides, the above a proposal for opening a key village centre at Juwadi has been examined and finally submitted to the Director of Veterinary Services for approval. One key village centre at Kelzar is already functioning in the block.

(iii) Similarly a proposal about opening a rural cooperative dairy at Hingni has been worked out by the members of the Vikas Mandals of Hingni, Salai, Dhanoli, Moi, Nanbardi villages and has been submitted to cooperative department for scrutiny. It is proposed under the scheme that the cultivators will hand over their cows and buffalows to the management of the dairy instead of money. The Vikas Mandal also desired that the Government should help them in supplying the machinery and in raising the buildings necessary for the dairy. The management is proposed to be in the hands of a registered body, who will be governed by certain bye-laws.

(iv) In the next season two small poultry units of 25 birds each are proposed to be opened at Dhanoli and Juwadi. An experimental poultry farm is opened at Kelzar to experiment how the foreign breed fares under village conditions. The birds are given to villagers on exchange basis, in an area of 3 miles radius of Kelzar.

(v) The V.A.S. block has recently taken charge of the outlying dispensary at Seloo but the staff has not yet been appointed. The C.E.O. is requested to expedite the matters. The indent of necessary products has been submitted to the Deputy Director of Veterinary Services, but the supplies are yet awaited.

(vi) A regular propaganda about prophylactic measures against contagious diseases is being made by the V.A.S. and the field staff and the cultivators are imparted knowledge about treatment by indigenous drugs. The V.A.S. also goes round the cattle markets and the cattle ponds for inspections and carries on the propaganda in villages about sanitation, Methods of silage making and improving the condition of fodder reserves of the area. The veterinary work at present is concentrated in a belt of 40 villages for treatment of cattle against diseases.

Irrigation and Taccavi Loans

(1) No major irrigation projects are possible in the block area and it has, therefore, been decided to make efforts for

water conservation in villages where the water level is low. North-West portion of Seloo block is known for plantain gardens and hence taccavi for engines is proposed to be concentrated in this area. Recently, however, two points on Dham and Bor rivers at Dorli and Kopra for fixation of lift irrigation plants have been examined with the help of the Asstt. Engineer Electricity Department. A further survey by the block over-seer is in progress and the final proposals would be submitted shortly to the Government.

It is expected that with the fixation of both the the plants an area of about 200 acres would be irrigated under the scheme. The fixation of plant as is expected by the villagers should be made by Government and they should be charged water rate.

(ii) The following taccavi loans have been granted to the cultivators of the block.

	<u>Distribution in the Block.</u>
(1) <u>Land Improvement Loans Act..</u>	35,330/-
(a) New Wells ..	21,000/-
(b) Repairs to Old Wells	10,900/-
(c) Khodkundha	3,430/-

(2) <u>Agricultural Loans Act...</u>	84,600/-
(a) Bullocks	70,000/-
(b) Rahat	-
(c) Engine Taccavi	14,600/-

(iii) Survey for bunding of perennial nallas is in progress. The interested cultivators have also been advised to irrigate cotton, juar and wheat crops wherever possible. Irrigating Buri 0394 and rust resistant varieties of wheat have given excellent results. Present irrigated area of the block under fruits and vegetables is

R E G L A M A T I O N

The following acreage in the development has been ploughed by machine tractors and other ploughs.

- (c) Area ploughed by machines-tractors
(b) Area ploughed by Kirloskar plough.

Acres

PUBLIC HEALTH

(1)	(a) Sock Pits	201
	(b) Gram Safai drive organised	26
	(c) EE Drinking wells disinfected	161
	(d) Cleanliness competition arranged for which a prize of Rs. 200/- has been awarded.	1
	(e) Number of villages participated in the cleanliness	110
	(f) Urinals	18
	(g) Drinking well repaired.	7
	(h) Patients treated in villages against malaria and other minor disease by trained Gram Sewaks.	94
	(i) Trench latrines and other sanitary structures.	18

(2) A cleanliness competition in the month of March was organised and marks were given for different items of cleanliness.

(3) In order to arrest the spread of leprosy it has been decided to open shortly 3 leprosy centres in the block area where the patients of the neighbouring villages will get weekly treatment at the hands of the medical officer. A separate provision in the budget for leprosy control has been made.

EDUCATION.

The construction work of two schools at Juwadi and Mahabala is practically completed. At Bavnoor only foundation has been completed. There is the proposal of 10 schools.

(2) Proposal to convert 8 lower primary schools into Upper primary have been made to the Janpada Sabha. Wardha, Similarly proposal to open 3 primary schools at Takli, Antargaon and Kanthi have been made as the villages have agreed to collect fund for construction of building.

COMMUNICATION

The improvement of village roads is in progress. In the local works scheme, Hingni villagers have deposited Rs. 7,000/- as first instalment for construction of Seloo-Hingni 6 miles road.

(ii) Kachcha road of 2 1/8 miles has been repaired by Amgaon villagers namely by Shram-dam.

(iii) Students had done a road of about 1 furlong.

Rural crafts and cottage industries in block areas.

Proposals about revival of hand loom industry at Seloo and the neighbouring villages, Telghani, use of sindi trees for baskets and preparation of other decent articles, economic

production of bricks and tiles and the establishment of an all round agricultural store, have been made to the department. The question of systematically organising the rural crafts is being examined at the State level.

COOPERATION

(1) Rally of the Society staff, the Gram Vikas Mandal persons and cultivators.	2.
(2) No. of Cooperative Credit Societies	31
(3) Old members of Societies	838
(4) No. of member increased as a result of propaganda.	747
(5) Advances to the cultivators	

A D M I N I S T R A T I O N

Position of Staff

There is a Block Development Officer of a gazetted post who is to supervise the works of all the branches under him in the jurisdiction of the block area. There are six Extension Officers; One for Agriculture, who is a Agriculture Extension Officer. His duty is to give necessary instructions to cultivators of the block regarding the improvement of crops, use of manures, use of improved varieties of seeds of each crop. This is the most and the important section of development in the block. Of all the five sections, 75% of work is of the Agriculture section. The Agricultural Assistant of the block is known as Agricultural Expansion Officer.

The second Extension officer is for Veterinary Section, who is a Veterinary Extension Officer. His duty is to give all kinds of medical aid to the cattle of the block. One Veterinary outlying dispensary at Seloo is under him. Trained Gram Sevaks and the V.E.O. have to move about in the villages of the block at the time of epidemics. The Veterinary Assistant Surgeon of the block is known as a Veterinary Extension Officer.

Third Extension Officer is for local works or public works section. He is a Overseer of the P.W.D. Department. His duty is to prepare plans and estimates of all the construction works which are conducted by the villagers. In each construction work people have to share some part as people's contribution, either in cash or in labour.

Fourth Extension Officer is for cooperative section. He is a Cooperative and Panchayat Inspector. He is to from Credit Societies, Grain Banks and Cooperative Societies. He also audits and inspects all the cooperative and credit societies of the block area.

Two Extension Officers are for Social Education Section. One is male and the other in female. Their duty is to create a liking of education in the villagers. For this they have to open Social Education classes in villages. Establishment of sports clubs, libraries, recreation centres is also a part of Social Education.

There are nine Gram Sewaks in the block area. They are called village -workers. The sanctioned strength of Gram Sewaks in ten. They are all field workers. The trained Gram Sewaks are not available as they are under training. The Agricultural Overseers and demonstrations Kamdars of the Agriculture Department are now working as Gram Sevaks.

C O N C L U S I O N

Any plan which tries to by pass the human aspect is bound to fail, bound to disappoint and frustrate the hopes built on it.

We can rightly be proud of the achievement in the constructional, technical and financial aspects, but we have failed the people.

We have planned as other nations have planned, we have built as other nations have built, but we have failed to take into the bulk of our people from the peoples of the West in the matter of educational and scientific development.

We are a people steeped in ignorance, we are a people subjected to susceptibilities of prejudice and sentiment; we are a people who have, for many years lived in isolation isolation from the rapid progress of scientific and technical advancement made in the West.

An in a world where industrial and economic progress hinges on scientific development, the lack of scientific outlook is a deterrent to progress. While in the West every plan progressed with the progress of the people, in India every plan will have to carry the people with it to progress.

Though these projects met with a certain measure of success, it was admitted by the planners themselves that the people's cooperation for the promotion of these projects was not sufficiently encouraging.

The authorities have been administering these projects instead of building them up with responsible and responsive cooperation from the people.

The organisation at the community level for planning and working out the projects is conspicuous by its absence.

The proper leadership that alone can fan into flame the smouldering embers of enthusiasm has not asserted itself.

Therefore, if the second plan is to succeed at the village and district level it is imperative that a new leadership be built up from the community itself as Gandhiji built leaders out of

Coming to organisation at the village level, we seem to depend upon the institution of the village Panchayats. Listing defects of the village panchayats, the U.N.Mission observed.

(1) The Panchayat is regarded as a political organisation and a dominant function often gains control so that other groups do not cooperate with it.

(2) It usually consists of their villagers who feel the need for improvement less than others and are less interested in general improvement especially if it affects their pockets.

(3) The Panchayat usually covers a small population of the village.

Multipurpose schools will have to be complete in themselves they should not be merely selection centres for higher education in technical studies; they will have to equip the young men of the community to embark on a career for which they have been trained as well as to mould them into future leaders of the community. It is on the success of these institutions that the progress of the community will depend and it is around these institutions that the second plan should be built.