

ORISSA REVIEW

FEBRUARY, 1997





Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik taking salute on the ceremonial march past at the State level Republic Day Parade-1997 at Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Bhubaneswar.



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik giving away Police Medals at the Investiture Ceremony held at Soochana Bhavan, Bhubaneswar on 26.1.1997.

ORISSA REVIEW

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SANTOSH KUMAR MISHRA
Director, I. & P. R.

RAJ KISHORE MISHRA
Editor

Praharaj Satyanarayan Nanda
Assistant Editor

Bibhu Chandra Mishra
Editorial Assistance

Cover Design
Manas R. Nayak

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Empowerment of the common people : A noble system

*Sarmistha Barik
Chitrasen Pasayat*

The Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 has the noble intention of bringing power to the common people. It provides for decentralised administration through local self-governing Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) at the district, block and village levels. It provides a platform for direct participation of the people themselves in the Gram Sabha. Thus, the objective is to empower people to have a greater say and role in their own affairs at the grass roots level. In other words PRIs encourage participation of people in the formulation and implementation of various developmental programmes in order to bring a meaningful socio-economic change particularly in rural areas. Without this there remains a sense of alienation of the general mass from the system of governance. Thus, the benefits of development percolate downward to the general people with their active involvement and participation. It creates a system of self-governance which ultimately supersedes the existing bureaucratic system and through which several developmental works are undertaken. Nonetheless, there are several factors creating barriers in the way of decentralization and effective participation of the common mass.

The existing democratic system of our country is based on a bureaucratic structure. People in general are found complaining against bureaucracy. Because there remains a kind of vacuum between the elected representatives at the National (M. Ps.) and State (M. L. As.) levels and the general public. This is filled up by a class of power-brokers. Introduction of PRIs is a significant blow to this class of power-brokers and vested interests supporting the bureaucratic structure. Thus, the significance of PRIs is mainly to evolve a system of self-governance based on the

participation of people. In the process, the stress is on the need for decentralisation of planning and administration for proper functioning of PRIs as well as for the rural development. Regular election, proper education and training of members, adequate funds and proper coordination among Gram Panchayat (G. P.), Panchayat Samiti (P. S.), and Block are essential elements for proper, smooth and effective working of P. R. Is.

Reservations have a positive role to play in promoting the accelerated uplift of historically disadvantaged groups such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Castes and women. But in a recent empirical study in the State of Orissa, it is found that representatives of these deprived sections in G. Ps. are found subordinated to dominant caste-members. There is always a probability of voting according to caste, sex, age and residential background in the villages. Reportedly, Panchayat elections have reinforced kinship and caste-feelings. Primary loyalties of an individual are to his own family and lineage. The politics of primordialities seems to have supplanted the politics of choice of honest and good people. This underlines the difficulties in building a modern secular democratic system. So it is widely felt that people have to rise above their narrow grooves.

Reservations for the State level political leaders, such as M.Ps. and M.L.As. in the intermediaries and apex tiers of Panchayats have been a mockery of P.R.Is. One cannot ignore the influence of M.Ps. and M.L.As. on local leadership; the conflict of interest between Panchayat members and M.Ps./M.L.As. and lack of coordination among different functionaries of P.R.Is. M.Ps. and M.L.As. do not take the elected representatives

into confidence, perhaps because they fear that this will erode their own political influence and power. As a result, they do not want the P.R. system to function effectively. In such a situation, the future of democracy in our country is rather bleak. It is realised that there is a need for the decentralisation of power by keeping the P.R.s above politics.

An important problem of our society is the persistence of gender bias in social, political and economic spheres of our society. Traditionally, women are considered to be weak and inferior to men. The society has not inculcated in them the culture of sharing of household work among male members. Women suffer from a lower self-esteem because of social subjugation and lack of economic independence. In view of this, reservation of one-third seats in Panchayat for them is a silent revolution to improve their status. But scholars have raised the issue of women's representation in G.P. and viewed that the objectives of reservation for women are not truly fulfilled. Women share responsibilities of village administration in addition to their farm and domestic responsibilities. They attend to people's problem and there is no fixed hour of work. It disturbs the harmony of home and family life. Also they feel physically insecure when they go out to attend Panchayat Meetings.

In reality women representatives are ornamental in nature and political consciousness is found lacking among them. They are affected by the caste and class divisions, feudal attitudes, patriarchal nature of the family and village social environment, ethnic and religious separatism and the like. They are members on record only. Allegedly, they are not consulted while taking decision. Thus, women representatives are not free from male dominance in the village administration and no significant change in the power equation is observed in the villages. It is felt-need to make women aware of their role in all spheres of Panchayat activities. In the process of development and decision making women have to operate along with men.

There cannot be any dramatic movement in the system just by including women members in

G.P. At the same time, it is also essential to shed certain stereotyped prevailing notions about role and importance of women in socio-economic development. Women should be encouraged to play a more active part. The male representatives have to establish a rapport with the female representatives and give due respect and attention to their views. Of course, there is some awareness among women due to reservation for them in P.R.s. But there is need for appropriate training and education relating to different aspects of functioning of Panchayats to make women members conscious enough of their effective role and representation in the Panchayat Samiti. This kind of training can be organised at the district or block level immediately following the election. We have to understand that women representatives can play a vital role in the formulation and implementation of various women and child development programmes. This would increase the efficacy of such programmes. For instance, the women representatives and G.P. should have sufficient control over the primary education, primary health care and running of the public distribution system. The Eleventh Schedule contains 29 items including the above-mentioned items. But the transfer of these subjects has not been made legally binding. Since women have representation in different developmental committees at the Panchayat level such committees can meet at regular interval of time in order to ensure their more and active participation. Moreover, in order to create greater interest among women functionaries to attend and participate in the Panchayat meetings, the present token of payments by a more regularised and higher payment may be considered.

It is widely felt that party politics is an important factor contributing to the downfall of the P.R. system. The election fought on party lines in Panchayats divides the people in the villages. The election held on party basis help build up parties and not people. In the process one finds the rampant misuse of muscle power, money power, casteism and communalism in the Panchayat elections. This is why P.R. system without party politics needs to be encouraged. Since, in reality P.R. system cannot be delinked

from the party politics, it is the moral responsibility of every person to try that honest and morally upright people must remain in G.P. Appropriate training programmes for all functionaries at the G.P. level should be organised regularly and systematically.

In rural areas, people in general are unaware of the kinds of developmental activities undertaken at Panchayat level. The general notion prevalent among them is that the Sarpanch and Secretary are corrupt. In order to remove this suspicion, the functionaries of G.P. should maintain transparency and make villagers aware of the developmental works being undertaken at the Panchayat level. For this, awareness camps should be organised. Loans under various anti-poverty programmes should be sanctioned on the basis of recommendations of the G.P. The right of evaluation, viability-appraisal and sanction of developmental work at the level of G.P. should be vested in G.P. The Panchayat should have also sufficient control and supervision over the government servants such as V.L.W., V.A.W., A.N.M., L.S.I., I.C.D.S. Supervisors, and Workers, Junior Engineer, Fishery Development Officer, Agriculture Extension Officer and the like working at the Panchayat level. The main objectives of Panchayat to involve people and to cultivate in them initiative and self-reliance should not be relegated into the background. This will help expedite and ensure smooth running of various developmental activities in the village.

It is felt that judicial and legal powers should be given to G.P. particularly in tribal areas. In the administrative structure, the provision of a judicial Panchayat should be put into effect at the earliest. But the Panchayat should not succumb to pressure from any quarter and deal with disputes truthfully and honestly. Because the past experience shows discrimination in awarding punishment of weaker sections and to high caste people. Forests which come under the control of the G.P. should be allowed to be managed by the tribal people without much interference of the Forest Department.

Mobilisation and proper utilisation of financial resources is the major problem of G.P. where resources are limited in quantum because of poor taxation and poor realisation of tax. P.R.Is. depend largely on government grants. The objectives of G.P. can be realised if more financial power is given to G.Ps. Panchayat bodies must be very clear about their own needs, their existing resources, additional resources they can tap with and without

State's assistance, grants as also their own investment programmes. P.R. system necessarily aims at decentralised planning and participation of people in the planning process. So, Panchayat has to play a major role in plan formulation and its approval at the district and block level planning. Also, it has to play important role at the implementation stage. Significantly, developmental works have to be executed through local people. The financial accounts i.e. sources of receipts and uses of funds should be made available for information to women members who have a meaningful say in the decision-making regarding allocation of funds. This would go some way in making the role of women more effective.

The Panchayat body has to find out all possible means to create its own assets to generate additional income through various investments. The financing of such products can be sought from the financial institutions. The right to raise financial resources through tax and non-tax means as per the existing P.P. Act should also come into full force. Non-agricultural goods produced in the villages such as bricks, traditional brass utensils, pottery items, handloom, handicrafts, coir/jute ropes and the like may be brought within the ambit of G.P. taxation. Different types of raw materials produced in the village and used in the urban industrial centres generate a tax revenue for the State Government. Some portion of this revenue may be diverted to G.Ps. Besides, certain income generating assets namely village orchards, village ponds, bazars, ghats and the like are under the control of the Revenue Department. For additional income generation, these assets may be transferred for management to the G.Ps. or given out on lease. Taxes like motor vehicle taxes, sales tax, excise revenue should also be shared with Panchayats.

All the same, Panchayati Raj system seeks to ensure self-governance through direct representatives. It has transformed representative democracy into participatory, which means transition of political power to the grass-roots level in the country. It encourages people to participate in the developmental activities and brings a meaningful socio-economic change. A proper consideration of above-mentioned problems will definitely strengthen the P.R.Is. in our country.

C/o D. Barik
Special Judge (Vigilance),
Sambalpur-768001

Characteristics of coastal salt affected soils of Orissa and their Management

G. C. Sahu & K. N. Mishra

Salt affected soils in Orissa occur within a narrow strip of land adjacent to the coast of Bay of Bengal, which runs about 375 km long and ranges in width from 2 to 15 km. In a recent study by the Orissa Remote Sensing Application Centre (Mahapatra et al. 1986) it is indicated that 2,54,101 ha of land in Orissa are saline. These are found mostly in the coastal districts of Balasore, Bhadrak, Kendrapara, Jagatsinghpur, Puri and Ganjam. In general, these soils occur in an elevation of less than 10m above the main sea level. These soils occur along low lying lands, river deltas, estuaries and depressions close to the sea coast. The coastal saline lands extend from the mouth of Rushikulya river in the south upto Bhogarai area of Balasore district near West Bengal border. A close examination of the coastal tidal tract would reveal that there are, by and large, two district regions (a) the sandy beach which extends from Andhra Pradesh border upto the mouth of the Mahanadi and (b) the silty clay coast from mouth of Mahanadi to mouth of river Brahmani and northwards.

It is often indicated that genesis of formation of saline soils should be well understood before undertaking a sound scientific reclamation or management practices. Obviously, it is worthwhile to elaborate the different soil forming agents and processes involved in creating different landscape in coastal region of Orissa. Various soil forming agents, i.e. the sea (Bay of Bengal), the river (Subarnarekha, Budhabalanga, Baitarani, Brahmani, Mahanadi and Rushikulya river system), the lake (Chilka) and the wind are responsible to build up different 'land types' in coastal regions of Orissa. The various landscapes in the coastal region can be classified as landscapes of Marine, Estuarine and Lacustrine origin.

Marine landscape :

The sea is the main architect in the coastal region which builds land inch by inch and adds it in the main landscape. The littoral or long shore current along the coast in Bay of Bengal acting from south to north direction laden with sand, silt and clay materials dumped to the sea by different river systems acts as the main sculpture for making the marine landscape. The process goes on till the intervening sea (in between the main landscape and off-shore sand bar) is cut-off due to heavy deposit and the whole adjoining coast joins the main landscape. The suspended silt and clay heavily saturated with Na⁺ ion from brine remains like a slurry like mass. Gradually the mass is subjected to dehydration and heavy textured clay soils are formed.

Estuarine landscape :

The estuarine landscapes are the adjoining lands along the estuaries of the river system nearer to their mouth. In the estuarine the silt laden river water gets mixed up with saline water of the sea before or even after in the bank of the rivers or its branches along the creeks. The levee deposits of the lower flood plain of Mahanadi delta and the crevasse deposits oriented along the direction of the flow of the river and creek are the examples of such landscape (Mahapatra et al. 1986).

Lacustrine deposits :

The lacustrine deposits are the sediments which get deposited along the periphery of the lake Chilka. The sediments are carried by the rivers and their branches every monsoon, which get mixed up with the brackish water and as such are saline. Moreover, the Chilka swells off during peak floods submerging adjoining land where failure of crop due to salinity occurs frequently.

Besides the above landscapes, superimposition of aeolian landscape, i.e. sand dunes of various forms are frequent along the coast, which are however not saline.

The different categories of saline lands in Orissa comprising of 1,25,304 ha marine, 88,282 ha estuarine and 40,515 ha lacustrine land types are given in table 1 (Mahapatra et al. 1986),

Table 1

DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF SALINE LAND

Category of land	(Area in hectare)			
	Marine	Estuarine	Lacustrine	Total
Agriculture	90,494	79,654	23,263	1,93,411
Mangrove	13,344	7,572	3,250	24,166
Idle Land	21,466	1,056	14,002	36,524
Total	1,25,304	88,282	40,515	2,54,101

Characteristics of coastal saline soils of Orissa :

The physical and chemical characteristics, analysis of saturation extract and monitoring of salinity of coastal saline soils of Orissa have been presented in table 2, 3 and 4 respectively.

Marine landscape :

The soils are very deep but the clay content varies from 51.1 to 69.2 per cent with clay to silty clay texture. The PH is usually less than 8.5 but E_{Ce} goes upto 19.0 ds/m. Organic carbon content is high and the CEC varies from 31 to 37 Cmol (P⁺) (kg⁻¹). Exchangeable sodium percentage is much higher indicating the soils to be saline-alkali type. The analysis of saturation extract presented in table 3 indicates the salts to be mostly chlorides and sulphates of Na and Mg. The SAR is much higher than 13. Monitoring of salinity in the creek "Ramachandi Gala" near Ramnagar indicate that maximum salinity occurs in the month of June after which the salinity decreases due to onset of monsoon. The main problem of these coastal saline soils is too much of flooding and sometimes followed by occasional

failure of rains in the monsoons leading to salinity. Since these are mostly low lying areas and the soils are clayey, providing deep drains for management of these soils are not possible.

Estuarine landscape :

The soils are very deep but the texture is almost loam (Table 2). The soil reaction is medium to slightly acidic and the organic carbon is low to medium. The cation exchange capacity values are comparatively low which might be due to higher sand content. The electrical conductivity values gradually increases from the surface downwards reaching a value of 23.6 dS/m at 110 cm. Besides higher salt content, the ESP values are also higher indicating the soils to be saline-alkali type. Since these are comparatively light textured soils, provision of deep drain for better crop yield is practised. The analysis of saturation extract indicated the salts to be dominated by NaCl although presence of Ca⁺⁺, Mg⁺⁺ and SO₄⁼ are there. Saline monitoring in "Kadua" estuary water of Astaranga indicated the highest salt content in the month of May after which the salts are in the tolerance limit upto November. Crop selection in such areas should be such that the crops should be harvested by the end of November.

Lacustrine landscape :

Soil profile collected from Keshpur farm adjoining Chilka lake indicated variable soil texture in different horizons. Although the soil reaction is neutral, the electrical conductivity values are variable in different horizons varying from 4.2 to 10.4 dSm⁻¹. The value of exchangeable sodium percentage is less than 13 indicating the soils to be mostly saline soils. Analysis of soil water extract (1 : 5) indicated the salts mostly dominated by NaCl.

In the above three categories saline soils the cations are in the order of Na⁺>Mg⁺⁺>Ca⁺⁺>K⁺ and the anion are in the order of Cl⁻>SO₄⁼>HCO₃⁻>CO₃⁼. The SAR values in almost all cases are more than 13 indicating greater salinity and alkalinity conditions.

Agricultural Problems of Coastal Area of Orissa : (Bandopadhyay et al. 1984) :

- (i) Tidal water inundation during high tides.
- (ii) Heavy rainfall concentrated in a short monsoon period with low evaporative demand, thereby leaving abundant excessive rain water and causing severe water-logging in monsoon season.
- (iii) Flood water inundation of agricultural lands in monsoon season.
- (iv) Problem of sand casting after the flood.
- (v) Very poor drainage.
- (vi) Deep submergence of water on the surface during the monsoon season, which adversely affects the growth of even rice crop especially the high yielding varieties.
- (vii) Un-scientific method of cultivation and use of traditional low yielding local rice varieties in monsoon season.
- (viii) High water table with saline ground water.
- (ix) Non-availability of good quality irrigation water for rabi crops.
- (x) High soil salinity in winter and summer months becoming toxic to crop growth.
- (xi) The area is monocropped mainly with paddy in monsoon season.

Management :

The main problem of coastal saline soils is too much of flooding and/or occasional failure of rains in the monsoons leading to salinity. Deterioration of crop yield in these soils are mainly due to :

- Plasmolysis of germinating seeds and roots
- Failure of germination and death of seedlings
- Reduced uptake of K, Ca, Mg due to presence of excess Na

—Deficiency or toxicity of some micronutrients.

The problem of soil salinity can be tackled by adopting the following measures for reaping a bumper harvest of crops.

Preventive measures :

Prevention of sea water and tidal bore to the crop fields nearing coast, estuaries or lake can be done with continuous embankments (Luna gheri). Salt embankments has been attempted in Orissa even in pre-independence days and still being used in Balasore, Bhadrak and some parts of Kendrapara districts. But continuous embankment would cause drainage difficulties for which provision of right type sluices in the embankments have to be done. The sluices should be opened to allow excess water to drain out but not allowing the salty water to come in. Screw gear type of shutters using special steel should be used on different sluices. Raising shelter belt over and rearing the saline belt of saline resistant tree species in single and multiple rows have been recommended to save the adjoining land from "Cyclic salt".

Curative measures :

The coastal saline soils of Orissa are mostly saline-alkali type in which the salt content is more than 4 dSm⁻¹, pH is less than 8.5 and ESP is more than 15. To reduce the exchangeable Na⁺ content curative measures such as use of gypsum (2.5t/ha) sulphur etc. are usually recommended. Besides calcium containing chemical amendments such as papermill sludge and Ammonium sulphate as source of nitrogen proved beneficial (Anonymous, 1989). Out of the organic residues as an amendment to correct salinity hazard green manuring gives highest grain yield followed by FYM and tamarind leaf. Provision of deep drains around the field may be advocated by which the salts will be leached down from the surface making the surface soil less saline. The farmers may be advised to excavate shallow ponds (1.5 to 2 m.) in 20% of the plot so that the soil could be spread to raise the field and the pond will be utilised for irrigating the crop besides pisciculture.

Table-2
PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF COASTAL SALINE SOILS OF ORISSA

Horizon	Depth (cm.)	Sand (%)	Silt (%)	Clay (%)	Textural class	pH (1:1)	ECe dSm ⁻¹	O.C. (%)	CEC cmol (p ⁺) kg ⁻¹	ESP (%)	Reference
<i>Marine (Jambu—Halic Aeric Fluvaquents)</i>											
Ap	0—15	17.9	21.9	60.2	Clay	6.1	15.0	2.34	31.0	22.3	
A12	15—32	10.7	24.9	64.4	Clay	6.6	11.0	1.41	37.0	27.4	
A13	32—62	14.6	25.8	59.6	Silty clay	6.8	13.0	1.24	32.6	30.0	
AC	62—106	20.1	28.8	51.1	Silty clay	6.8	14.0	0.89	34.2	32.4	(Pradhan 1983)
C1g	106—150	13.8	25.6	60.6	Silty clay	6.4	19.0	1.39	35.9	28.2	
C2g	150—190	1.4	29.6	69.0	Silty clay	6.6	17.5	1.67	33.7	34.4	
<i>Estuarine (Astaranga—Halic Haplaquepts)</i>											
Ap	0—12	61.8	17.4	20.8	Loam	5.0	6.1	0.52	10.9	26.7	
A12	12—26	65.8	15.4	18.8	Loam	6.3	7.4	0.26	10.1	23.2	
B21	26—48	63.8	15.4	20.8	Loam	6.0	11.3	0.17	11.3	8.4	(Sahu & Das 1993)
B22	48—110	57.8	15.4	28.8	Clay loam	6.7	11.8	0.21	13.4	25.0	
C	110—140	61.8	17.4	20.8	Loam	4.3	23.6	0.84	13.2	3.1	
<i>Lacustrine (Keshpur—Salic Udilluents)</i>											
Ap	0—17	29.0	23.5	47.5	Clay	7.3	7.1	0.28	25.9	5.8	
II B21	17—55	33.5	29.0	37.5	Silty clay loam	7.2	4.2	0.31	18.7	8.1	(Sahu et. al. 1986)
II B22	55—95	79.0	7.5	13.5	Sandy loam	7.25	5.9	0.16	9.4	9.9	
II B23	95—150	67.0	14.5	18.5	Loam	7.3	10.4	0.32	13.5	10.4	

Table-3
ANALYSIS OF SATURATION EXTRACT OF COASTAL SALINE SOILS OF ORISSA

Depth (cm.)	pH	ECe (dSm ⁻¹)	ECe Composition of saturation extract (me/lit)								
			Ca ⁺⁺	Mg ⁺⁺	Na ⁺	K ⁺	Cl ⁻	SO ₄ ⁼	CO ₃ ⁼	HCO ₃ ⁻	SAR
<i>Marine</i>											
0—15	8.3	15.0	8.4	130.6	162.3	1.9	277.5	36.5	2	1.5	19.5
15—32	8.5	11.0	3.0	19.0	86.9	..	134.0	20.5	4	..	26.2
32—62	8.0	13.0	0.6	20.4	79.7	0.6	133.0	12.5	..	5.0	24.6
62—106	7.7	14.0	0.8	32.2	104.3	..	179.0	16.7	..	3.0	25.7
106—150	7.7	19.0	0.8	45.2	130.4	1.9	228.0	34.8	..	3.0	27.2
150—190	7.9	17.5	1.0	49.0	118.8	1.9	196.0	41.6	..	3.0	23.8
<i>Estuarine</i>											
0—12	5.2	6.11	5.4	4.2	48.9	0.5	48.8	8.5	..	1.2	22.3
12—26	6.4	7.4	5.6	3.2	59.6	0.5	59.2	7.4	..	1.7	28.5
26—48	6.1	11.3	8.8	6.4	103.2	0.8	99.2	16.9	..	1.2	37.5
48—110	6.7	11.8	8.8	10.8	97.7	0.8	110.8	10.5	..	1.2	31.3
110—140	4.6	23.6	69.9	30.0	201.1	4.2	265.4	35.6	..	1.2	28.5
<i>Lacustrine*</i>											
0—17	7.3	7.1	3.3	2.4	20.8	0.8	26.4	6.0	..	2.2	13.5
17—55	7.2	4.2	2.1	3.3	25.2	0.9	23.6	8.3	..	2.7	17.1
55—95	7.3	5.9	1.8	2.3	13.1	0.6	12.4	4.2	..	2.0	9.2
95—150	7.3	10.4	2.3	5.4	22.6	0.8	26.8	7.7	..	1.0	11.9

*Analysis was done from 1 : 5 soil water extract

Table-4
MONITORING OF pH AND SALINITY DURING DIFFERENT PERIODS OF THE YEAR

Category	pH and EC	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Marine (Creek water)	pH	..	..	..	7.85	8.20	7.85	8.1	8.1	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.0
	EC (dSm ⁻¹)	..	..	..	30.00	32.00	34.5	22.0	2.60	1.35	2.75	3.6	10.0
Estuarine (Estuary water)	pH	7.00	6.95	6.9	..	7.4	..	..	7.28	7.00	7.35	7.30	7.25
	EC (dSm ⁻¹)	21.55	24.76	29.5	..	36.5	..	..	0.12	0.75	0.96	2.30	8.08

Cultural measures :

The entire coastal tract of Orissa is almost monocropped with paddy which is grown in the kharif season. Local varieties which are grown give very low yield. For increasing the yield of paddy improved and high yielding salt resistant varieties may be advocated. Paddy varieties like SR-26B, CR-644, CR-310-10, CR-309-275, CSR-1, CSR-6 etc. have been tried in the cultivator's field and proved to be performing better in comparison to local varieties like Rahaspanjari, Bhalunki, Pateni etc. It may be mentioned that plants are more susceptible to low level of salinity at germination and seedling stage. But it can tolerate fairly higher amount of salinity at later stage of growth. Hence raising of paddy seedlings in non saline or slightly saline area may be advocated. It is interesting to note that seeds develop salt tolerance when they are soaked in salt solution prior to sowing. The succeeding generation were also found to develop more tolerance than the parent seeds. Depending upon the salt content, residual moisture and availability of the sweet water, the cropping pattern for different areas may be chalked out and crops like barley, cotton, wheat, sugarbeet, mustard, safflower, groundnut, chilli etc. can profitably be grown in the Rabi season.

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*Department of Agricultural
Chemistry, Soil Science
and Biochemistry, OUAT,
Bhubaneswar-751003*

Scheme for development of Playfield/Playground in rural area for promotion of Sports & Games activities among youth

Name of the Scheme :

Development of playfield/playground in rural area for promotion of sports and games activities among the youth.

Objective :

With a view to providing facilities for sports and games activities among the rural youth, State Government have decided to provide at least one playfield/playground in each of the 5263 Gram Panchayats in the State towards fulfilment of the 12 Point Programme of the State Government.

Requirement of Land :

To facilitate the above objective, it is necessary to earmark/identify Government land at the Gram Panchayat/Village level at least to the extent of 3 acres preferably in Gram Panchayat Headquarters/Village adjacent to a Government High School or in case land is not available there, any other adjacent village. The location of the land in the proximity to a Government School will be ideal for management and full utilisation. Government in Revenue Department will issue necessary instruction for identification of such land from out of the land kept under *Rakhit Khata* and issue permissive possession in favour of the Sports & Youth Services Department, who in turn would keep it under the custodianship of the School authorities to obviate any further encroachment and encumbrance by outside parties. A Site Selection Committee under the Chairmanship of Sub-Collector, representatives of Sports Department, School & Mass Education Department (preferably the local Headmaster of the School) and Sarpanch of the concerned Gram Panchayat as members will be constituted to finalise the land in question. In case of necessity, Revenue Department may acquire land under the

provisions of the Land Acquisition Act for the purpose. It may be pertinent to mention here that Revenue and Excise Department have already issued order for earmarking land for promotion of sports and games in rural area vide their letter No. 23693 dated 31-5-1996 in each and every revenue village.

Description of playfield/playground :

The playfield/playground to be provided under the scheme should be such as to cater to the requirement of the local youth depending on the popularity of sports discipline of the district or area concerned. The site of a field ordinarily should such as to accommodate a football ground of the size of 105 x 55 sq. metre. Apart from playgorund/playfield there should be space for providing additional infrastructure like changing room, cycle stand, toilet, space for installation of a tube-well (for drinking purposes) and space for spectators to witness competition etc.

Basic minimum civil work :

In order to make the playfield viable in terms of utilisation, the land is to be levelled to make it suitable for playing of games and other sports activities. It was generally agreed that at least Rs.10,000 will be required per acre for levelling purpose. So per playfield the barest minimum of expenditure is to be Rs. 50,000 which will be inclusive of basic infrastructural facilities.

Provision of wherewithal :

The utility of a playfield will be lost, unless provision for necessary playing kit is made for different games to be promoted among the youth. The Sports & Youth Services Department would provide/supply football, nets and other minimum sports equipments for the purpose. Apart from supply of sports equipments and materials,

the coaches available at the district and State level should be deployed in such a manner to cover all the Gram Panchayats where such infrastructural facilities is made available to provide coaching in different discipline in which the area specialise and boys are proficient depending on the games of a particular variety.

Sources of funding :

As the resource position of the Sports and Youth Services Department is very limited, funds available under different developmental schemes in rural areas should be tapped for utilisation for development of such infrastructures. JRY scheme is one of the source which can be utilised for the purpose. JRY being a Government of India scheme, where allocations are placed at the disposal of DRDA, prior approval of the Governing Body of the DRDA would be essential for inclusion of the above scheme for funding. It will be necessary, therefore, that the District Sports Officer of the district would have to keep close contact and liaison with the Project Officer, DRDA and prepare the scheme for the district for inclusion in the Annual Action Plan of the DRDA. Requirement of funds for the scheme can be met from JRY on approval. Hence, District Sports Officer should work out the modalities of the scheme in consultation with the Project Officer, DRDA. Governing Body of the concerned DRDA will decide the agency through which it will be implemented though Block Agency should be preferred.

Phasing out of the programme :

As identification of land, demarcation of the land after site selection, handing over of permissive possession by the Revenue Department will be time-taking and as a staggering amount of Rs. 25.00 crores would be required for development of the playfield for each of the 5263 Gram Panchayats, it is imperative

that the programme should be implemented in a phased manner within a span of 5 years @ 1000 Gram Panchayats per year.

Plan and estimate :

As the situation of the land will be different from district to district and amount required for levelling of the land may be more or less depending on the grading of the land, a model plan and estimate would be prepared by the Headquarters Block of each of the districts in consultation with the DSO and circulated among the BDOs through DRDA for implementation. It will be the responsibility of the District Sports Officer of the district to coordinate this in consultation with the Headquarters BDO. After plan and estimates are approved in DRDA Governing Body, the BDOs should be instructed by the DRDA to implement the scheme. The DRDA authority should review the progress of the scheme and keep Director of Sports and Youth Services, Orissa informed about the progress of the work on this score.

Restriction on the use of earmarked land :

The land in question should not be used for non-sports activities and the school authorities will be vested with power to see that the restriction on this score is observed in letter and spirit. As the scheme shall be operative with concurrence of School & Mass Education Department, they in turn would issue necessary instruction to their field functionaries as would be required.

As the playground under the scheme will be under the custody of the local Government School Headmaster, for any additional facility to be created in the premises should be done subject to its being related to promotion of games and sports activity. As a protective measure against encroachment, green fencing of the playground can be undertaken.



NATURE OF RURAL UNEMPLOYMENT IN ORISSA : AN EVALUATION OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

*Dukhishyam Mishra
Rama Chandra Parida*

Poverty and unemployment are two deep rooted inhaling ingredients in rural India despite a constant and sustained effort at Government level, since the inception of plan. Poverty is a function of unemployment. Therefore, any attempt to take care of unemployment would automatically eradicate poverty. In this pursuit, creation of more and more rural employment opportunities with increase in productivity should be the core approach of man power planning. There are 244 million unemployed rural labourers in India. Unless adequate employment avenues are created in rural sector, the goal of removal of poverty by 2000 AD would continue to mislead.

As a direct attack on elimination of poverty it is 1961 census, which focussed unemployment as a criterion to divide the population into two classes viz. workers and non-workers. Since then concrete efforts have been initiated at reducing poverty via creating gainful employment and making long-term social assets. In early 1990, a varieties of employment programmes viz JRY, EAS, TRYSEM, PMRY, IRDP etc. have been executed.

Here, it is needless to argue that a year round employment to every rural unemployed is not possible to achieve only by above scheme initiations. Further it is true that these programmes designed for improving employment opportunities for rural poor, based on the concept of self-help has resulted in continued dependence on Government. It is a fact that rural people who are mostly responsible and co-operative to extend a heartfelt support for mending local unemployment problem, is yet to be realised.

Coming to Orissa, having 18 lakh unemployed rural people, the complete eradication of poverty

is a myth. In addition to this, the problem is more accentuated as 86.57% of people live in rural areas depending on agriculture as the prime source of living. In pursuance of grave unemployment characteristics especially in lean agricultural season, the living standards of rural landless labourer and daily wage earners are beyond imagination. In order to fortify their living standard it is high time to reassess the dent of unemployment having an objective towards effective man power planning in Orissa.

In this paper an attempt has been made to bring forth the nature and trend of unemployment in Orissa. Further an effort is made to cite the different employment programmes in recent years and to highlight the cause behind the low performance of some selective programmes.

Nature of Unemployment

In Orissa both agricultural and non-agricultural sectors provide a great reservoir of employment to rural people. However, 65% of rural people exclusively depends upon agriculture as a mainstay of living. In spite of agricultural uplift and self-sufficiency in national food production, Orissa lagged behind the States viz. Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh and so also in employment generation. Further extension of irrigation to almost all ploughing horizons is yet unrealized in Orissa. A mere 30.7% of total cultivated land is irrigated by 1991. This does not facilitate multiple cropping which can provide year round employment. Poor land reform, low technology with that of low irrigation are mostly responsible for increased unemployment. A piece of land with the above three inadequate factors can not provide sustained employment to the dependents on this land. Even they work on their

land throughout the year, their earning from it per annum is merely the full time earning of a half year. Thus they are categorised as disguised unemployed labourer. Taking lean season into consideration agricultural workers wander to get their living either to the nearby urban area or take resort to their traditional profession.

Non-agricultural sector as the alternative source of employment absorbs 29% of rural population of Orissa. This sector includes a number of activities including traditional village handicrafts to that of agricultural processing industries and transport. Basically landless labourers are in this purview. Occasionally this sector provides employment to small and marginal farmers in lean agricultural season. Besides a major portion of rural population in Orissa are daily wage-earners who are unskilled and landless. Their ignorance forces them to work at low wages. They can be categorically called as surplus rural labourer who try to migrate to urban areas in search of job. From the current scenario the rural unemployment reservoir is so acute that the model of Prof. Lewis is impractical in case of Orissa. In spite of the ongoing wind of Liberalisation and Privatisation the urban industrial sectors are unable to absorb the total rural labour surplus in Orissa.

TABLE-1

TREND OF UNEMPLOYMENT OVER THE YEARS (unit in lakhs)

SL. NO	YEAR	BACKLOG EMPLOYMENT (AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	ADDITION TO THE LABOUR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT GENERATION ESTIMATED	BACKLOG OF UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATED
1	1990-91	7.30	5.40	5.68	7.02
2	1991-92				
3	1992-93	7.02	2.70	2.57	7.15
4	1993-94	7.15	2.70	1.89	7.96
5	1994-95	7.64	2.70	2.75	7.91
6	1995-96	7.96	2.70	3.48	7.13

Source : *Economic Survey, 1994 - 95, Govt. of Orissa.*

The above table shows the total unemployment reservoir of Orissa and the annual employment

generation over the period from 1990 to 1996. Here, the generalisation can be made for rural backlog of unemployment that no attempt with clear-cut methodology is made so far, to estimate total rural and urban unemployment in Orissa separately.

From the table though employment generation in Orissa is around 2.5 lakh per annum still at the end of 1996 total estimated unemployed is 7.13 lakh. This number is constant over the studied period. The growth rate of employment generation (12.06%) is however more than the growth rate of backlog of unemployment (6.26%) over the period 1991 to 1996. This is possible due to the efforts at Govt. level.

In the midst of structural transformation and globalisation of Indian economy, the need of rural reshaping and restructuring is more important and acute. Unemployment and abysmal living condition of the poor in rural areas are the two main problems to be attacked. In persuasion to this, the recent years have witnessed the trickle down approach of 3 major centrally sponsored programmes viz IRDP, JRY, EAS for employment generation. Besides these, other two subsidiary programmes of IRDP are TRYSEM and DWCRA. Orissa, as a category "A" State in implementing rural development programmes, has perceived the weakness in employment generation schemes and has projected these composite programmes in order to achieve the national goal. Here, a separate attempt is made to review the programme-wise performance of employment generation in Orissa.

Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)

IRDP launched in 1979, especially aiming at poverty alleviation is in force in 314 Community Development Blocks (CDBs) in full swing. A rural family with or below annual income of Rs. 11,000/- (As per 1990- 91 price level) is covered under this scheme. As the programme is initiated by Centre, the state provides only fifty percent of subsidy. It also aims at providing

assistance to different castes including women via the intervention of Commercial Banks, Co-operative Banks and Rural Banks. Since then, as a viable and long run programme, around 28.50 lakh families have been assisted.

TABLE - 2

NO OF FAMILIES ASSISTED UNDER IRDP

PARTICULARS	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Target	1,08,538	90,457	1,65,479	1,35,382	1,08,000
Achievement	1,11,712	93,226	1,60,000	1,39,829	48,957

(Nov.95)

Achievement

Percentage	102.9	103.0	96.6	103.29	45.3
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Source : Department of Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Orissa

It can be observed that though the achievement of programme moves around hundred percent in between 1991 to 1995, still the number of beneficiaries are fluctuating.

TRAINING OF RURAL YOUTH FOR SELF-EMPLOYMENT (TRYSEM)

In order to improve the skill and dexterity of rural youth (18 to 35 age) coming under IRDP benefits, TRYSEM is being in force from 1979. It imparts training through formal institutes to enable the young for self-employment in agriculture and allied industrial sector. From 1991-92, 75,835 number of youths (till November, 1995) have been given training in different spheres.

TABLE-3

NO OF YOUTHS ASSISTED UNDER TRYSEM -

Particular	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Target	25,120	10,070	21,666	18,847	18,840
Achievement	21,594	16,785	15,415	15,656	6,388(upto Nov'95)

Achievement

Percentage	85.96	92.88	71.15	78.88	33.90
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Source : Department of Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Orissa.

The table shows that the total number of youths trained over the years is more or less the same. But a close look reveals that percentage achievement to the target is at declining trend.

JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJANA (JRY)

With an objective of reducing unemployment and creating long-term social assets JRY (cuddling RLEGP and NREP) has been launched in Orissa with effect from 1st April, 1989. To be very sensitive, Intensive JRY has been implemented from December 1993, covering 21 districts. Since then 2686 lakh total mandays (upto November, 1995) are generated.

TABLE - 4

PERFORMANCE OF JRY OVER THE YEARS 1991-95 (unit in lakh MANDAYS)

PARTICULARS	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Target	346.44	340.33	517.14	522.34	599.45
Achievement	348.86	326.39	479.07	443.59	228.10

(Nov.'95)

Achievement	100.69	95.90	102.63	84.92	38.04
Percentage					

Source : Department of Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Orissa

From the table it can be observed, achievement of created mandays is more than the target of respective year, still the growth rate of created mandays over the years is decreasing.

EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME (EAS)

Unemployment as a cause to poverty, EAS made frontal attack to provide at least 100 days of gainful employment to tackle rural seasonal unemployment. The primary objective of EAS is to reach at the needy among the rural poor. Since then it covered 175 blocks of the state dominated by SCs, STs, and freed bonded labourers. It was executed in the year of 1993 with no target.

TABLE-5

PERFORMANCE OF EAS (unit in lakh Mandays)

Particulars	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Target	-	343.20	420.00
Achievement	31.43	281.24	154.81

(Nov'95)

Achievement			
Percentage	-	81.94	36.85

Source : Department of Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Orissa.

From the above assessment, programme-wise employment generation in Orissa, by and large, is satisfactory. But the growth rate of beneficiaries under these programmes is fluctuating in different years. However, in 1994-95, IRDP & JRY exhibited declining growth rate of beneficiaries by 13% & 8% respectively. Whereas TRYSEM exhibited 2% increased growth rate during the same period. No conclusion can be drawn in case of EAS as it is newly launched. Considering the rate of achievement, although Orissa is one of the 18 "very good" states in implementing IRDP & JRY, a cursory look into the state-wise comparison of rate of achievement reveals that Orissa is far behind the states like Punjab, A.P., Tamil Nadu & Haryana. The rate of achievement of IRDP is almost double than Orissa in case of Punjab and almost 1.5 times in JRY in case of Tamil Nadu over the years.

CONCLUSION

However, solution to the problems rests with the villages. Basically rural unemployment in Orissa is of loan in nature. Rapid action plans in curbing these maladies are warranted the spread of irrigation facilities through large medium and minor irrigation schemes and sustained effort to promote multiple cropping. In addition to this, government programmes buttressed with people's participation is the call of the time. The following points should be projected for better programme achievement in Orissa.

- The poor performance of IRDP over the years is due to the poorest of the unemployed, who are usually unselected, as the intervening banks usually give loans to the better off among the people below poverty line.
- The reality of JRY is in the doldrums as the beneficiaries are inefficient and the social assets created are not durable. The programme is only aiming at transferring the income to the poor rather than creating durable infrastructural facilities.
- Under TRYSEM more number of rural unemployed are reluctant to join the training

programme outside their village, or in many cases they do not get proper facilities closeby. This is true mostly in case of unemployed women, SCs & STs. Stipend provided during the training period is minimal. Hence, it discourages them to associate themselves with training programme.

- The effort of programme is diverted by corrupt village leaders in some cases. Common people of rural Orissa are not so enlightened and often they become vulnerable to exploitation by the vested interest.

- The task of success of employment generating programmes rests on DRDAs and block level authorities. These agencies should be properly geared up.

- Urban industrial sectors of Orissa are inadequate to absorb all the surplus rural labour (around 40%). So it is high time to restructure the traditional labour-oriented industries in villages in pursuance of Gandhian thought.

- Till to-day the programme initiation has not taken the proper representative ratio of the poor among women, SCs, STs & weakers, thus aggravating more and more to the inequalities between the rural poor.

- In case of Orissa the plan objectives should be rural based in character. The call of the hour is to elicit the people's participation and study their local based problems before taking the unemployment issue.

- To conclude, unless and until the awareness, conscience and competitive vigour of the villagers is improved, Orissa will remain sub-merged with unemployment and poverty. Hence, the implementation of programme presupposes to improve the knowledge of the villagers to visualise the problem.

*Research Scholars of Dept. of
A & A Economics & Dept. of Commerce,
Utkal University, Bhubaneswar*



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik presiding over the State Natural Calamity Relief Committee Meeting at the Secretariat Conference Hall on 18.1.1997.



M.P. Shri Ajit Kumar Panja and Deputy Chief Minister Shri Basant Kumar Biswal in a Press Conference organised on the occasion of Netaji Subhas Bose birth centenary celebration at the Secretariat on 11.1.1997.



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik paying homage to Gandhiji's Urn at Cuttack on 28.1.1997. Shri Tushar Arun Gandhi and Minister of State, Excise Shri Suresh Kumar Routray are present.



Addl. Chief Secretary Shri S.B. Mishra administering pulse polio to a child on the Pulse Polio Day at Ganga Nagar Chhak, Bhubaneswar, while Shri D.N. Padhi, Rotarian is watching (18.1.1997)



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik inaugurating the District Conference of Rotary International District 3260 at the premises of Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalaya on 31.1.1997.



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik felicitating the eminent teachers (State Award winners) on the Republic Day



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik administering pulse polio to a baby at Netaji Seva Sadan, Oriya Bazar, Cuttack on 18.1.1997.



State Youth Award being presented to poet Rakshak Nayak by Addl. Chief Secretary Shri S.B. Mishra in the State Youth Cultural Festival at Rabindra Mandap, Bhubaneswar on 16.1.1997.



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik paying respect to the National Flag on the occasion of the Beating the Retreat ceremony at Unit - I Govt. High School ground on 31.1.1997.



A high level Japanese delegation headed by Mr. Kiomita, Adviser to ITOCHU's President is in discussion with Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik regarding the company's capital investment at the Secretariat on 31.1.1997. Among others present are Deputy Chief Minister Shri B.K. Biswal, Industries Minister Shri Niranjan Patnaik and other high officials.



Ex-Prime Minister Shri Chandrasekhar inaugurating the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose birth centenary celebration at Oriya Bazar, Cuttack in the presence of Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik and others on 23.1.1997



Indo-Israel Cooperation in Postgraduate Course on Integrated Rural Regional Development Planning is inaugurated at Hotel Kalinga Ashok.



Shri Manoj Das, Shri Madhab Sardar MP, Shri Jayadev Jena, Minister of State, School & Mass Education; Shri Niranjan Patnaik, Minister, Industries and Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik are on the dias during the All Orissa Sri Aurovinda Mahila Pathachakra held at Keonjhar on 24.1.1997. -



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik discussing with the Israeli Agriculture Chief at Israel Embassy, New Delhi on 25.1.1997. Commissioner-Cum-Secretary Shri B.K. Patnaik is present.



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik addressing a conference jointly organised by Orissa Secretariat Service Association and Orissa Secretariat Ministerial Association.

ନେତାଜୀ ଜନ୍ମ ଶତବାତ୍ସରୀ ପ୍ରମାଣୋତ୍ସବ ପୂରାତନ ଗ୍ରାଡୁଏଟ୍ ସମିତି ଆର. ଡି. ସ୍କୁଲ

NETAJI BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATION

STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION, RAVENSHAW COLLEGIATE SCHOOL &
MINISTRY OF I. & B; GOVT. OF INDIA, D.A.V.P., BHUBANESWAR

23rd. January -1997



Ex-Prime Minister Shri Chandrasekhar, Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik; Editor, The Samaj, Dr. Radhanath Rath and others participating in the Netaji Subhas Bose birth centenary celebration organised by the old students' Association of Ravenshaw Collegiate School, Cuttack on 23.1.1997.



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik inaugurating the state level Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose birth centenary celebration at Soochana Bhavan organised by I. & P.R. Department on 23.1.1997.



Deputy Chief Minister Shri B.K. Biswal inaugurating the Survey-report on Orissa Ground Water at the Secretariat on 27.1.1997.

ORISSA STATE FINANCIAL CORPORATION

(A brief guide for entrepreneurs)

GENERAL

The Orissa State Financial Corporation is the primary state level financing institution incorporated in the year 1956 under the SFCs Act, 1951. The Corporation extends term loan upto maximum of Rs. 150.00 lakhs for acquiring fixed assets like land, building, plant and machinery, equipment and margin money for working capital for setting up of industries. The Corporation also provides working capital assistance under Single Window Scheme. Priority is given to small and tiny sector industrial units in backward areas.

SCHEME FOR ASSISTANCE

A. TRADITIONAL AREAS :

Financial assistance is provided by the Corporation under the following schemes :

- Term loan upto Rs. 150.00 lakhs to small scale and medium scale industries.
- Soft loan upto Rs.4.00 lakhs to Technical Entrepreneurs.
- Seed Capital loan to Tiny Sector industries (State Government Scheme).
- Term loan to Hotels, Nursing Homes, Clinics and Transport Operators.
- Term loan for quality control equipment and pollution control equipment.
- Term loan for modernisation and diversification of existing industries.
- Assistance for rehabilitation of sick units.
- Assistance under 'Equipment Refinance Scheme' of I.D.B.I to the existing industries.
- Term loan and working capital loan assistance under Single Window Scheme.
- Assistance to Ex-Military persons under SEMFES Scheme.
- Assistance to Women Entrepreneurs under "Mahila Udyam Nidhi" Scheme.
- Assistance under National Equity Fund (NEF) for project cost upto Rs. 10.00 lakhs.

B : NEW AREAS :

OSFC is poised to provide assistance for the following activities :

- Factoring Services
- Merchant Banking
- Export Financing
- Leasing Finance
- Acceptance of TDRs from Public.
- In case of medium sector industries, OSFC finances jointly with IPICOL and Commercial Banks.

LIMITS OF SANCTION

Presently sanction limits of various branch offices/authorities are as under :

- Branch office upto Rs.5.00 lakhs.
- Regional Office from Rs. 5.00 lakhs to Rs. 10.00 lakhs.
- Head Office Managing Director/Executive Director—Rs.10.00 lakhs to Rs. 20.00 lakhs.
- Executive Committee—from Rs.20.00 lakhs to Rs. 50.00 lakhs inclusive of additional loan.
- Board of Directors—above Rs. 50.00 lakhs.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

OSFC is also the agency for the disbursement of following incentives in accordance with the rules framed by the State Government :

- State Investment Subsidy
- Margin Money assistance
- Seed Capital assistance of the State Govt.
- Soft loan under rehabilitation scheme.
- Assistance under National Equity Fund (NEF) Scheme of SIDBI.

Other incentives offered by the State Government under the Industrial Policy Resolution are operated by Directorate of Industries, IPICOL and OSIC etc. Besides, IDCO is the nodal agency for providing industrial infrastructural facilities like land, sheds, water etc.

HOW TO APPLY

With a view to quicker advancing of loan, the Corporation, in recent times, has been following a time bound programme with regard to processing of loan proposals. The application forms along with other requisites are available on sale at the Head Office/Branch Offices. The applications, complete in all respects, alongwith the complete set of documents, are received at respective Branches for loan proposals upto Rs.20.00 lakhs.

Apart from applications for setting up new industries, any interested entrepreneur may also negotiate for purchase of existing taken over units on outright or deffered payment terms.

LOCATION OF OFFICES

The Corporation operates through various branch offices/regional offices located in the districts of the State (addresses are given below). Interested parties are requested to contact respective Branch Office/Regional Office or Head Office of the Corporation for further details.

HEAD OFFICE

Orissa State Financial Corporation
O.M.P. Square, Cuttack-753 003

Telephone
E.P.A.B.X : 21123, 21125, 21172,
21173, 35337
TELEX : 0676-225
FAX : 0671 - 30644

REGIONAL OFFICES

	Telephone
Cuttack Regional Office Link Road, Madhupatna, Cuttack-10.	25034
Bhubaneswar Regional Office, IDCO Tower, Janpath, Bhubaneswar.	404248
Balasore Regional Office, Padhuan Pada, Balasore,	62934
Sambalpur Regional Office,	21510

Bareipali, Sambalpur.	
Bhawanipatna Regional Office, Jagannath Temple Road, Bhawanipatna.	30470
Berhampur Regional Office, Medical College Road, Berhampur.	203395

BRANCH OFFICES

Telephone

Balasore Padhuan Pada, Balasore,	624564
Baripada Baghra Road, Baripada,	52254
Berhampur Medical College Road,	203395
Bhawanipatna Jagannath Temple Road.	30655
Bhubaneswar Branch-I IDCO Tower	405818
Bhubaneswar Branch-II IDCO Tower.	402537
Bolangir Thikadarpada Chhak.	22644
Cuttack Branch-I Link Road, Madhupatna, Cuttack-10	PABX-30629, Ext. 321
Cuttack Branch-II Link Road, Madhupatna, Cuttack-10	PABX-30629, Ext. 334
Cuttack Branch-III Link Road Madhupatna, Cuttack-10.	PABX-30629, Ext., 329
Dhenkanal Durga Bazar, Dhenkanal.	4627
Jeypore Main Road, Jeypore.	23049
Keonjhar Madhapur, Keonjhar	2533
Phulbani Main Road, Phulbani	2279
Puri Armstrong Road.	23442
Rourkela New Civil Township	7720
Sambalpur Bareipali, Sambalpur.	31003

RURAL DEVELOPMENT : A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH

Jagannath Pati

INTRODUCTION

From 1990 to 2030, global population will grow by 3.7 billion people. Ninety percent of this increase will take place in the developing countries. Ninety percent will be urban, virtually all of it will accrue to human settlements in the developing world. Compared to many other developing countries, India has been fortunate to have a long tradition of decennial censuses beginning with 1881. The post independence censuses have strengthened the scope of information relating to migration and the rural-urban differentials have also been portrayed in considerable detail through elaborate tabulation plans. While in the developed countries, the population growth rate has almost fallen to zero and the migration problem is minimal because of the fact that the urban rural difference is not at all prominent. The picture in India and other developing countries of the world is entirely different with sharp differences between rural and urban areas in terms of access to resources, infrastructural facilities and opportunities. Poverty and ignorance are the twin vicious forces in the context of rural development. It is also true in the global perspective when we think about Africa, Latin America or South Asia. As a result, this has put a severe strain on the resources base and basic services required for urban areas.

It is the same story in urban India everywhere; mushrooming slums, growing insecurity, roads clogged with private and overcrowded settlements and transport, uncleaned garbage and inadequate water supply. Cities accommodate most of the migrants and construction workers and their *jhuggi* areas and unauthorised settlements are breeding grounds of crimes. All rules of morality are sacrificed on the ground of survival for existence.

According to the indicators compiled by the UN centre on Human settlements, over 100 million people live in a state of absolute homelessness, while in excess of one billion people are forced by circumstances to reside in desperately inadequate housing conditions which threaten their health, security, and dignity.

The Human development report 1991 which summarised some basic data said that out of total number of over 4 billion people living in developing countries. 1.5 billion people still lack basic health care. Over 1.5 billion people donot have safe water and over 2 billion people lack safe sanitation, one fifth of the population still go hungry everyday, over one billion adults are still illiterate and 300 million people (Children) donot go to school. More than one billion people still live in absolute poverty. Over 180 million children under five suffer from serious malnutrition.

THE WAYS OUT

Let us discuss some of the important developments in the international arena as well as few strategies for sustainable growth and human development in countryside.

WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: (Copenhagen, March 6-12, 1995)

At the world Summit of Social Development, few commitments were made by participating governments for creation of an enabling environment for social development, eradication of poverty as an ethical imperative, employment, social integration, human rights, equality and equity between women and men, universal access to education and health, more effective use of resources and finally strengthened framework for all level of cooperation.

WAGING WAR ON POVERTY

The main causes of poverty are incapacity of the individual, adverse physical environments, economic factors, defects in social organisation and war.

- i) The structural aspects of agricultural change need more earnest implementation of land reform measures, protection of the rights of sharecroppers more vigorous consolidation of fragmented holdings, provision for access to essential inputs and facilities like water, fertilizers, seeds and pesticides; encouraging marketing facilities, ensuring fair wages to farm workers, landless workers and petty

farmers should be free from the clutches of money lenders. Revamping of the entire cooperative movement is needed to make it an effective vehicle for timely and adequate supply agricultural credits and implements.

ii) A direct assault on poverty should be launched by utilization of untapped youth resources.

iii) Development of small scale and cottage industries should be given top priority in rural areas. Cottage industries should be revived and labour intensive technologies ought to be adopted. Provision should be made for adequate finance, raw materials, infrastructural marketing facilities besides existing fiscal incentives and relief to ancillary cottage and small scale industries including industries cooperatives in backward areas.

iv) For an assault on poverty in rural areas, the appropriate technology should be such that does not imply only the hardware in its narrow sense but also include softwares like preparational surveys, feasibility studies, arrangement of raw materials, transport etc.

v) A well-knit infrastructure is required to be laid out as a distributive measure to meet the minimum needs of the people in respect of essential commodities, safe drinking water, health care, housing and functional literacy. Great stress should be laid on an effective public distribution system, which is the only way of insulating the weaker sections and the ruralites from manipulations of market forces by hoarders and profiteers and ensuring for them a regular supply of essential commodities at reasonable prices. PDS (Public Distribution System) should be further strengthened.

vi) No people's programme can be purposefully and expeditiously implemented without the total involvement of the people at the grassroots level.

vii) In cooperation with the social welfare programs, research, evaluation, new experimental and demonstration projects should be undertaken in various areas to deal with hard core poverty.

MORE WAGES AND LESS PURCHASING POWER.

The landless agriculture labourers who have descended from agriculturists, comprise 'floating population'. It is mostly this class of

persons who work as casual labourers and migrate from village to village or town in search of employment of opportunities. The amelioration of the standard of living of such workers should be a crucial part of our strategy for economic development in general and agriculture development in particular. With population pressure, the subdivision of land through traditional system of inheritance reduces the size of the holdings and it becomes difficult to survive. There are several types of agricultural labourers. First category are landless labourers. Whose only source of income is wage labour. They may be skilled or unskilled, attached or casual workers. Secondly, there is a class of labourers who do not depend upon wage labour alone, but who are obliged to seek work to supplement their income. Small land owners, tenants, share croppers, part time farmers and also village artisans belong to this group. In view of the fact that with very low standard of living, people enjoy very less purchasing power.

NGOS HOLD THE KEY

In a vast country like India which is marked by the existence of innumerable socio-cultural, economic, educational, political, religious problems, the development of rural areas and people occupies a significant place in our efforts towards planned and directed social change. The government alone can't solve the multidimensional problems which the rural community is faced with. The essential thing in any meaningful attempt in the direction of rural development is to ensure economic growth with equitable and distributive social justice and voluntary agencies can play quite meaningful role in this direction. The basic principle of voluntary agencies also called NGOs (Non-Governmental Organisations) towards rural development is to help the people to help themselves, not merely to give relief but to facilitate release of potentialities of the people.

Selection of backward cluster of villages, human resource development through training, identification of right beneficiaries belonging to weaker segments, establishment of action groups, liaison and coordination work between government and people at grassroots level, promotion of peace, harmony, nationalism, security, secularity in the midst of rural people, participative rural appraisal (PRA) are some of the important methodologies.

INTERNATIONAL AGENDA FOR PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

Agenda 21, the action plan approved by governments at the UN Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992 outlines the following programmes :

- * Agriculture policy review, planning and integrated programming in the light of the multifunctional aspect of agriculture, particularly with regard to food security and sustainable development;
- * Ensuring people's participation and promoting human resources development for sustainable agriculture;
- * Improving farm production and farming systems through diversification of farm and non-farm employment and infrastructure;
- * Land resource planning information and education for agriculture;
- * Land conservation and rehabilitation;
- * Water for sustainable food production and sustainable rural development;
- * Conservation and sustainable utilisation of plant genetic resources for food and sustainable agriculture;
- * Conservation and sustainable utilisation of animal genetic resources for sustainable agriculture;
- * Integrated control pest management and improvement in agriculture;
- * Sustainable plant nutrition to increase food production;
- * Rural energy transition to enhance productivity; and
- * Evaluation of the effect of ultraviolet radiation on plants and animals caused by the depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer.

Development plans of Govt. of India and state governments give priority to alleviating poverty and creating employment, especially in rural areas. The primary determinant of rural incomes, especially for the poor, is the performance of the agricultural sector. High population densities and limited land supplies mean that future growth must depend largely on intensifying production in the agricultural sector.

The need for appropriate technologies for sustainable agriculture development ought to be analysed from two angles. One is that feasibility of the technologies, currently termed as sustainable, at the operational level and the other is regarding the relevance of high productivity technologies (biotechnology etc.), now available or being developed, for sustainable agriculture.

ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT

The earth is on the verge of experiencing an alarming extinction of plant species unparalleled in human history. Nearly 60,000 medicinal species or one in four of the world's total species, could become extinct or near extinct by the middle of the next century. This would mean a tremendous loss to the world of medicine. As many as 75 to 90 percent of the world's rural people rely on herbal medicine for their primary health care. The WHO (World Health Organisation) has, in fact recognised the potential for expansion of these traditional systems.

Recent understanding has enabled the shift of focus from the classical debate of the 1970's viz. Environment versus development to that of the potential complementarity of Environment and development.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), diseases linked to the environment and lifestyle are responsible for 75% of the 49,000,000 deaths which occur each year throughout the world. Health insecurity is clearly aggravated by the lack of pure drinking water and the scarcity of waste removal resources, high priority has to be given on ecological balance, afforestation or social forestry. Generally, the relationship lies between poverty & environment protection. There is a serious threat to the environment and development is perceived as a 'vicious circle'. The majority of the plant's 'poor' still live in rural areas and hence in the developing countries, topmost priorities should be given in all developmental plans including that of environment protection. There is a serious threat to the environment due to its degradation and pollution arising from various factors such as unplanned discharge of residual and waste, handling of toxic materials, indiscriminate construction of dams, large scale deforestation, expansion of settlements and unplanned mining and quarrying work.

The insecurity is not only economic, or environmental, it also stems from unrepresentative political systems and cultural turbulence. In rural areas, the unequal access to information, to knowledge and to communications leads inevitably to bigger and bigger planetary upheavals. The problem is not simply to increase productivity, but also to provide incomes and employment for the poorest people, the two objectives are not contradictory.

In developing countries, where maximum people live in rural areas, it is quite natural to see that there is deterioration in all aspects of food security, health, education and transport.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Administrative reforms for rural development on most occasions remain mere window dressings or replacement of a small cog in the wheel. Eventhough administrative reforms are a necessary step for rural developmment, certain changes in the political milieu are a must. The extent of corruption is well known. The Chinese way of rural development is a success story. The way the nation achieved optimum development in the standard of living raises few interesting questions.

- I) Is rural development possible without land reforms?
- II) Can the administration machinery without backing of the party in power achieve the gigantic tasks of rural development?
- III) Are administrative reforms for rural development a necessary adjunct of socioeconomic change or can they be in isolation of the socioeconomic realities.
- IV) Can class bias be done away with when speaking of the elite achieving rural development?

After the revolution in 1949, China laid great emphasis on rural development. 'Back to the Village' campaign during the cultural revolution saw the urban youth going to the countryside to assist in rural development. The Chinese experiment with rural development throws up five major points :-

- i) Combining separation and integration
- ii) National framework promoting rural development.
- iii) Minimizing urban and rural differences.

- iv) . An organisational structure of rural control.
- v) Rural development requiring spatial organisation.

EQUITABILITY:

The failure of development strategies to take care of equity issues reflect the insularity of our development planning. In order to take care of the equity issues, one has to tackle the distortions in agrarian structure. The link between land, labour and capital market distortions on the one hand and the equity issue embedded in the concept of sustainable agriculture makes it unavoidable to attain the goals of sustainable development without correcting these distortions. This is true even in the case of low input sustainable agriculture technologies and watershed based technologies.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable Development has attained worldwide attention as environment disaster has become global. There is no doubt that our common home, planet earth, is being progressively destroyed by Human Beings unsustainable utilisation of its resources. Global warming, depletion of the ozone layer, loss of biological diversity, deforestation, desertification, acid rain, pollution of air and water, all are man-triggered ills that threaten the very survival of life on earth. Sustainable Development is a social process which seeks to improve people's quality of life; that has discipline and commitment to deliver; is transparent, participative; guarantees the social and moral improvement of each member of society; empowers people's control and participation in the management of natural resources, enhances spiritual and cultural enrichment of the people; and ensures full control of their destiny.

CONCLUSION:

Poverty is the major problem of our time, along with the environmental threats which weigh heavily on our planet and on the future of humanity. A society in which people cannot master their own destiny is iniquitous and democracy may well be, if not the key to development, at least the only form of political rule capable of attenuating human misery... One way of vanquishing poverty and insecurity--perhaps the only way--is to enable all those who are excluded from modernity (Hundreds of millions of the Earth's people) to construct a viable world by means of stimulating self-sustaining development. But such a challenge has little

change of being met as long as societies have insufficient mastery of their destinies, their culture and their environment.

The people in rural India are suffering from vices of indebtedness, low literacy level, malnutrition and disease, social exploitation, ignorance, unemployment, low asset base and corruption in bureaucracy. The tribal situation in the country is indeed complex; some have described it as 'explosive' and some as 'desperate'. The two hundred fifty and odd tribes and tribal communities tend to conform the norm sought to be applied consisting of :

- i) Geographical isolation,
- ii) Primitive traits,
- iii) Distinctive culture,
- iv) Shyness of contact with community at large and,
- v) General backwardness.

Traditional wisdom among tribals, is a treasure not to be ignored. The mobilisation of people and their integration into planning and implementation cannot be achieved if transparency of information and policy is lacking, if accountability of the leaders is nonexistent and if grassroots organisations are weak and marginalised.

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DROUGHT AND UNEMPLOYMENT TO BE BANISHED FROM THE STATE BY 2000 AD.

"We shall be self-sufficient in food and shall meet the State's demand fully by 1998", hopefully expressed Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik, while inaugurating the Seminar on 'Rejuvenation of Orissa's economy', organised by Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industries & Utkal Chamber of Commerce & Industries at Hotel Kalinga Ashoka on January 30. "We are committed to bring about revolutionary changes & double the produce of paddy & groundnut. We are further working on a definite mission to provide irrigation to 50% cultivable land in the State. Suvarnarekha, Upper Indravati & Lower Indravati Projects shall be completed soon. By providing 50% subsidy to enthusiastic farmers steps are being taken to make all lift irrigation points operational. We are utilising ground water resources and supplying irrigation to dry lands through conservation of rain water."

"The economic liberalisation policy will accelerate industrial growth in Orissa which is rich in mineral resources. In power sector, our energy potential will reach 10,000 M.W. We have brought about exemplary reforms in energy management. private entrepreneurs have evinced interest in the development of railways inside the State. I am glad that FICCI have approached the State Government in this regard and have desired to take up Balangir district first on experimental basis. All attempts are being made to boost infrastructural development for tourism in the Golden Triangle, i.e. Puri-Konark-Bhubaneswar. The Bhubaneswar Airport is to be expanded and a special port will be built at Harachandi exclusively for the tourists. There would be perceptible changes in transport and communication when the rail links, i.e. Daitari-Banshapani, Talcher-Sambalpur & the construction of the Super Highway will be completed". 'The State Government', the Chief Minister expressly pointed out, 'would provide assistance, opportunity & approval to promoters & industrialists who shall come forward with definite projects.' Industries Minister, Sri Niranjana Patnaik, Additional Chief Secretary, Sri S.B. Mishra, President, FICCI, Sri A.S. Kasliwal, President UCCL, Sri G.P.S. Sinha & Vice-President TISCO, Sri Muthuraman presented their considered views on the development of Orissa's economy & industry.

AGRICULTURAL SCENARIO IN ORISSA - SHIFT IN AGRICULTURE (1950 - 1994)

D. Lenka

Traditionally Orissa is a rice growing state and rice has remained her main crop. Of the gross cultivated area of 5.01 mha in 1950, 3.71 mha was under rice (74 %). Area under ragi, minor millet, maize and wheat were 1,26,000 ha, 31,000 ha, 21,600 ha and 4,700 ha, respectively. Area under total cereals occupied 79% of the gross cultivated area and that under food crops was 92% and intensity of cropping was 112% only.

By 1993-94 gross area under cultivation has increased to 9.75 mha, area under rice being 4.55 mha (46.7%). Areas under ragi, minor millets, maize, wheat have increased to 2,34,000, 79,000, 1,77,760 and 31,480 ha. All cereals (5.078 mha) constitute 52% of the gross area under cultivation. Area under total food grain (7.21 mha) constitutes 73.8% of the gross cropped area and intensity of cropping has gone up to 155%, it is claimed. These data show that impact from rice has shifted to other crops. It has reduced from 74% to 47% of gross area under cultivation. On net cultivated area basis, % rice in kharif season is 68% (Table 1).

With little area under irrigation then, it has increased to 3.13 mha (36% of gross area) by 1994-95. Area under summer rice has gone up from 13,600 ha in 1950 to 2.44 mha (1993 - 94). Rice productivity has increased from 4.8 q/ha to 1.44 t/ha. The yield of summer rice has increased to 2.2 tons in general, and 5.5-6 tons/ha in specific cases. Area under vegetables and fruits are now 8.51 lakh and 268,000 ha. Now rice, other cereals, pulses, oil seeds, vegetables, condiments and spices, fibres, sugarcane, tobacco constitute 46.6, 21.0, 12.8, 1.8, 0.9, 0.5, 0.4% of the total area under cultivation. The fruits like banana, mango, pineapple, citrus, papaya, coconut, cashewnut and others account for 2,68,000 ha constituting 2.8% of the gross cropped area of 9.65 mha.

Table 1. Shift in Orissa's Agriculture

Particulars	1950-51	1993-94
Gross cropped area(mha)	5.01	9.75
Rice	3.71 (74%)	4.55(46.7%) (gross Area) (68 % net area)
Ragi	1,26,000	2,34,000
Minor millets	31,000	79,000
Maize	21,600	1,77,760
Wheat	4,700	31,480
Pulses	4,94,000 (1960-61)	2.13 mha
Food crops	92%(gross area)	74.4% (gross area)
Groundnut	24,000 (1960-61)	3,30,000
Potato	-	10,400 ha
Jute	-	15,630
Sugarcane	25,000 (1960-61)	39,000
Oil seeds	2,19,000 (1960-61)	11,16,000
Irrigation	-	2,09,000 (k) 1,04,000 (k) 32 % k (16% R.)
Fertilizer consumption	1 kg	22 kh/ha
Cropping Intensity (%)	112	155
Vegetables		8.5 X 10 ⁵ ha
Fruits		2.68 X 10 ⁵

These data show over 45 years agriculture has been diversified to some extent. More diversification is necessary. Diversification and the productivity has increased. On % basis, area under sugarcane has increased marginally that on narcotics, spices and condiments % has decreased. Area under potato and jute is decreasing too. Area under potato is decreasing due to want of seed materials. Seed materials are not available in time as our storage facilities are not adequate. Whatever storage godowns (cold storages) are there they are not functioning properly. Over decades fodder cultivation has not become a part of agriculture and animal development has not been conspicuous. Area under oilseeds has increased due to more area under groundnut (both in kharif and rabi in upland and medium lands) from 24,000 ha in 1960-61 to 3.30 lakh ha in 1993 - 94. But in irrigated area, intensity of pulses and oilseeds is decreasing in favour of rice, an unhealthy trend indeed. In 1995-96 we had targets to produce 8.977 mt food grains against over achievement 8.22 mt in 1993-94.

Whatever change has occurred is due to R and D efforts. In these years research efforts have increased to solve the regional problems and developmental efforts to increase the efficiency of management practices in addition to more use of fertilizers, irrigation and technical know-how.

Agroclimatic conditions

Sundargarh, Kalahandi, Bolangir, Sambalpur (specially Jharsuguda, Deogarh, Bargarh), remain E4 (B1A2B1) D1E3 districts with respect to rainfall pattern, the most drought prone districts of the State, where 7 months of the year get rainfall less than 5 cm/month and 3-4 months without any rainfall. The monomodal nature of monsoon (B1A2B1) brings 85% of annual rain in 4 months leaves these districts high and dry. Irrigation in the inland districts is low too. Though temperature humidity, sunshine, wind velocity are not limiting for crop production, moisture stress alone makes agriculture vulnerable to drought particularly in these districts.

On the basis of physiography and agroclimatic conditions, the State has been divided into 10 agroclimatic zones, each zone having either a regional research station or a sub-station to solve the regional problems. The agroclimatic zones have been characterised with respect to climate, physiography, with their socio-economic

status. The problems of each zone have been identified and prioritised and research is under way to solve the regional problems.

Agriculture being a complex multidimensional enterprise depends on various factors agroclimatic conditions, technologies, inputs, biotic and socio-economic considerations. Though at present, it provides employment directly or indirectly to 64% of the State's population and has the potentiality of providing to 75 %, we have to reduce pressure on agriculture and divert dependence to non-agricultural sectors. In the U.S.A. one person provides food for 21, in our country and State it is either one to one or 1.5 and less than 2 to one. Agriculture has been given the status of industry and has to be made remunerative and attractive for that purpose. The general aversion to agriculture has to be changed by making it more commercial. The drudgery in agriculture has to be changed by mechanization. Farm machinery is yet to find their place in general household agriculture. Implements and machinery so far developed have not gained farmer's popularity.

It needs planning and execution. In spite of all efforts potentials to be created cannot irrigate more than 45-50% of the area under cultivation. These unirrigated areas of 50-55 %, mainly will be in the inland districts where rainfall management will form the dominant part of agricultural development in future. About 50% of the State's highland can be brought under fruits, agro-forestry and vegetables. Besides, 50% of area under upland rice (0.9 mha) can be diverted to non-rice crops like ragi, arhar, groundnut, castor and vegetables. A sizeable area under handicapped ecology of rice can be diverted to sugarcane, the productivity of which is much more than rice. It needs judicious planning to run our sugar meals for 150-200 days a year against the present level of 95 - 115 days. Some of the waterlogged areas will be put rice-fish system, for which efforts are underway.

Rice substituting crops for different districts under rainfed conditions have been identified. With experimental data for 12-14 years on upland rice, taking water requirement, probability of rainfall and soil moisture into consideration, area getting 20 mm rainfall/week on 70% probability basis continuously for 12 weeks has been considered safe for cultivation of upland rice. Areas with 9-12 weeks of such rainfall need mixed cropping or diversion from rice to non-rice crops. On this basis safe weeks for upland

rice in different districts including Kalahandi have been identified. Different systems of inter-cropping (rice based, arhar based) have been identified too for different districts.

Computer simulation of net photosynthesis of different crops showed a potential dry matter production of 1000, 280 and 170 t/ha for crops like sugarcane, maize and soyabean. Depending on radiation and energy required for production of carbohydrates, it is estimated that under efficient management systems grain yields of a 100-ground day-rice crop can be 16 tonnes/ha. All these indicate that present level of productivity of 67 tonnes of sugarcane, 1.45 t. rice (2.23 ton of rice grain, *Dhana*) can be easily doubled. Such break-through can be possible through replacement of seeds, 20%), (against 2% at present in rice) increasing fertilizer consumption and adoption of improved management practices. By 2001 fertilizer consumption is to increase to 100 kg/ha. The seed replacement will increase to 20% in rice, 10% in pulses and oilseeds. It is a stupendous task. Agricultural research findings are to be made into acceptable technologies and these are to be popularised through demonstrations, and trainings. The combined roles of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and Regional Research Stations have to increase in collaboration with the line Departments (Agriculture, Horticulture, Soil Conservation, Animal husbandry, Fisheries, Rural Development, etc.) to achieve the goals. At present, involvement of departments like animal husbandry, fisheries, soil conservation and horticulture is much less than agriculture in the fields of training and demonstration.

Besides adopting suitable cropping patterns for rainfed (sole crop, inter crop, sequence crop) and irrigated areas, transport, marketing and agrobased industries are important. Agrobased industries on products like groundnut, sugarcane, tamarind, maize, neem, vegetables and fruits, dairying poultry, etc. are important and should receive immediate attention.

Agricultural Policy

In order to give agriculture the status of industry agricultural policy of the state has been formulated with the following objectives :

- i) To double the production of food grains and oilseeds,
- ii) Agriculture should not be considered only a way of life at subsistence level but it has to be converted to a profitable commercial

- iii) proposition so as to attract the youths to take up agriculture as a business,
- iv) To create more employment through making agriculture more progressive,
- v) To consider agriculture an important means to eradicate poverty,
- vi) To make the improved methods of cultivation of advanced countries reach the farmers of the State,
- vii) To make ecologically handicapped and problem soils worthy of agriculture (flooded and waterlogged soils, erosion devastated soils, shifting cultivation areas, waste lands, saline and alkali soils). To make these lands suitable for profitable agriculture, special coordinated programmes are to be taken up,
- viii) To create entrepreneurs in the sphere of agriculture and allied subjects,
- ix) To create skilled workers required in different fields of Agriculture,
- x) To increase mechanization (use of improved implements, tools and farm machinery) in the fields of agriculture and to make it more progressive and productive,
- xi) To create and expand agrobased industry, food processing and to use biotechnology in the field of agriculture,
- xii) To increase and intensify production of flowers, vegetables, fruits, milk and dairy products, meat, eggs, and poultry, fish, potato and onion. It is envisaged to double their production in 5-10 years,
- xiii) To extend the cultivation of tea, coffee, rubber and cashewnut.
- xiv) In the fields of irrigation, individual and collective efforts are to be encouraged and the incomplete projects are to be completed. About 50% of the gross cultivated areas is to be brought under irrigation,
- xv) To undertake an extensive training programme in agriculture it is necessary to increase awareness for scientific agriculture,
- xvi) Private entrepreneurs are to be encouraged for marketing of agricultural products and by-products,
- xvii) To exploit the production potentially of different agro-climatic zones, introduce suitable cash crop oriented cropping patterns and
- xviii) To make agriculture an enterprise and to make it more productive and export-oriented.

NEW THRUST AREAS OF POPULATION EDUCATION & PROJECT FORMULATION STRATEGIES DURING NINTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

Ramakanta Rout

The second phase of Population Education was to be ended by 31st December, 1996. But it has been extended to June 1997 due to obvious reasons. The period from January '97 to June '97 to is a crucial period, so to say, a preparatory stage for the Third phase. A new Action Plan from July '97 to 2001 covering 4½ years will be implemented during 9th plan period. New areas have been discussed in PPR Meetings and National Seminars. The report of International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), 1994 is the basis on which the P.E. Project for ensuing years will rest on keeping due emphasis on the problems of the state, district and regions. In other words the Action Plan includes the recommendations of the ICPD held at Cairo putting emphasis on the Mission Report by Christina Bierring and Jens Peterson, November 5-11, 1996 relating to state of Karnataka. Besides the DAE, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India has issued following priority areas on which the project proposal will be based on.

1. Recommendations made in the ICPD Conference, 1994 held in Cairo.
2. Integration of Population Education concepts in Post Literacy and Continuing Education.
3. Integration of Population Education concepts in the ongoing programmes of workers living in slum areas.
4. Observation made by UNFPA Mission.
5. State specific needs.
6. Any other information.

The International Conference on Population and Development includes Delegations from 179 countries with 10757 participants. It negotiated to finalise a Programme of Action on Population and development for the next 20 years. In its XVI chapters report covering 115 pages document, it endorses a new strategy which emphasises the numerous linkages between population and development. It too focuses on meeting the needs of individual women and men. Empowerment of women providing them with more choices through education and health services and promoting skill development and employment. The programme of Action, too, includes goals in regard to education for girl child. It includes further reduction of infant, child and maternity mortality rate. The concerns relating to population, environment and consumption pattern, the family, internal and international migration, prevention and control of HIV/AIDS, gender equity and equality, provision of reproductive health services including family planning and sexual health, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) technology research and development were emphasised. The ICPD Preparatory Committee resolved that population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development would be the theme of the Cairo Conference, 1994.

The National Workshop on Population Education held at Kodaikanal by Directorate of Adult Education (DAE) from May 27-28, 1996 aimed at identifying following thrust areas and to develop approaches for implementation of the project in its third phase from 1997-2001.

- 1) Identification of Major Thrust Areas to be focused in the third phase of Population Education Project from 1997-2001.
- 2) Identification of suitable strategies for implementation of the project and approaches for integration of P.E. activities in continuing education.
- 3) Expansion of P.E. Project in the third phase in the states not covered so far.
- 4) Strategies for Training/Orientation of volunteers and personnels connected with Post-Literacy/C.E. Programme.
- 5) Innovative Programmes including monitoring and impact studies.

The thrust areas identified for integration in Adult Education Programme suggested in the Workshop are :-

1. Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights.
2. Fostering human dignity especially to women folk and care for aged and helpless.
3. Gender equality and equity and women's empowerment.
4. Adolescent reproductive health and sexuality education.
5. Family life education in changing life style.
6. Preventive and creative education for STD, AIDs/HIV.
7. Violence against women and children.
8. Sustainable development and quality of life.
9. Rural migration to urban slums.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India has changed Population Education to, Population and Development Education in the Third phase. There is shift of paradigm in the light of changing scenario based on the recommendations of the National as well as International conferences of Population and Development.

This is the time to take right step and determine the project formulation strategies for the third phase. In addition to due emphasis on recommendations of ICPD, 1994 at Cairo and National Workshops priority will be paid on the needs of the state, district and locality. In other words ours will be an Action Plan need based and area specific highlighting recommendations of ICPD, 1994. We are to prepare the Action Plan for four and half years including requirements of ZSSs, VAs, DIETs, DRUs and other units of Population Education working in the state. Integration of population education with Adult Literacy Programme is the key to furthering population education. Since quality of life is the be all and end all of P.E. as well as literacy programme economic development plays major role in it. As has been emphasised in the first Internal Conference at Bucharest by the then Union Minister of Health Dr. Karan Singh, 'Development is the best contraceptive', the same theme has been repeated in Mexico in 1984 and then in Cairo 1994. In the third phase of the P.E. this has become the major theme in population education. With this background and theme we may decide our course of action in the oncoming days which is the transitional belt between two countries. The issues are opened for discussion not only on the eve of the second phase but also by the turn of the century. This is the most crucial human problem which would decide the future of the mankind.

*Project Coordinator, Population Education
S.R.C. Bhubaneswar*

STATE NEWS in Brief

Chief Minister stresses on infrastructural development:

Chief Minister, Shri J.B. Patnaik has underlined the need for infrastructure development so that India could compete with other Asian powers and achieve higher growth rate.

Inaugurating a seminar on 'Infrastructural Development of Orissa-Options and Strategies' organised by Alpik Finance Limited at Bhubaneswar on 12.02.97 the Chief Minister enumerated, the strengths and weaknesses of Indian Economy in the light of present day post liberalisation economic scenario. While skilled man-power, established corporate sectors, thriving financial institutions, extensive use of English language are some of the strengths of Indian economy, the glaring constraints are a bloated and destructive bureaucracy which causes obstacles for the success of the liberalisation, rigid labour unions where the union leaders need to be more pragmatic and progressive and infrastructural weaknesses, he said.

Stating that Orissa, known for its ancient maritime past and excellence in trade and commerce, had an added advantage over other states of the country, not only because of its abundant natural resources, but for several other reasons. Deploring that Orissa was historically neglected over the years, he said that even after independence precious little have been made for infrastructural development of the state. Roads, railways, ports, airline, abundant power and water alongwith educational and health facilities must be developed in a planned manner.

Shri Patnaik said that in the Railways sector, there has practically been no development in the State for the last so many years. Daitari and Bansapani line which is considered to be a life-line for the State to accelerate the pace of mineral development will ensure development of steel industries. Though govt. of India has no funds, financier out side the country are willing to fund the project sensing the urgency of the railway line. Govt. of India is willing to take the loan for this porpose and this railway line is expected to come up by 2000 AD, he said. Similarly, Sambalpur-Talchar railway would not only bring about improved culture relationship between coastal Orissa and western Orissa, at the same time, business, trade and commerce would flourish in the state. This project is expected to be completed by 1999.

Speaking about the development of ports in the state, he said that Gopalpur which was started as a minor port in the eighties, could assume the importance of Singapore because of its good location. The IIT, Madras had taken up detailed study of development of ports in the state and state Govt. is keen to develop Dhamara, Balasore district as a port, he said.

Chief Minister said that in the power sector self-sufficiency in power is not the end of the story. Various thermal and hydro projects are coming up in the state and a power giant like CEPA is ready to set up a power plant of 3600 MW capacity. He deplored that the weakness of the national grid is a hindrance to transportation of power and 5th Plan ought to pay adequate attention for strengthening of national grid for which there may not be any dearth of funds in the capital market.

Shri Patnaik said that the State has abundant water resources. 10% of national water resources being available in the State. Mahanadi - Rusikulya could be an excellent source of water for Paradeep and Gopalpur projects, whereas Hirakud reservoir could provide sufficient water to Aluminium - Alumina plant and power plants in Sambalpur district.

Chief Minister added that China being a communist country could achieve a growth rate of 10% whereas India's growth rate stood at 5%. India should compete with other Asian powers. Since capital is available in the global market, it is no longer a problem. States should provide attractive facilities to attract capital, he said.

Welcoming the Chief Minister, the Chairman and the Managing Director of Alpik Finance Limited, Shri S.Rabi Kumar enumerated facilities in various states during last 5-6 years. He hoped that Orissa under the able guidance and dynamic leadership of the Chief Minister, Shri J.B. Patnaik would become prosperous and strong and offered willingness of his company to participate in the development of State by providing technical expertise and equity participation.

Shri S.B. Mishra, Additional Chief Secretary and other experts deliberated upon development of surface transport, health facilities and ports in the state.

Oriya as Compulsory subject in non-Oriya medium Schools :

Sources reveal that the State Government have taken a firm decision for introduction of Oriya as a compulsory subject to be taught from standard IV to standard X in all non-Oriya medium schools of the State.

Health Delivery System to be revamped :

Sources reveal that the State Government have formulated Rs. 4174 crore project for revamping and strengthening of the health delivery system in the State. The project is likely to be implemented with World Bank's loan assistance.

Steps to enrich the Temple Fund :

Sources reveal that the Jagannath Temple Management Committee have decided to utilise the endowment property belonging to the Temple for enriching the temple fund. Among various proposals a decision is said to have been taken for construction of a Jatri Nivas, shopping complexes and construction of apartments on the *Badadanda* etc. It is further learnt that the Management Committee have taken a historic decision of extending pension facilities to the retired employees of the Temple.

Gandhiji's Urn :

Gandhiji's ashes reportedly deposited in the S.B.I. at Cuttack on 29th November, 1950 by the Secretary to the-then Chief Minister, late Naba Krushna Choudhury was handed over to Tushar Arun Gandhi, the great grandson of Mahatma Gandhi on the afternoon of January, 28th at Cuttack for ritual immersion in the Ganges.

Minister for Tourism and Culture Sri Bhupinder Singh accompanied Tushar Arun Gandhi to Allahabad for immersion of sacred ashes of Gandhiji at the Sangam on the occasion of his 49th death anniversary.

Police to play a Protective Role :

Police to play a protective role and make themselves worthy of people's trust. Chief Minister, Shri J.B. Patnaik addressing a State level symposium on 'Police Administration and Society' organised by SNEH, a voluntary organisation on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Orissa Police on 28.01.97, said that the police should be adequately trained to effectively create

a fear psychosis among the erring citizens and law breakers. The symposium was also addressed by noted lawyer, Shri Gangadhar Rath, Chief Secretary, Sri R.K. Bhujabal, D.G. of Police, Shri A.B. Tripathy, former D.G. of Police, Shri Sarat Chandra Mishra, M.L.A. Shri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan, former Chief Secretary, Shri N.K. Panda, Senior educationist, Dr. Suryakanta Das, President O.P.A., Sri Bijay Kumar Patnaik and Chairperson of the State womens' Commission, Smt. Lopamudra Mohanty and others.

A Private Medical College in the offing :

Sources reveal that the Vinayak Mission Lord Jagannath Institute of Medical Sciences & Research, a unit of the TKVTSS is going to establish a private Medical College, a Dental College & a Hospital at Sijna in Bhubaneswar over a land stretch of 55 acres.

Two Aluminium Industries in Orissa :

Sources reveal that the Jayakrishna Group of Industries, Hyderabad is contemplating to set up an aluminium extension project at the cost of Rs. 17 Cr. and an aluminium wire road project @ 8 Cr. in Orissa in the near future.

Eight more private Sugar Mills in Orissa by the 9th Plan :

Location

1. Rengalbed in Deogarh Dist.
2. Jaipur in Jagatsinghpur Dist.
3. Borigumma in Koraput Dist.
4. Bhanjanagar
5. Boudh
6. Bhadrak
7. Dhenkanal
8. Kendrapara

Promoters

- M/s Uniworth Agro. Ltd.
- Sakthi Sugars Ltd.
- M/s Orissa Sugars Ltd.
- M/s Surya Sugar Ltd.
- Ponni Sugars & Chemicals Ltd.
- Dharani Sugars & Chemicals Ltd.
- to be finalised -
- to be finalised -

Steel Plant at Duburi :

Sources said that the Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd. is out to set up a joint Sector Steel Project at the cost of 1510 Cr. over a land stretch of 2500 acres at Duburi. The Project is being promoted by NINL, MMTC, IPICOL, MECON and two foreign collaborators.

Aromatic Industry in the State Soon :

The State Government is planning to set up an aromatic industry by mid'97. Orissa could

take a lead in such venture with its available natural resources. Plant species like citronela, cavender, Cinamon, Vetiver and lemon grass could be grown. The Fragrance and Flavours Association of India (FFI) has reportedly assured the Government to buy all the products of the industry during a seminar on 'Development of Aromatic Oil and Industry in the State' organised recently by IPICOL & FFI on the occasion of Agrovision-'97. The Seminar was addressed by Sri Ramakanta Mishra, Minister of State for Agriculture and presided by Sri B.K. Patnaik, Commissioner-Cum-Secretary, Agriculture.

A Book on GWR of Orissa Released :

The book, "Ground Water Resources of Orissa" published by the Cetral Ground Water Board (CGWB) was released by the Deputy Chief Minister Shri Basanta Kumar Biswal at the Secretariat on 27.01.97. The book discussed possible remedial measures for the drought prone areas of Koraput, Kalahandi and Berhampur. The book held out the possibilities of harnessing monsoon run off water through artificial re-charge techniques like percolation tanks, nalla bunding, gully plugging and sub-surface dykes. As per the findings the total number of additional structures feasible in the State was 856714 energised dug-wells, 29140 filter points, 3688 shallow tube-wells, 1868 medium deep tube-wells which would create 3.8 million hectares irrigation potential. Deputy Chief Minister Shri Biswal emphasised that the CGWB and the Ground Water Survey Department should make a study on ground water resources particularly in the 20 affected blocks of KBK Districts.

A Mental Hospital to be Set up :

Sources revealed that the State Government was contemplating to set up a mental Hospital in the State like the one at Ranchi.

CITD award for Nalco :

Nalco has bagged the prestigious CITD (Council of Industrial Trade Development) Silver Jubilee Navaratna Trophy this year.

Nalco CMD, S N Johri received the award from President of India, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma at a function held at Rastrapati Bhawan on January 13 last for commendable production, productivity, performance quality and innovation. The company had earlier bagged the CITD special gold award in

the year 1994.

Chief Minister calls for solving poverty and unemployment crises :

Chief Minister Sri J. B Patnaik stressed the need to direct all efforts towards redressing the problem of poverty and unemployment for the State's overall progress.

Unfurling the national flag and taking the salute at the ceremonial parade on the occasion of the 48th Republic Day at Bhubaneswar, Shri Patnaik said that the failure to break the shackles of poverty had emerged as the biggest impediment in the path of India's development.

'The urgent need was to focus on eradication of poverty and spread of education, he added. The Chief Minister said that, 'the problems of Orissa are more acute than India's. Despite huge natural resources, the State continues to reel under sheer poverty,' he added. He urged the people of State to take pledge for the development of agriculture and industry of the State.

The Deputy Chief Minister, Shri Basanta Kumar Biswal, took the salute after unfurling the tricolour at Cuttack. In Bhubaneswar, contingents of the CRPF, 120 Infantry battalion, Orissa State Armed Police, Railway Protection force, the NCC scouts and guides, homeguards and college and school students participated in the parade alongwith a new addition--an environment brigade.

State police award presented :

Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik presented the State Police Award to the personnels from police force, firebrigade, homeguards and civil defence who have received President's police award this year.

The Chief Minister handed over medals and cash prizes to the awardees at a function organised at Soochana Bhawan by the Home Department.

Thai Group Evinces Interest in Various Sectors of Development :

Mr. Prachai Leophairatana, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Thai Petrochemical Industry alongwith Mrs. Prachai Leophairatana, Dr. Pramuan Leophairatana, Director, Commercial and Mr. Cyril A. Alapaatu Adviser to the Company visited Orissa on Jan. 30 and 31 last.

They were invited to the State by Chief Minister, Orissa, as a follow-up visit to Chief Minister's discussion held with them in Thailand. Mr. Prachai Leophairatana is heading one of the biggest Groups in Thailand with a turnover of more than Rs. 15,000 crores.

The Thai Group visited Bargarh and inspected the IDCOL Cement Plant. They are interested to purchase 51% shareholdings in the proposed disinvestment of IDCOL Cement shares.

They met the Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister, Industries Minister and other senior officials. They are interested in investment about Rs. 300 crores in a Iron Ore Pelletisation Plant near Barsuan mines of OMC. They will set up a joint venture company with OMC for producing 3 million tonnes of iron ore pellets out of which 50% will be exported and balance 50% will be used in Orissa. They are also interested in downstream Petrochemical industries. They have agreed to team up with Nippon Denro who are setting up one 9 million tonnes per annum Oil Refinery in Paradeep. In fact' the down stream petrochemical complex will be located next to Nippon Denro Refinery so that there is complete integration with the Oil Refinery.

The Thai Group have agreed to re-locate one of their modern jute plants from Thailand to Orissa. In Thailand there is heavy shortage of jute as most of the lands formerly used for jute growing are now used for paddy growing due to high export price for paddy. IDC officials will visit Thailand in this regard for negotiating joint venture for relocation of jute mill alongwith Konark Jute Mill of IDLC.

Mr. Prachai Leophairatana has informed the Chief Minister that he would be sending different teams of officials in the near future for arriving at detailed agreement for various projects to be located in the State.

Japan's ITOCHU multinational is eager to invest in Orissa :

A nine-member high power team of Itochu, a multinational giant of Japan toured Orissa in the last week of January. The team called on Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik, Deputy Chief Minister, Sri B.K. Biswal, Industries Minister, Sri Niranjan Patnaik and other high officials of the State Government in connection with Orissa's regeneration of economy & industrial growth. While calling on the Chief Minister in the forenoon of

January 30, they confirmed that Itochu was willing to invest in generation of power in the State, particularly in Sindol Hydel Project (320 MW), 200 MW Chipilima Power Project Phase I' and the 3rd & 4th units of OPGC (420 MW). The Company, it was reported, was willing to buy equity shares of OPGC and help in exporting power to neighbouring states.

Itochu was also willing to develop in the State an Industrial Park of international quality like the one in Thailand which the Company has promoted in collaboration with the Thai Co Bag Pakong. The proposed Park could be set up on 20,000 acre land either in Paradeep or in Duburi.

They further showed their interest in laying railway tracks & production of Steel, petrochemicals, non-ferrous metals, tourism & pisciculture. As regards their involvement in Steel sector, they had already liaisoned with TISCO & Neelachal Ispat Nigam.

Mr. Koyamita, Advisor to the President, Itochu would finalise a few project reports and would open an office in Bhubaneswar shortly.

Chief Minister, Shri J.B. Patnaik thanked the members of the team for their visit and appreciated their prompt compliance to his request which he made in Japan during his economic mission tour in October last.

Industrial uplift plan :

A team of Japan's Itochu Corporation led by Mr. Koyamita called on Deputy Chief Minister Sri Basant Kumar Biswal at his Secretariat Chamber on January 29 last and discussed installation of port-based industries. Sri Biswal impressed on the team to explore possibilities of setting up a Food Processing Plant at Paradeep where an Industrial Park would be set up on an expanse of 10,000 acres.

Saheed Divas at Bhubaneswar :

The Martyrs' Day, organised by the Orissa Rajya Swadhinata Sangrami Samiti to commemorate the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, was observed at Saheed Minar in front of the State Museum with Deputy Chief Minister Shri Hemananda Biswal as the Chief Guest and Sri Suresh Kumar Routray, Minister of State, Excise as guest of honour on January 30 last. Eminent freedom fighter Sri Biswambhar Parida presided.

Drinking Water for drought-hit areas :

Minister for Rural Development Sk. Matlub Ali who toured the drought-hit areas of Sundargarh, Sambalpur, Balangir, Nuapada and Kalahandi recently, cautioned the district administration to ensure free supply of drinking water. "Areas which do not have definite source of water can be served by in-take wells, installed in the nearby rivers. Water from such wells may be supplied through pipes. 25 points in Balangir district have been identified & follow up actions should be augmented", advised the Minister.

"Orissa Consumex - 97".

Deputy Chief Minister Shri Hemananda Biswal inaugurated the "Orissa Consumex-97" organised by M.J. Corporation (Vanijya Mela), Bhubaneswar unit on February 1st at Kalinga-Ashoka Hotel and went round the stalls, pitched by various companies including reputed companies of outside the State.

Report on important activities and achievements relating to Labour and Employment Department for the month of January, 1997 :

1. Labour Administration :

- (a) 9 Industrial disputes relating to bonus, termination of services, wages and allowances in different establishments have been settled during the month and workmen concerned have been benefitted.
- (b) During the month of January, 1997, 37 conciliation failure reports were received and 2 failure reports referred for adjudication to

the Industrial and Labour Courts.

2. Minimum Wages Act, 1948

7154 inspections were conducted under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and 6994 cases of irregularities were detected. A sum of Rs. 1,60,812.80 was collected from the employers and paid to the workmen.

3. Workmen's Compensation Act. 1923

55 cases were disposed of under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 and a sum of Rs. 16,55,460.32 was recovered and paid to the workmen/Legal heirs towards compensation for 27 cases.

4. Child Labour Rehabilitation/Elimination :

16 Child Labour projects have been sanctioned in the following districts to eliminate Child Labour.

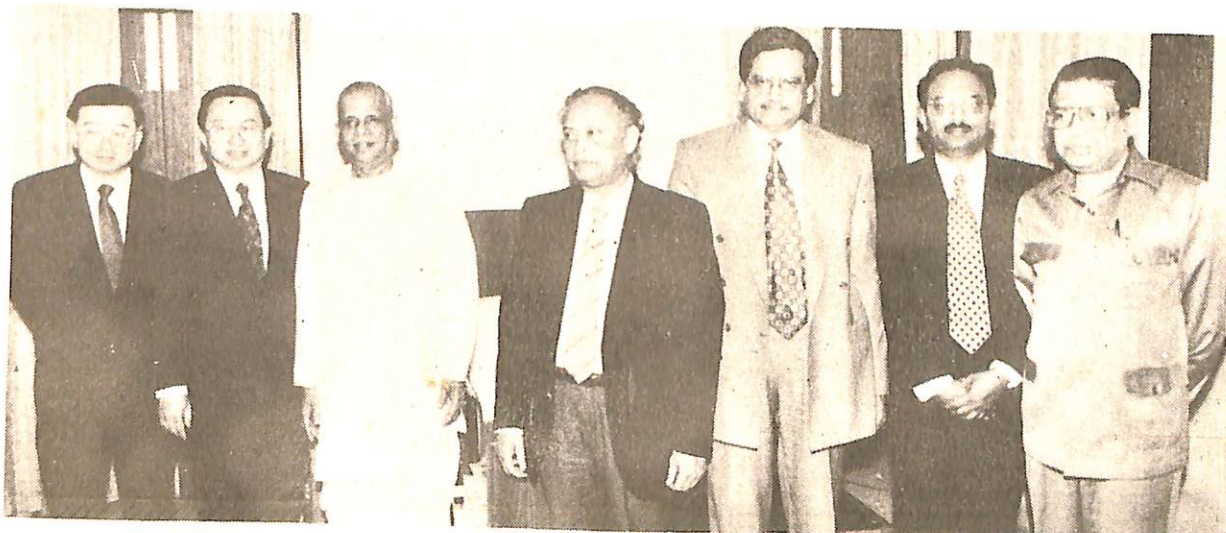
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|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Mayurbhanj | 6. Jharsuguda | 11. Koraput |
| 2. Angul | 7. Sonepur | 12. Nowrangpur |
| 3. Sambalpur | 8. Nuapara | 13. Malkangiri |
| 4. Bargarh | 9. Bolangir | 14. Rayagada |
| 5. Deogarh | 10. Kalahandi | 15. Gajapati |
| | | 16. Ganjam |

Under this scheme 20/40 special school shall be opened for 100/50 Child Labour for non-formal education and vocational training with ultimate object of eliminating the Child Labour from hazardous occupations.

1, 51,752 Child Labourers have been identified so far and 22,338 Child Labourers have been admitted into 356 special Schools opened under the National Child Labour Projects.



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik witnessing a cultural programme in the National Integration Youth Camp organised by the Netajee Birth Centenary committee at Satyabrata Stadium, Cuttack on 27.1.1997.



Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik is seen with the delegation of Thai Group headed by Mr. Prachai Leophairatana, Chairman & Chief Executive; Mrs. Prachai Leophairatana; Dr. Prauman Leophairatana, Director, Commercial and Mr. Cyril A. Alappat, Adviser to the Thai Petrochemicals Company in his official residence on 31.1.1997.



During the centenary celebration of Netajee Subhas Chandra Bose Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik is handing over the Jai Hind Torch at Netajee's Birth place in Oriya Bazar, Cuttack to Shri Ajit Kumar Panja, M.P. who will take it to Calcutta, Netajee's place of activities. (18.1.1997)



Shri J.B. Patnaik, Chief Minister unveiling the statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at Rasulgarh Square, Bhubaneswar on 26.1.1997.