

**REPORT ON EVALUATION STUDY**  
**ON**  
**NGOs WORKING FOR SC/ST PEOPLE OF ASSAM.**



***CONDUCTED BY***

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## PREFACE

A large number of schemes are being implemented by the NGOs pertaining to education, health, income generating programmes, vocational training, medical care centre, mobile dispensary etc. Most of the NGOs depend upon governmental assistance for implementation of these schemes.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi, and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, New Delhi has been assisting NGOs for implementing various schemes for the development of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes.

This study was undertaken to evaluate the functioning of the NGOs working for the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes who have been financed by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, New Delhi.

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## CHAPTER – I

### INTRODUCTORY NOTE ON N G O S AND THEIR ROLE ON DEVELOPMENT PLANNING.

Indian socio-cultural milieu since hoary past was characterised by a great tradition in philanthropic work. The tradition continues unimpaired till today although the nature, application, involvement have undergone metamorphic changes over the centuries. However, the basic character viz helping poor, destitute, handicapped, economically and socially weaker sections et al, remains unchanged. In India, the motto of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi became a path finder particularly in the twentieth century. Gandhi was a great believer of the inherent potentialities of the voluntary organisations. He even wanted that the Congress which was instrumental in bringing independence to India should stay away from running the administration, because power breeds corruption and absolute power breeds absolute corruption. He therefore wanted the great national organisation to devote itself in the national reconstruction by converting it into 'Lok Sevak Dal'. His concept, however, was partially accepted by the Congress in the form of 'non-government agencies.' A set of national leaders emerged to fulfil the wishes of Gandhi and established a number of voluntary organisations to work in tandem with government agenda. These organisations devoted themselves in the onerous task of eradicating the social evils from the society. The Harijan and tribal welfare got precedence in their scheme of work. The agencies became catalytic agents in establishing village industries, marketing and credit co-operatives and educational institutions in rural areas.

Of late, the character of the old voluntary organisations has undergone tangible changes bordering on professionalism strengthened by governmental financial assistance. It is widely felt that NGOs could play positive role in removing the imbalance of development among the SCs and STs, rural poor, bonded labour and such vulnerable groups. The functioning pattern of these new set of NGOs is different owing to their allegiance to the existing administrative structure. They grow rapidly with the governmental patronage opening subsidiaries, but at the same time losing some of the features of non governmental agencies. Unscrupulous politicians and vested interests try to enter into the NGOs indirectly. Still there are NGOs with

dedicated workers coming from the grass root and they serve the people silently without any media coverage.

Since independence in 1947 until the VIIth Five Year Plan (1980-85) there was not much effort on the part of the government to define the role of the NGOs or to recognise the role of the NGOs in the planned development. The tendency until now was to equate the work of the NGOs with only limited spheres like social welfare and charity work. The concept of democratic socialism in the planning process, later changed to socialistic pattern boosted the necessity of involvement of general people outside the periphery of the educated and elite section under Sixth Five Year Plan document felt the need of involving NGOs as catalytic agent that could motivate and mobilise mass people in the development effort and meet the demands of the people in the grass root level. The NGOs could contribute in a large measure in the optimal utilisation and development of renewable energy by forming association at the block level. Besides associating in the 'Health for All' programmes they could be engaged in family welfare, health and nutrition, education and other community development programmes such as water management, soil conservation, minimum needs programme, promotion of eco-balance, tribal development in all its aspect and environmental protection .

Encouraged by the Planning Commission, hitherto passive welfare organisations, jumped into action and today India possesses as many as 1,00,000 NGOs big and small, of which only 30% are reported functioning effectively. The rise is conspicuous over the last two decades due to rising awareness, weakening governmental delivery mechanism in respect of poverty alleviation programmes and assertive motive of democratic rights and increase funding of NGOs.

The role of NGOs during VIIth Plan (1985-90) was largely visualised so as to make vulnerable sections of people as self reliant as possible. NGOs were expected to demonstrate how indigenous resources could be utilised for human resources based on local indigenous skills and knowledge leading to uniform development. NGOs could demonstrate how modern technology has the potential ingredients for simpler application befitting rural poor and tribal scheduled caste and other backward classes as the socio-cultural milieu of these sections of population varies significantly with that of the much advanced sections of population. For this NGOs could train a cadre

of grass root workers who will be entrusted to mobilise and organise the downtrodden and to generate awareness to oversee the implementation of development schemes at the village level.

In the VIII th plan (1992-97) increased emphasis has been laid on the role of NGOs. The plan document states "A nation-wide network of NGOs will be created. In order to facilitate the working of the network three schemes relating to creation, replication, multiplication and consultancy development have been worked out by the Planning Commission. Efforts will be made to evolve a system of providing one window service to the NGOs working in the area of integrated development". It has been acknowledged that NGOs involve people of grass root level in the development process and relate themselves to working with the masses. They largely substantiate the efforts of government with regard to provisions of welfare programmes. It has been observed that because of the shyness of rural mass and STs and SCs and prevailing red tapism and cumbersome procedure, rural folk hesitate to approach officials to place their grievances. Hence they need persons who maintain close affinity with the people and who can speak on behalf of the disadvantaged sections. NGOs like ASSEFA (Association of Sarva Farms), an NGO constituted with Gandhian ideology devotes untiringly for the improvement of community health, and nutrition, education, literacy and poverty alleviation. The Association functions as local planning and target setting agency. In addition to the allocations of local resources, the NGO contributes in providing services which are vital to local projects viz social welfare, infrastructural development, agricultural inputs, marketing of products at competitive prices etc. While creating awareness the NGO keeps in mind certain basic principles like charity, development, participation, local resource mobilisation, awareness, self employment and last but not least co-ordination among NGOs.

Another example of successful functioning by NGO is the CAPART. It constitutes a body comprising officials of the Ministry of Rural Development, Social activists and representatives of voluntary agencies which determines the parameters for sanctioning of schemes for the voluntary sector.

The growth of voluntary sector has been phenomenal over the decades exceeding six figures which excludes trade unions and educational institutions and includes only those registered ones for certification for receiving foreign aid. It appears success of various governmental schemes, by and large, is attributed to the role played by NGOs. The role of NGOs in the pre independence days was largely confined to charity, relief and social welfare. The NGOs of those days concentrated more on reforming the society by way of eliminating caste considerations in social interaction. The Independent India brought a new lease of life to the NGOs as the planning process boosted up the essentiality of those organisations as peoples' participation became the catchword. It was felt that to bring a sea change to the age old neglect shown to the backward sections, NGOs headed by local talents should be involved. Thus the recognition granted to the NGOs by government became more explicit which is reflected in the allocation of funds to the voluntary organisations. From Rs. 40 million in the First Five Year Plan the allocation increased to Rs. 2 billion in the VII<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan.

The above government NGO interface provided philip to implement successfully the development schemes meant for improvement of the living standard of the common people. The involvement of NGOs enabled the planners to sort out the deficiencies and put new strategies in the action oriented planning.

Unlike the pre independence NGOs, the present day NGOs are formal organisations, in the sense, they are concentrating mostly on socio-economic development of the selected target groups such as scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and weaker sections or depressed classes and employ whole time paid workers receiving government grants. New areas have been included in their sphere of activities like renewable source of energy, family welfare, health for all programmes, water management and soil conservation, disaster management, environmental protection, computer training, youth welfare, women welfare, religious, cultural organisations, etal. The nature of daily routine changes as government aid flows to the NGOs needing the NGOs to maintain paper works in large measure. Old autonomy is curtailed. It is admitted that in the changing scenario NGOs cannot function simply on charity. Thus funds are made available to the NGOs from Central Social Welfare

Board, Peoples' Action for Development (PAD) now renamed as CAPART (Council for Advancement for Peoples' Action for Rural Technology).

Above pen picture of NGOs in respect of day to day functioning has undergone changes arising out of governmental policy of economic liberalisation. Most of the workers consider the NGOs as bread earning source sans dedication giving good bye to the old philanthropic character. Political leaders try to enter into the NGOs and NGOs in quest of fund often fail into the trap although unintentionally. The VIIth Five Year Plan document's announcement of creation of the National Council for Voluntary Agencies and attempt of the government of India to set up a code of conduct for the NGOs. In 1988 brought remarkable changes into the old structural pattern of NGOs. Global institutions like the World Bank, I M F, U N D P and various donor agencies and consortia are entering into the nation's economic arena in a big scale and the NGOs are considered as favourite agencies. "Thus the rapacious drive of a transnationalised, technologically driven capitalism provides yet another shift in the capitalist thinking on the role of the State." (Rajni Kothari/ NGOs the state and World Capitalism' – Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 21, No. 50, 1988). In this way the hallowed Nehru – Mahalanabis, Gandhi – Vinobha concept of voluntarism has undergone metamorphic changes over the decades in respect of functioning of NGOs of today. 'Thus it can be said that relationship between government and NGOs has been mixed and is likely to continue so in the prevailing socio economic and political environment. There are areas of agreement and disagreement of co-operation as well as confrontation. It has been generally observed that the more active dynamic and radical the NGO is, the more troublesome is its relationship with government.' (R.B. Jain – NGOs in India – Their Role, Influence and Problems in the NGOs in Development' – Edited by Noorjahan Bava – Kanishka Publishers, Distributors, New Delhi, 1997, p-141). The new central system introduced by government what Kothari called GONGO (government organised NGO) will curtail much of the freedom of voluntary organisations which were so assiduously formulated by the erstwhile selfless dedicated national leaders of the movement in the past decades. In spite of all the constraints it is universally accepted that the role of the NGOs in the qualitative improvement of the life style of the weaker sections cannot be underestimated.



## **TRIBAL SITUATION IN ASSAM:**

The present evaluation study is related to the NGO functioning in the tribal and SC areas and it is relevant to present a pen picture of the tribal and SC situation in Assam in this context.

Assam with as many as 23 scheduled tribes, 14 in the two hill districts and 9 in 21 plains districts with two separate lists of tribes viz tribes living in the hills under the VIth Schedule and those living in the plains districts in plains tribal list presents a unique picture of unity in diversity. Because of the diversities of material culture, religious beliefs and practices, educational status, folkways etc. of the tribes, undertaking single line development activities becomes a problem. Unlike other states of the Indian Union a single window effort of development is not possible here. Besides the alien government in pre independence days did not care much for the socio economic development of these tribal communities. The areas inhabited by tribes were either 'excluded' or 'partially excluded' from the mainstream development. Instead, the tribals were left aloof to manage their own affairs and the administration did not interfere in their internal socio cultural matter unless it was absolutely necessary from the point of view of maintaining law and order. The 'Laissez Faire' policy or policy of segregation and isolation made the tribals more or less museum specimens. Inter tribe linkage was not encouraged and the hill tribes came into contact with the plains people in connection with trade and commerce of bare essential items of day to day use. Occasional visit to the weekly markets was the connecting link between tribal and non tribal population.

The alien government, however, had undertaken some development schemes which also benefited tribal people. These schemes were primarily meant for providing basic amenities to the employees of the British rulers. Under the British rulers the Christian Missionaries spread over to far flung interior villages and started introducing education, medical and other social welfare schemes in the tribal areas. Under the patronage of the British rulers, traders and merchants from outside the state entered the inaccessible hilly areas and thenceforth exploitation of innocent illiterate tribal continued.

Tribal development as we understand today has its root in the Indian Constitution itself. Before that some schemes for the welfare of tribals were incorporated in the Government of India Act 1935. But these were primarily meant for the tribes of Central India. The tribes of North East India were not benefited by these welfare schemes. The framers of the Indian Constitution, therefore, incorporated Article 46 enabling the states to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections particularly scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Article 244 empowers the President of India to declare an area as a scheduled or tribal area under the Vth Schedule (or) the Sixth Schedule separately. The Sixth Schedule was created only for the hill tribes of Assam. Since the hill tribes of Assam have had their own system of administration through their traditional socio-political institutions, the founding fathers of the Constitution of India created the special provision with a view to allowing the Autonomous District Councils to manage their own affairs including the development aspects to their own liking.

The tribal development strategies got a new lease of life when in July 1958 late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru enunciated the Five Principles commonly known as 'Panchasheel' for tribal development. These five principles were :

1. People should develop along the lines of their own genius and we should avoid anything imposed on them. We should try to encourage in every way their own traditional arts and cultures.
2. Tribal rights of land and forests should be respected.
3. We should try to train and build up a team of their own people to do the work of administration and development. Some technical personnel from outside will no doubt be needed specially in the beginning. But we should avoid too many outsiders into tribal territory.
4. We should not over administer these areas or overwhelm them with multiplicity of schemes. We should rather work through and not in rivalry to their own cultural and social institutions.
5. We should judge results not by statistics or the amount spent but the quality of human character that is involved.

The above principles are regarded as integrated approach to tribal development and the Five Year Plans proceeded more or less on this line of approach. There were, however, many discrepancies in the implementation stage. The Shilu Ao

(1969) Committee suggested that there should be no attempt to transform the tribal people who are at various stages of development overnight into carbon copies of sophisticated plains men but tribal should be developed by fostering all that is good and beautiful in their culture aesthetic within a reasonable distance of time.

In spite of various development scheme undertaken during the plan periods till the IVth Plan, the problems faced by the tribal people could not be mitigated. Therefore, the Expert Committee headed by Prof. S.C. Dubey constituted during the Fifth Five Year Plan, has equated tribal development as social and economic development through fast and time bound areas development and related programmes suiting the genius of the people. Stress was laid on progressive elimination of all forces of exploitation and ensuring a move towards the goal of equality and justice. The strategies of integrated approach to tribal development and improving the quality of life of the tribal people led to the launching of the Tribal Sub Plan during the Fifth Five Year Plan.

The objectives have been envisaged as the elimination of the exploitation accelerating the pace of socio-economic development, building inner strength of the people and improving their organisation capacity integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs)) have been created as the basic unit of planning and execution. Thus 19 nos. of ITDPs were created in Assam with specific objectives like raising productivity levels, development of human resources and upgradation of education, removal of the social evils, like alienation of tribal land, money lending, debt bondage, development of adequate infrastructure and family oriented schemes.

The most important strategy so far as the plains tribal area is concerned is the creation of the Tribal Development Authority in 1983 to prepare short term and long term plans for all round socio-economic development of the plains tribes and to review the schemes meant for tribal development in the plains from time to time.

The development activities of tribal people of the hill areas of the two hill districts of Assam are executed by the District Councils of the two hill districts which have been directly associated with the planning process of the hill areas. It may be mentioned that the strategies for tribal development in hill areas of Assam do

not fundamentally differ from the national and state strategies envisaged in the plan document.

Above is a general pen picture of the official level effort on tribal development planning in Assam in pre and post independence period. As mentioned earlier there are many constraints in respect of tribal development in North East India because of environmental hazards, varied cultural traits of each tribe, chronic age old socio-economic backwardness arising out of neglect and illiteracy, age old indebtedness, alienation of tribal land, lack of consciousness et al.

### **ROLE OF N.G.Os:**

In view of the above mentioned constraints, official level effort of tribal development in Assam appeared to be inadequate. Thus involvement of NGOs was felt essential. A few NGOs like Christian Missionaries were doing social service among the tribal people even before independence. Their contribution in the field of educational expansion is widely acclaimed. Publication of the '*Arunodoi*' a periodical in Assamese in the mid Nineteen Century is the milestone. Following Missions and NGOs are largely involved in socio-economic development of the SCs and STs of Assam and the present evaluation study was conducted to assess their contribution and nature of functioning in relation to SC and ST welfare.

- (1) Ramkrishna Mission, Silchar, District – Cachar, (1909)
- (2) Ramkrishna Mission, Ulubari, Guwahati, Dist- Kamrup (1939)
- (3) International Brotherhood Mission, Dibrugarh, Dist. Dibrugarh, (1972)
- (4) Dayananda Sevashram Sangh, NEI, Bokajan, Dist. Karbi Anglong (1975)
- (5) Pathori Vocational Institute, Pathori, Dist. Nagaon (1988)
- (6) All India Centre for Urban and Rural Development Unit, Bokakhat, Dist. Golaghat (1989).
- (7) Dr. Ambedkar Mission, Dhopatari, Dist. Kamrup (1995)
- (8) National Youth Welfare Mission, Moidomia, Dist. Lakhimpur (1996).

The NGOs mentioned above are doing welfare works for the socio-economic development of the scheduled castes of Assam also. The problem of SC development in Assam is quite different and unlike the SCs of other states of the Indian union, the over all socio-economic life style is considerably better in Assam. A note on the socio-economic life of the SCs is relevant here.

## **A NOTE ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC LIFE OF THE SCHEDULED CASTES OF ASSAM:**

Unlike the scheduled tribes, the scheduled castes of Assam are not concentrated in specified pockets rather they are interspersed and one cannot point out the SC village in rural areas as the pattern of the material culture, agricultural practices, religious beliefs and practices, folk ways etc. do not differ from those of the non SC villages. Perhaps for these reasons the strategy for the development till 1976-77 was taken up along with the strategy for general category of the rural folk. It may be mentioned that by and large, the entire SC population in Assam is part and parcel of the main stream of the total population of the State. Besides the SCs of Assam are not experiencing the rigours of untouchability which incidentally is the main criterion on inclusion of a community in the SC list. The SCs, however, are very backward economically. Although the agriculture is the sole means of livelihood, yet the overwhelming majority of the SC people are living below poverty line. Agricultural lands per family are totally insufficient. The reason for this is that traditionally the main profession of the SCs was not agriculture rather fish catching and selling was the main profession of most of the scheduled castes. The forefather of the present generation of people did not care to own land as agriculture was not the profession. As a result the present generation feels acute scarcity of agricultural lands and a sizeable SC population 13.44% against state's total of 12.09% are agricultural labourers (Census 1991).

Due to lack of sound agricultural base, the scope of economic development among SCs has been hindered. About 50% of the SC are in a perpetual state of indebtedness which can be attributed to the age old deficit economy accelerated by lack of employment opportunity, loss of traditional fish catching sources and selling of fish business, social disabilities like shyness of contact and age old inferiority complex..

Next to agriculture the rural SC people have had to depend upon fishing particularly by the Kaibartas, Namasudras and Jal Keots. Pottery and goldsmithy are the important occupation of the Hiras and the Baniyas respectively. But of late occupational mobility is noticed among the groups and agricultural activities become the accepted profession of the SC communities living in rural areas. The SC people

had to face lot of problems in the changing profession. As agriculture was not their traditional occupation, the people lack necessary skill in agriculture and as they are possessing land with less fertility, the output is also very less. The economic condition of the non-agricultural SC communities is no better. The Banias goldsmithy by traditional occupation do not get enough to maintain their families as the local people no longer use the ornaments made by them.

The urban dwellers like Bansphors, Muchis, Bhangis and Maharas have to switch over to other professions because of the changing socio-economic situation. Machine made cheaper articles are becoming popular and the SC people who used to produce bamboo and cane items for day to day use can no longer get customers because of changing cultural pattern and availability of cheap plastic items.

Some of the scheduled caste groups of urban areas are engaged in various occupations such as leather work, washing clothes (Dhobi), sweeping, scavenging etc. These occupations are in unorganised sector and they have been relegated to very low economic and social status. Majority of them have very little assets and they suffer from dual handicap of social disability and economic deprivations.

Although not to the extent which is prevalent in some other states of the Indian Union, some kind of disguised untouchability still prevails in group actions especially in rural areas. Because of the lesser numerical strength and because of the assimilative character, the SCs can hardly assert themselves in getting the benefits provided by government. Poverty, malnutrition and consequent indebtedness are the major socio-economic constraints inherited by the SCs from their forefathers and these problems remain unsolved in spite of the Special Component Plan within the State Plan.

The above facts are some of the stark realities which prompted the planners to do something for this hapless section of the society. Accordingly amounts were quantified in the Vth Five Year Plan for socio-economic upliftment of this section of population. But mere quantification of certain amounts in selected heads of development appeared to be inadequate and in order to provide more economic support, a new strategy was evolved during the VI th Five Year Plan. The Special Component Plan for welfare of the SCs was formulated.

Suitable sectoral plans based on grass root study have been chalked out and income generating schemes were incorporated in S.C.P. In Assam the outlay ratio was less than 60%. The working group on the development of SCs constituted during the VII th Five Year Plan observed, "some of the departments avoided strenuous exercise of earmarking fund specially for the development of the SCs." The cluster cum saturation approach started during the VI th Plan has much relevance even in the Assam situation. It may be mentioned that in a particular SC inhabited area SC people of two or more sub castes live together. Thus was find Kaibartas and Baniyas, Hiras and Kaibartas, Namasudras and Hiras live side by side indicating a harmonious living of people of more or less similar socio-economic standard.

Functioning of NGOs among the SCs was started recently especially after independence. In fact the NGOs set up for upliftment of the poor and downtrodden include SCs also. Only during last two decades, exclusive SC development schemes have been incorporated by the NGOs of Assam. In order to improve the socio-economic condition of the SCs, NGOs should function in tandem with the development departments as the workers of NGOs know the problems of SCs from grass root.

## **CHAPTER – II**

### **SAMPLING :**

Lists of NGOs working for the upliftment of the socio-economic condition of SCs and STs were collected and 8 nos. of NGOs receiving government grants were selected for the evaluation study covering seven districts of Assam viz. Kamrup, Nagaon, Dibrugarh, Lakhimpur, Golaghat, Cachar and Karbi Anglong.

### **METHODOLOGY:**

Participant observation was adopted to collect data from the organisations. Two sets of schedules viz. Institutional Scheduled and Beneficiary Schedule were prepared for the study. Investigators personally contacted the office bearers of the NGOs and visited the on going projects. Besides, the beneficiaries were interviewed to ascertain their views regarding the facilities provided by the NGO.

### **PERIOD OF DATA COLLECTION:**

The Investigators visited the NGOs during July and August, 2002 to collect data.

### **OBJECTIVE :**

Evaluation is one of the most important parts of a development project. It is through proper and scientific evaluation that the success or failure of a project/scheme can be determined. Evaluation is also a means through which it can be precisely determined whether the benefits from a scheme or project actually percolate to the people for whom it is meant for.

NGOs have been entrusted to the task of implementing certain schemes by providing suitable grants by various Ministries of the Government of India as the personnel engaged in the NGOs are well versed with the felt needs, aspirations as well as problems both human and environmental. NGOs are expected to demonstrate how indigenous resources could be utilised for human resources based on local indigenous skills and knowledge leading to a uniform development. NGOs could demonstrate how modern technology has the potential ingredients for simpler application befitting



rural poor and scheduled tribe, scheduled caste and backward classes as the socio-cultural atmosphere of these sections vary significantly with that of the advanced section of populations.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India sanctions grants to different NGOs for socio-economic upliftment of the SCs and STs of Assam. It is worthwhile to make an evaluation of the schemes undertaken by the NGOs in Assam and the Assam Institute of Research for Tribals and Scheduled Castes, took up the responsibility of undertaking an evaluation study of the NGOs working for the SCs and STs of Assam .

## CHAPTER – III

### DATA ANALYSIS

#### 1. RAMKRISHNA MISSION SEVASHRAM, SILCHAR, CACHAR.

The Ramkrishna Mission Sevashram, Silchar was established in the year 1909 under the Societies Registration Act of 1960. The mission promotes the study of the Vedanta and its principles propounded by the great preacher and reformer Ramakrishna. Along with the study of oriental philosophy, the mission devotes itself in imparting modern education on Arts, Science and Industries. The NGO dedicates itself for spreading education among the illiterate masses maintaining a dedicated batch of teachers and social workers. In its effort to educate mass people who are not in a position to afford expensive education, the Mission publishes books, journals, bulletins etc and distributes those free of cost. The Mission is engaged in social work among the weaker sections.

The Mission maintains a Tribal Students' Home which was established as early as 1963 with 55 students. It may be mentioned that most of the students are first generation boys from their communities getting exposure to modern education. Following class wise number of students are getting the benefits from the Tribal Students' Home as on today.

*Tribal  
Students'  
Home.*

TABLE – 1

| Class       | No. of students |
|-------------|-----------------|
| V           | 12              |
| VI          | 6               |
| VII         | 13              |
| VIII        | 10              |
| IX          | 10              |
| X           | 6               |
| <hr/> Total | <hr/> 57        |

The working hours for the Tribal Students' Home are 16 hours with a break of one hour from 12-30 – 1-30 P.M. The students are selected through a written

interview. Caste certificates are required to be produced at the time of admission. The organisation supplies two sets of school uniforms, books and stationery, sports and games articles, besides free food and lodging. Bedding materials in the hostel, furniture and other materials for class room are also provided. The NGO takes care of the health of the students and arrangements are made for regular health check up. For better performance in examination, the Mission arranges free special coaching for the students. The organisation is watching the progress of the students residing in the hostel by surprise checks.

***Pre  
Primary  
schools in  
Tribal  
Areas***

The Mission also runs Pre-Primary schools in the far flung tribal areas. It may be mentioned that the areas where these schools are situated are devoid of the infrastructural facilities. Bad road condition, lack of awareness on the part of the parents, and over all lack of educational environment etc make the Mission's work of educational expansion in such areas is truly challenging. There are five such pre primary schools under the Mission.

***Mobile  
Dispensary***

The mobile dispensary unit of the Mission, established in 1987 caters to the need of the SCs and STs and other poorer sections of people in the district of Cachar. Medical facilities have been provided regularly to the villagers on their doorsteps by competent medical staff. Medicines are supplied free of cost. The organisation has offered medical facilities to about 53,000 patients on an average per year. The dispensary unit treats all kinds of diseases. During 1999-2000, 52,852 patients and during 2000-2001, 52,391 patients were treated with the help of mobile dispensary unit. There are, however, constraints in transporting the unit to far flung rural areas due to bad road condition. The unit serves the people of interior areas 3 days a week.

***Relief  
Operation***

Natural calamity affected villagers very often fail to receive assistance provided by government in time and the Mission workers visit the flood, cycle affected areas with food items and other relief articles.

The NGO is run by a 20 member Managing Committee but

representations of SC is nil while there is only one ST member.

There are 7 full time teachers, 3 doctors and 2 compounders belonging to other category only and they are paid honorarium regularly.

The Mission does not follow the principle of joint operation of bank accounts. During 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 the NGO was receiving recurring grant of Rs. 7,78,780.00 and Rs. 6,10,480.00 respectively. The amounts were fully utilised.

The break up of the amount is shown below:

|           |                   |                          |
|-----------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1999-2000 | Mobile Dispensary | = Rs. 2,30,130.00        |
|           | Students' Home    | = <u>Rs. 5,48,650.00</u> |
|           | Total             | = Rs. 7,78,780.00        |
| 2000-2001 | Mobile Dispensary | = Rs. 2,30,130.00        |
|           | Students' Home    | = <u>Rs. 3,80,350.00</u> |
|           | Total             | = Rs. 6,10,480.00        |

Eleven beneficiaries from the Tribal Students' Home were interviewed and they had a high impression about the Mission. They used to get the facilities required for hostellers. The diet supplied was also nutritious. The students also appreciated the paternal care shown to the students by the Mission workers.

*Views of  
Beneficia-  
ries*

## 2. Ramkrishna Mission Ashram, Ulubari, Guwahati.

The Ramkrishna Mission Ashram situated at the heart of the city of Guwahati was established as early as 1939. The objective of the Mission was to provide religious, philanthropic and modern amenities to the weaker sections of the people in order to bring them to the level of developed sections of the society. The Mission was duly affiliated in 1968 and since then it functions as a successful catalytic agent of development activities in North East Region.

The Mission runs a Students' Home with 32 members in the roll. The students are provided with free food and lodging including uniform, books and stationery, washing and cosmetic goods, and sports items. No school fee is charged. Examination fees are borne by the organisation. The students are admitted through competitive examination conducted by the Mission. The SC, ST and OBC students are required to produce caste certificate at the time of admission. Class room activities are sandwiched with other students related activities of the Mission hence no specific working hour is earmarked. There is, however, a break once in a week. They enjoy the national and state holidays. There are 32 students in the Students' Home and the break up is shown below in a tabular form.

*Students'  
Home*

**TABLE – 2**

| <u>Class</u> | <u>No. of Students</u> |
|--------------|------------------------|
| V            | 7                      |
| VI           | 7                      |
| VII          | 5                      |
| VIII         | 3                      |
| IX           | 4                      |
| X            | 6                      |
| Total        | 32                     |

The Mission was instrumental in assisting 6 students to appear in the H.S.L.C. examination during 2001-2002. Out of these five students came out successful, 2 in second division and 3 in third division. Established in 1983-84 the Students' Home has contributed much for expansion of education among the poor and depressed.

***Diagnostic Centre***

The Diagnostic Centre at Chatribari provides free diagnosis and treatment of various diseases. As many as 32 eminent specialists are engaged for treatment of the patients at the Centre. During 2001-2002, 36,501 patients were treated at the Diagnostic Centre.

***Mobile Dispensary Unit.***

The mobile dispensary established in 1981-82 is rendering free medical services to the poor SC and ST people of the interior villages of Kamrup and Marigaon districts. During 2001-2002, 32,685 patients were treated out of which 26,771 are new cases. In order to create awareness among the people for health and hygiene the Mission organises village level camps regularly.

***Relief Work***

Keeping the great tradition of service to humanity of Ramkrishna, the Mission extends relief measures during natural calamities as well as disturbances caused by human elements. During 2001-2002, relief materials such as dhoti, sari, blanket, milk powder, soap, chira, gur, etc. were distributed among 1,300 poor people who became victims of man made and nature created unrest.

***Library***

The Mission maintains a good reference book library having 9,543 books in the shelf. Reading room facilities are provided for all. The library started functioning since 1994-95.

***Working Hours***

The mobile dispensary functions four days a week from 8-30 A.M. to 4 P.M. and the library remains open for 6 days in a week from 4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M. There is no fixed time limit for the students' home. However, a break once in a week in addition to the festival days is arranged.

No potential area for the ex-students of the Mission has been determined nor any placement effort is made by the N.G.O. This, however, does not mean that the organisers are unhelpful in respect of placement of the successful students.

In the Students' Home 4 full time employees are engaged as per norms fixed by the Ministry. During 2001-2002, a sum of Rs. 1,71,004.00 was paid as honorarium.

Four employees have been engaged to look after the library and assist the readers and for their services an amount of Rs. 94,384.00 was paid as honorarium during 2001-2002.

### *Staff*

Under the Mobile Dispensary Project the organisation pays Rs. 1,20,000.00 to 6 nos. of part time doctors during 2001-2002. Another five full time employees of the project were paid Rs. 1,13,440.00 during that year.

The staff position is shown in a tabular form below :

**TABLE - 3**

| Name of Project/Scheme | No. of employees | Part time | Full time | Honorarium paid 2001-2002 |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|
| 1. Students' Home      | 9                | -         | 9         | 1,71,004.00               |
| 2. Library             | 4                | -         | 4         | 94,384.00                 |
| 3. Mobile Dispensary   | 11               | 6         | -         | 1,20,000.00               |
|                        |                  | -         | 5         | +1,13,440.00              |
| <b>Total :</b>         | <b>24</b>        | <b>6</b>  | <b>18</b> | <b>4,98,828.00</b>        |

The N.G.O. maintains a bank account which is operated by the Secretary of the Mission.

The Managing Committee constituting 18 male members of Others' category only.

The N.G.O. receives recurring and non recurring grants from the Central Government as shown below. The grants were fully utilised.

**TABLE – 4**

**Recurring and non-recurring grants received  
by the Mission during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001.**

| Year      | Recurring    | Non recurring | Total        |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1999-2000 | 7,92,358.00  | -             | 7,92,358.00  |
| 2000-2001 | 7,94,412.00  | 70,380.00     | 8,64,792.00  |
| Total :   | 15,86,770.00 | 70,380.00     | 16,57,150.00 |

**TABLE – 5**

**Showing the progress of the Mobile Dispensary Project during 2001-2002.**

| Period                  | Male | Female | Children | Total |
|-------------------------|------|--------|----------|-------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter | 2229 | 4850   | 3008     | 10087 |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter | 1623 | 4067   | 2613     | 8303  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter | 1222 | 3163   | 2122     | 6507  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter | 1764 | 3704   | 2320     | 7788  |
| Total                   | 6838 | 15784  | 10063    | 32685 |

**TABLE – 6**

**Showing Progress of the Library Section during 2001-2002.**

| Total No. of readers | Male | Female | Children |
|----------------------|------|--------|----------|
| 12014                | 6838 | 1018   | 4158     |

Eleven beneficiaries of Students' Home were interviewed and all the beneficiaries gave positive remarks in respect of facilities provided by the Mission. No adverse comment was made.

*Views of  
Beneficiaries*

It has been observed that SC, ST representation in the Managing Committee as well as in staff is practically nil. SC and ST beneficiaries of the Projects were not separately shown.



### **3. INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD MISSION, DIBRUGARH.**

The Mission was established in 1993 with H.Q. at Dibrugarh. It is a registered organisation. Ven A. Bhikshu Karuna Shastri was the founder of the organisation. The main objectives of the N.G.O. were to perform welfare activities for the orphan and poor children of the North East India so that they consider themselves as responsible citizens. The organisation has undertaken various welfare schemes for upliftment of the downtrodden.

*Jinaratan  
Buddhist  
Missionary  
Destitute  
Home*

This is a philanthropic institution engaged in the upliftment of destitute, orphans and downtrodden communities. Basically there are 100 children in the Home who are enjoying free food and lodging besides other facilities of academic institutions. It imparts vocational training to prepare the children for self-employment in their future life. Depending upon merit, the children are sent to various high schools and colleges for higher studies at the Mission's expenses.

*B.R.  
Ambedkar  
Residential  
Ashram  
School*

This is a residential school for poor SC and ST children with a capacity of 100 inmates. They are given vocational training in knitting, tailoring, embroidery, carpentry, gardening, etc. The capable and meritorious students are sent to outside high schools after completion of their academic course upto class VIII. On completion of vocational training the boys and girls are placed in government and non government jobs and in self employment venture.

*Dr. B.M.  
Barua  
Vocational  
Training  
Centre.*

The training centre imparts vocational training to destitute, poor women and girls. It has suitable machineries and experienced instructors have been engaged to manage the training centre. The trainees are facilitated to sit for examination conducted by Government/Board so that they can obtain certificates in respect of their training to stand them in good stead. Besides they are given Bulgur oil etc. from the Catholic Relief Services – USIL free of charge

Started in 1992 the centre provides free treatment and medicines to the destitute and poor people. Besides the above mentioned projects, the Mission has undertaken a big project at Tinsukia to provide welfare measures to 200 poor children from the weaker sections of the society. In addition formal education and vocational training, moral teachings on the basis of Tathagata Buddha's ideology are imparted to the borders as well as to the common people.

Till now more than 100 students have passed the H.S.L.C. examination and the Mission arranges suitable employment in government and private enterprises. Self employment facilities are also extended.

The institute arranged marriage ceremonies for 8 girls of the institute after completion of their academic career. The Mission has arranged jobs for more than 100 orphan children after completion of their academic career.

*Niwano  
Free  
Medical Aid  
Centre*

In view of the successful achievements of the institute, the government of India allows the Mission to receive foreign donation under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act 1976.

The Mission has a well furnished library with more than 25,000 books. The Computer Education Centre is a recent addition to the Mission.

The Institute grows with proposed branches at Calcutta and Siliguri although the Makum branch is not functioning satisfactorily.

The Managing Committee consists of 21 members with four representatives from ST, 3 from SC and rest from others.

The Ashram school, residential school, free medical centre and vocational training centre were started in 1982.

No working hour has been fixed. However holidays are allowed to the inmates as per Mission rules.

While admitting students to various projects SC and ST candidates are given preference.

Caste certificates are required for admission in case of SC, ST and OBC.

The Mission provides uniform, books and stationery, sports materials, washing and cosmetics to the school students. Medical treatment is given where necessary. The food and lodging facilities are adequate. Classroom and hostel furniture are also supplied.

The Mission employs 15 persons including a part time doctor who belong to SC. Out of the 15 employees, 2 belong to ST and 6 belong to SC. Honorarium are regularly paid to the employees. The organisers are watching the progress of the students as well as of the beneficiaries of different projects.

There are 160 students in the Vocational Training Centre. Besides boys and girls of below poverty line category are provided various facilities from the variety of welfare schemes.

The potential areas are employment in government and non-government sectors. Besides self-help activities are also encouraged.

The part time doctor treats the minor ailments and medicines are given free of cost to the residential students. The poor patients of the locality are also given free treatment and medicine.

Government grants are not received by the Mission. But in spite of that the organisation implements various welfare schemes.

In view of the dedicated welfare service performed by the organisation government grants should be forthcoming from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India.

The beneficiaries numbering 18 were interviewed with questionnaire and all he beneficiaries were full of praise for the services and facilities extended by the Mission.

#### **4. DAYANAND SEWASHRAM SANGH, N.E.I., BOKAJAN, KARBI ANGLONG DISTRICT.**

Dayanand Sewashram Sangh, North East India, Bokajan, Karbi Anglong District, Assam, is a regional unit of the Akhil Bharatiya Dayanand Sewashram Sangh, New Delhi. This branch of the Sangh was established in the year 1975 at Bokajan to serve the people of the North East India specially the STs, SCs and OBCs in various fields.

The North East region of India is yet to attain the development status that was conspicuous in respect of other states of the Indian Union. Seventy five per cent of the people of this region belong to SC and ST categories and due to neglect perpetrated by the foreign rulers, the region remains backward in all respects. The Sangh, therefore, intends to take up welfare schemes for the upliftment of the people in the field of education, culture, heritage, socio-economic condition, health and hygiene as well as for removal of superstition, magico religious beliefs prevalent among them.

Education gets the prime importance in the effort to bring all round development of a community and the Sangh took up this aspect on priority basis and accordingly a primary school was established in 1975 which is upgraded to a high school and presently there are 350 students in the roll.

*Dayanand  
Vidya  
Niketan,  
Bokajan.*

*Dayanand  
Anglo  
Vedic  
School,  
Diphu.*

This institution was established in the year 1975. However, in 1985 the State Government took over the institution and the same is now upgraded to a higher secondary school, located at Diphu. There are more than 1100 students at present.

*Dayanand  
Vidya  
Niketan,  
Sarupathar*

Established in 1990 this institution caters to the educational needs of the tribal and backward sections of the people. The school is up to class – X standard with a strength of about 350 students.

*Dayanand  
Vidya  
Niketan,  
Uriamghat.  
Golaghat.*

Uriamghat is a very backward region inhabited mostly by the Boros, Adivasis, Nepalis, and Nagas. Infrastructural facilities of this area is far from satisfactory. Considering the urgent needs of the area for educational upliftment, the Sangh started a middle level institution in 1995 which has now been raised to high school standard with 250 students on roll.

*Dayanand  
Vidya  
Niketan,  
Dimapur.*

Present Nagaland, formerly a district of undivided Assam, was most neglected area in all respects. Even after Independence the far flung areas have not tasted the fruits of planned development. The Sangha took up the challenging task of establishing a school in 1977 covering 20 Nagas and Kachari villages lying on the out skirt of Dimapur. Presently it is a full fledged high school.

Most of the people living in the hilly areas of the North Eastern states are economically backward. The hilly terrain, lack of transport and communication, inadequate infrastructural facilities make the people distressed and frustrated. The stray habitation makes it impossible to provide the modern facilities. As a result the children grown up to adulthood without learning even the three RS. In order to cater to the special needs of the area the Sangh has established six hostels with free food and lodging with the financial assistance of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi. The six hostels are –

*Hostel  
Schemes*

1. Sewashram Chatrvas for boys at Bokajan with 75 students,
2. Sewashram Chatrvas for girls at Bokajan with 40 students,
3. Sewashram Chatrvas, Diphu, 60 students,
4. Sewashram Chatrvas, Japarajan, 40 students,
5. Sewashram Chatrvas, Dimapur, Nagaland, 50 students,
6. Sewashram Chatrvas, Sarupathar, 30 students.

*Destitute  
Home.*

Due to economic hardship, most of the parents of below poverty line status are unable to provide the bare necessities to their children. The Sangh, therefore, started a Destitute Home with 15 Nos. of children who are given food and shelter and minimum needs of day to day life.

*Creche  
Program  
(Women  
welfare)  
Established  
January,  
1979.*

Under this programme children of ailing and working mothers are taken care of at the Creche Centre at Bokajan. The children are given nutritious food, health care and informal education. At present 25 nos. of children are maintained in the Creche Centre. The programme is sponsored by the Assam State Social Welfare Advisory Board.

Lack of employment opportunities in Government sector make the young generation restive and this is the major cause of social turmoil in the North- East region. The Sangh therefore maintains a vocational programme for training youths in self-employment by utilising natural resources like cane and bamboo, which are available locally. Up to date 120 such youths have been benefited from this scheme as they have started their own units.

*Vocational Programme – Sewashram Industries, Bokajan, Established January, 1990.*

The Sangh observes World Environment Day every year on 5<sup>th</sup> June. Stress is given on educating the masses on maintaining eco balance. The Sangh undertaken cleanliness drive, plantation of trees etc. Besides seminars are held to form the public opinion and suggest measures for preservation of environment.

Health Centre to provide medical facilities to the poor people of Karbi Anglong district are held. During the year 2000 and 2001 two such camps were organised at Bokajan. The organisation has started a Health Centre at Bokajan. There is also a proposal for opening a Mobile Dispensary and the district of Karbi Anglong is notorious for diseases like Malaria, Typhoid etc.

**The working hours are :**

|                    |   |                   |
|--------------------|---|-------------------|
| Training programme | : | 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. |
| Hostel             | : | Whole time        |
| Creche             | : | 8 A.M. to 2 P.M.  |
| Break              | : | One hour          |

The Sangh observes national and state holidays. As regards procedure for admission of students, economically backward SC/ST students are selected by a Selection Committee of the Sangh and caste certificates are scrutinised at the time of admission.

The Sangh provides uniform, books, stationery, sports times and cosmetics to the students. Free health check up and medicines are also provided. The Sangh takes care in supplying food ( vegetarian) to the students and right from morning tea snacks

to night meals the food items are supplied free of cost. Bedding materials are also provided.

Annual excursion is arranged. Besides, regular physical training facilities are also extended.

In the five Sewashram Chatavas altogether 38 employees are engaged on full time basis. There are 5 part time teachers, 4 part time accountants, 5 nos of part time doctors. Honoraria are paid to them every month. In the Creche Programme there are two Ayas on full time basis and each gets Rs. 400.00 p.m. In the Sewaashram Industries two instructors have been engaged on full time basis paying Rs. 2000.00 p.m. to each.

Out of total 56 employees, there are 1 SC, 20 ST and rest are from others. It was reported that due to non receipt of grants in time honoraria are not paid regularly.

The authorities are watching the progress of the students by holding monthly and quarterly tests. Health check up is done weekly.

As regards trainees in the Cane and Bamboo works scheme, during 1999-2001, 15 trainees were benefited. The break up is ST – 10, SC – 3, Others – 2.

The Sangh encourages self employment for the trainees. It also helps the candidates to start their own production unit through bank and government loans.

The total grants received under Hostel Programme during 1999-2000 was 21,18,305.00 (recurring). For the year 2000-2001 both recurring and non-recurring grants amounting to Rs. 20,96,545.00 and 1,94,974.00 respectively were received and the same were fully utilised .

The Sangh feels that there should be a separate cell for inspection and monitoring. The existing arrangement is time killing and embarrassing to the organisers as appeals are to be made to the authorities for timely inspection and only then the inspection is done.

NGOs should be entrusted to take part in the implementation of various schemes under the state government.

Grants are irregular and untimely. Due to escalation of prices every year the one time fixation of the honorarium is quite inadequate.

Twenty three beneficiaries drawn from KG to Higher Secondary level were interviewed and they had nothing adverse to comment against the performance of the Sangh.

## 5. PATHORI VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE, NAGAON.

The Pathori Vocational Institute was established on 31<sup>st</sup> December at Pathori within Nagaon District. The main objective of the NGO was to initiate socio economic development of the backward communities through various programmes like training, organising awareness programme, holding seminar etc. The P.V.I. is conducting computer training course for 60 women with the assistance of the Department of Women and Child Development of the Human Resource Development Ministry, Government of India. The NGO also conducts a computer training course for 30 ST candidates with the help of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India. Another computer training course is being conducted for the disable persons where 10 nos of such persons are trained during 2001-2002. For the general community, a computer training course for 47 nos. of youths was arranged during 2001-2002. Considering the importance of computer the NGO has ventured a computer training course for the 74 nos. of children during 2001-2002. The NGO is also organising electronics (TV & VCR) training course for 40 nos. of SC students during that year. Similar course was conducted for 40 nos. of OBC candidates.

The Pathori Vocational Institute conducts environment awareness camp, cultural co-ordination programme, consumer awareness programme, science programme, adaptation of young student scientists, entrepreneurship development programme, health check up programme during 2001-2002. These programmes were well taken by the students who were introduced to present day information technology strategies. About 1000 students were benefited by the science programme and similar numbers of people belonging to the economically backward sections were benefited by the health check up agenda. The entrepreneurship development programme encourages the unemployed youths to take up self employment with the NECTER, Nagaon.

The organisation maintains a joint bank account and the Managing Committee consisting of 11 members are in overall charge of managing the affairs of the NGO. The Managing Committee is well represented by SC and ST members whose numbers are 3 for SC and 3 for ST.



The benevolent programmes mentioned above were initiated on 3.2.2000 and the success story is not discouraging.

The working hours are from 8-30 A.M. to 4-30 P.M. The NGO adopts the state government holidays.

There is a Selection Committee constituting Additional Deputy Commissioner (Development), General Manager, DIC, Nagaon, Social Welfare Officer, Nagaon, Employment Officer, Nagaon and the Secretary of the Pathori Vocational Institute.

The caste certificate of SC, ST and OBC are scrutinised while admitting students to various programmes. Books and stationery are provided to the trainees. Furniture are provided in the classroom. No other facilities are provided.

The NGO has 8 nos. of employees on full time basis and out of these 3 belong to SC, 3 to OBC and 2 to General. They are getting salaries on monthly basis.

During 1999-2001, 40 nos. of SC students, 17 male and 23 female were enrolled to TV, VCR and Radio technology courses. In the same year 30 (male 17, female 13) ST students were trained in computer course. Same figures are applicable for similar trades during 2001-2002.

The NGO arranges placement facilities by making contact with different organisations. But figures of such placement are not available.

As regards grants, the organisation received Rs. 78,450.00 for SC programmes during 1999-2000. For the year 2000-2001, Rs. 1,95,750.00 for SC and Rs. 7,25,475.00 for ST programmes were received.

Grants were utilised fully for the purposes meant for.

## **6 ALL INDIA CENTRE FOR URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT, BOKAKHAT, DISTRICT GOLAGHAT.**

The All India Centre for Urban and Rural Development Unit was established in the year 1989 under the Societies Registration Act of 1860. It is a branch of the All India Centre for Urban and Rural Development (AICURD), New Delhi. The main objective is to serve the under privileged class of people especially the SC, ST and OBC in urban and rural areas. Development activities are undertaken by imparting training and education so that the unprivileged section comes forward to meet the challenges of time. Schemes are also drawn up for upliftment of women and children of the backward communities.

The Training Centre has undertaken a Pilot Project for development of SC and weaker sections. Training in Hindi, Assamese, English typing and shorthand, television and radio repairing is imparted to 1,923 nos. The training conducted by the Centre benefits 7,59 nos. of SC, 6,39 of ST and 4,78 nos. of OBC till March, 2002.

*Green Land School* The Centre imparts primary education to SC students by opening a non residential primary school named Green Land School. Uniform, textbooks, midday meals are provided to the students free of cost.

*Adult Education Project.* This project was implemented in the year 1990-91 in Sarupathar and Bokakhat Blocks. The project benefited 9,000 illiterate people of these blocks. Besides, 3,00 unemployed educated youths were trained for self help methods in the field of employment.

*Training and awareness Camp on Potable Water Supply Project.* Seven awareness camps were arranged in Kohora High School, Goroimari High School, Bahikhowa L.P. School, Dhudang L.P. School, Panbari L.P. School, Bortika High School and Alami Chapori L.P. School in Bokakhat area to create awareness in respect of using pure drinking water. Another such camp was organised for 40 youths at the AICURD

The organisation started one Dairy Project in 1992-93 for which the Council for Advancement of Peoples' Action and Rural Technology sanctioned an amount of Rs. 1,57,000.00. The farm was functioning well for the first four years but since became defunct due to sudden death of the Jersey cows and buffaloes numbering 39.

*Socio  
Economic  
Survey.*

Under the scheme seven blocks of Golaghat district are selected for survey of socio-economic condition of SC and ST. The Centre is awaiting for grant from the Ministry of Welfare, Government of India.

*Potable  
Drinking  
Water  
Supply  
Project.*

The Council of Advancement of Peoples' Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) has sanctioned Rs. 2,67,000.00 for the project at Bokakhat area. Under the scheme hand tube wells are installed in Sildubi, Goroimari, Bohikhowa Panbari (ST and SC) Dhudang, Bortika and Alami Chapori.

The Centre has chalked out some benevolent schemes in its action programme and proposals have already been sent to concerned Ministries for sanction of fund. The Schemes are -

1. Computer training, Knitting, Embroidery, Weaving and Tailoring Training Centre. The centre is awaiting for sanction from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
2. Vocational Institute (watch, cycle, electric motor repairing, electrician and radio and transistor mechanic) The scheme intends to benefit 50 nos. of ST students. Ministry of welfare's release of fund is awaited.
3. For low cost Housing Project and Sanitary Latrine Project CAPART's sanction is awaited. The scheme intends to benefit 90 poor families of Bokakhat Sub Division.
4. Vocational Training for Electrical Wiring, Carpentry, Blacksmithy, and plumber. The scheme is meant for 80 nos. of trainees belonging to ST and general category people of Golaghat district of Assam. Ministry of H.R.D's approval is awaited.
5. Polypathy Scheme – Ministry of Health and Family Planning's approval is awaited. Besides the Centre proposes to undertake two projects viz.
  - i. Link Road Project.
  - ii. Nurse cum Midwife Training CentreCAPART's approval is awaited.
6. Ten Bedded Hospital and Mobile Van Project – Ministry of Welfare's approval is awaited.

The Centre appoints staff on full time basis for its on going schemes. The non residential school was started on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2001 while the Training Centre is functioning since 1<sup>st</sup> May 1993.

With a break period of 35 minutes, the working hours are fixed from 9-30 A.M. to 5-30 P.M. Holidays are observed as per Central Government's rule.

For selection of trainees and students, interview is conducted by the Selection Committee. The SC and ST candidates are required to produce caste certificate at the time of interview.

Facilities like uniform, books, stationery, sports items, midday meal are provided free of cost. Besides the trainees get stipend,. Classroom furniture are also provided.

The Centre has employed 6 persons on full time basis for the Training Centre and the break up is SC-2, ST-1, and others-3.

There are 22 teachers in the pay roll of non residential primary school for 100 students. The break up is SC-7, ST-3, Others – 12. The figures include one Office Assistant, one Peon, one Sweeper, one Laboratory Assistant, one Cook and one Ayah. The employees are getting honorarium in full per month but due to non availability of Government grant the payments could not be made regularly.

The organisation is watching the progress of the students and trainees. Regular tests are held. Efforts are being made to arrange suitable placement of the trainees who completed the course.

The data in respect of students enrolled in the non residential primary school and training courses on type writing, shorthand and T.V. repairing during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 have been shown in the tabular form below.

**TABLE – 7**

**Showing nos. of students enrolled in the non residential primary school  
(caste-wise, during 1999-2000)**

| Category    | No. of students |    |        |       |
|-------------|-----------------|----|--------|-------|
|             | ST              | SC | Others | Total |
| Class- LKG  | 10              | 14 | 20     | 44    |
| Class – I   | 2               | 22 | 6      | 30    |
| Class – II  | 4               | 19 | 7      | 30    |
| Class – III | 4               | 22 | 4      | 30    |
| Class – IV  | 5               | 14 | 9      | 28    |
| Total       | 25              | 91 | 46     | 162   |

**TABLE – 8**

**Showing Nos. of students enrolled in the non residential primary school  
(caste wise) during 2000-2001.**

| Category   | No. of students |    |        |       |
|------------|-----------------|----|--------|-------|
|            | ST              | SC | Others | Total |
| Class-LKG  | 5               | 14 | 25     | 44    |
| Class-UKG  | 4               | 17 | 9      | 30    |
| Class-I    | 7               | 13 | 11     | 31    |
| Class- II  | 1               | 6  | 3      | 10    |
| Class- III | -               | 8  | 6      | 14    |
| Class- IV  | 2               | 4  | 4      | 10    |
| Class- V   | 3               | 6  | 3      | 12    |
| Total      | 22              | 68 | 61     | 151   |

**TABLE -9**

Showing the nos. of trainees under the scheme 'Type Writing, Shorthand and T.V. Repairing (caste wise) during 1999-2000.

| Sl. No. | Trades & Courses | No. Students |    |        |       |
|---------|------------------|--------------|----|--------|-------|
|         |                  | SC           | ST | Others | Total |
| 1.      | Type Writing     | 32           | 21 | 7      | 60    |
| 2.      | Shorthand        | 29           | 9  | 8      | 46    |
| 3       | T.V. Repairing   | 10           | 6  | 3      | 19    |
| Total : |                  | 71           | 36 | 18     | 125   |

**TABLE -10**

Showing the nos. of trainees under the scheme 'Type Writing, Shorthand and T.V. Repairing (caste wise) during 2000 - 2001.

| Sl. No. | Trades & Courses | No. Students |    |        |       |
|---------|------------------|--------------|----|--------|-------|
|         |                  | SC           | ST | Others | Total |
| 1.      | Type Writing     | 28           | 55 | 8      | 91    |
| 2.      | Shorthand        | 14           | 19 | 9      | 42    |
| 3       | T.V. Repairing   | 9            | 8  | 3      | 20    |
| Total : |                  | 51           | 82 | 20     | 153   |

As regards potential areas of placement, the organisation determines the Assam Carbon Company, High Schools of Sokakhat and Dimapur, N.F. Railway, Tinsukia, Difaloo and Methoni Tea Estates, NICCO, Guwahati and Trivandrum and Assam Secretariat etc.

The NGO helps the trainees by requesting government offices to absorb the trainees in their establishments. As the scope for employment in government departments is limited the organisation gives stress on self employment.

Non recurring grants were receiving by the N G O during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 amounting to Rs. 1,08,525.00 and Rs. 3,70,933.00 respectively which were fully utilised.

It was reported that the centre is facing difficulties due to non receipt of grants regularly and timely. The centre is not having its own land and building which hampers its activities. Computer training was in the probable schemes list but due to suitable accommodation, the same is kept pending.

As many as 63 nos. of beneficiaries were interviewed and all of them expressed satisfaction although a few students complained of non receipt of uniforms, midday meals, health care, furniture and game articles are provided. The trainees of Type Writing, Shorthand and T.V. Repairing courses were receiving stipends, but honorarium to the teachers and instructors and other staff could not be paid regularly because of non receipt of grants in time.

## **7. AMBEDKAR MISSION, DHOPATARI, CHANGSARI, DIST-KAMRUP.**

Established only in 1994-95, the Ambedkar Mission, Dhopatari, rose to prominence quickly because of the Mission's dedicated service to the neglected poor and downtrodden, particularly SC, ST, OBC, physically handicapped children, women and aged people. Situated in a backward sleepy village near Changsari in the district of Kamrup, the Mission true to the spirit of the Great Constitution maker and reformer, has performed tangible welfare activities in spite of the constraints of rural setting.

The N.G.O. maintains the following educational and welfare institutions.

1. Non residential primary school for SC,
2. Non residential secondary school,
3. Vocational Training Centre for ST,
4. Vocational Training Centre for OBC,
5. Ten-bedded hospital cum mobile dispensary,
6. Day care centre for aged people.

### ***Green Hill Nursery School***

The Mission runs a non residential primary school for SC students which was established in 1999 at Dhopatari. The name of the school is Green Hill Nursery School. The school sets its target at cent percent primary education for the SC communities of the locality. Students studying in the school are offered the benefit of free studentship, free study materials, school uniforms, free medical assistance and nutritious midday meal which includes milk rice, khisri, chowchow/daliya besides full meals are supplied on every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday. Table 11 shows the enrolment position in the non residential primary school for SC (Green Hill Nursery School) during 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-2002.



**TABLE – 11**

| <i>Period</i> | Name of school                        | No. of SC |    | No. of ST students |   | Others |   | Total |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|----|--------------------|---|--------|---|-------|
|               |                                       | M         | F  | M                  | F | M      | F |       |
| 1999-2000     | Non Residential Primary School for SC | 51        | 40 | 6                  | 3 | -      | - | 100   |
| 2000-2001     | -Do-                                  | 54        | 39 | 3                  | 4 | -      | - | 100   |
| 2001-2002     | -Do-                                  | 48        | 52 | -                  | - | -      | - | 100   |

*Non Residential Secondary School*

The N G O also runs a non residential secondary school since February 2000 providing scope to the SC students of the locality for higher education. It may be mentioned that the SC students of the area suffer from the school drop out syndrome as they can not afford the expenses of high school education. Most of the students of SC community particularly girl students leave school after passing the primary standard. The Mission has done a good job by starting a secondary school where SC boys and girls are getting opportunity of higher education. Table 12 shows the enrolment position of the non-residential secondary school during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001.

**TABLE – 12**

| Period    | Name of the school               | No. of SC students |    | No. of ST students |   | Others |   |
|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------------|----|--------------------|---|--------|---|
|           |                                  | M                  | F  | M                  | F | M      | F |
| 1999-2000 | Non Residential Secondary School | 63                 | 37 | -                  | - | -      | - |
| 2000-2001 | -Do-                             | 64                 | 36 | -                  | - | -      | - |
|           | Total                            | 127                | 73 | -                  | - | -      | - |

***Vocational Training Centres for ST, OBC and LIGC***

The Mission's vocational training centres are providing facilities to the STs, OBCs and Lower Income Girl Children so that they could stand on their own by employing themselves in various trades started by themselves. Considering the hard realities of dearth of employment not only in government but also in private sectors, these vocational training centres cater to the urgent needs of the economically vulnerable sections like ST and OBC. The scope of employment for rural girl children whose educational standard is limited, by and large, to HSLC examination, is considerably low and in this backdrop, the opening of a VTC for low income girls child is a step in the right direction.

The list of beneficiaries under the above mentioned trades for vocations is shown in a tabular form below.

**TABLE – 13**

| Name of trade. vocational Institute | Period    | Scheduled Caste |   | Scheduled Tribe |    | Others |    |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|---|-----------------|----|--------|----|
|                                     |           | M               | F | M               | F  | M      | F  |
| Vocational Training Centre for OBC  | 1999-2000 | -               | - | -               | -  | 22     | 18 |
| Vocational Training Centre for OBC  | 2001-2002 | -               | - | -               | -  | 25     | 15 |
| Vocational Training Centre for ST   | 1999-2000 | -               | - | 53              | 47 |        |    |
| Vocational Training Centre for ST   | 2001-2002 | -               | - | 52              | 48 |        |    |
| Vocational Training Centre for LIGC | 1999-2000 | -               | - | -               | -  | 60     |    |
| Vocational Training Centre for LIGC | 2001-2002 | -               | - | -               | -  | 60     |    |
| <b>Total :-</b>                     |           | -               | - | 105             | 95 | 167    | 33 |

**Day Care Centre**

The N G O performs an onerous task by providing certain facilities to the old persons who face lots of problems in old age. The poverty stricken condition of the people coupled with lack of employment opportunities to the able bodied sons make the life of the old and infirm persons miserable. Medical attention is primary needed by these persons. The Mission therefore started a Day Care Centre on 16.2.2002 for the benefit of SC people. During 1999-2000, 51 nos. and during 2001-2002, also similar nos. of old persons got benefit from the Centre.

**10 Bedded Hospital cum Mobile Dispensary**

The medical unit of the Mission has done a commendable job in providing medical facilities to the poor below poverty line population. Various diseases such as Fever, Malaria, Typhoid, Hepatitis, Viral Fever, Gastro-Enteritis, Diarrhoea, T.B. etc. are treated and medicines are given free of cost. Table No. 14 below shows the number of patients treated during 1999-2000 and 2001-2002.

**TABLE – 14**

| Period    | No. of SC population treated |   | No. of ST population treated |      | No. of Others population treated |      | Total |
|-----------|------------------------------|---|------------------------------|------|----------------------------------|------|-------|
|           | M                            | F | M                            | F    | M                                | F    |       |
| 1999-2000 | -                            | - | 7103                         | 6173 | 3581                             | 5009 | 21866 |
| 2001-2002 | -                            | - | 5274                         | 5200 | 7309                             | 5905 | 23688 |

The working hours for the Mission schools are 7 hours with one hour break period. The Mission has its own holiday list. Central and State Governments holidays are also observed. Students are admitted to the school and other trades or units after due scrutiny by a Selection Board of the Mission. The SC, ST and OBC students are required to produce caste certificate at the time of admission. The curricula in the secondary school cover almost all the major disciplines including science,

The Mission employs 62 persons but SC and ST employees numbering 14 and 2 respectively seem to be inadequate. But in the residential secondary school out of 7 employees 6 belong to the SC community. Category wise viz. SC, ST and Others no. of employees in respect of vocational training for OBC, Day Care centre for aged people, 10 bedded hospital for ST and mobile dispensary is not shown.

The beneficiaries numbering 25 were happy with the facilities extended by the NGO. The overall functioning of the NGO is satisfactory.

### **NATIONAL YOUTH WELFARE MISSION, MOIDOMIA, NORTH LAKHIMPUR.**

The Mission functions in a rural setting. Lakhimpur district is a flood prone area. There are good number of SC and ST people in this district and NGO has a good scope for undertaking welfare schemes among those riverine people who are extremely backward. To achieve its objective to serve these poor disadvantaged people, the Mission started a residential primary school where SCs and STs are enrolled on preferential basis. But SC students pre dominate in this school. During 2000-01, out of 148 students as many as 123 belonged to SC and only 10 belonged to ST. Again out of 105 students during 2001-2002, 62 students are admitted from the SCs while only 13 students got themselves admitted in the residential school. The authority provides all facilities to the students. This is the only NGO in the present survey where 100% employment opportunities are extended to ST, ST and OBC candidates. Out of 17 nos. of employees, 7 in teaching and 10 in non teaching, 6 belong to SC, 3 to ST and 8 to OBC.

The representation of SC in the Managing Committee is not discouraging. Out of 12 members 5 are from SC. Representative of ST is only nominal i.e. one member from ST is included.

The beneficiaries 2 each from class I to IV were interviewed and they were happy with the facilities extended by the NGO

## CHAPTER – V

### CONCLUSION

Although much of the old characteristics of voluntary organisations have been lost especially in respect of autonomous identity. NGOs today are part and parcel of governmental welfare measures and no longer be treated as catalytic agents of development process in the wake of decentralisation, economic liberalisation and involvement of Non Resident Indians in the scheme of things. The present study of eight NGOs working for development of SC and ST communities in Assam testifies this. In spite of special plans like Tribal Sub Plan, Scheduled Caste Component Plan, Hill Plan over the decades, the development of SC and ST communities is not advancing in the desired lines. The main lacuna lies in the selection of personnel entrusted for development of the backward communities. Thus more involvement of personnel from grass root level has been felt in the formulation and implementation of the welfare schemes meant for SC and ST. It is also felt that personnel from within the communities, can deliver the goods in a greater measure of success as they know the felt needs of the community intimately. Today NGOs role in socio economic development, particularly of backward and depressed sections, can not be underestimated.

NGOs like ASSEFA (Association of Sarva Farms), a Gandhian NGO stands as shining example. It is a case of people being empowered from within. The sample cases in the present study of eight nos. of NGOs show that functions like promotion of community health and nutrition, education, literacy, poverty alleviation, etc. are successfully performed by NGOs, of course, with strict vigilance from the grant sanctioning authority. Constraints of fund were the general complaints of all the NGOs under study. The NGOs also complained that funds were not sanctioned timely. Honorarium could not be paid regularly. Even then the NGOs are functioning well. Funds meant for rural development, poverty alleviation, education available with the Central Ministries may be routed to the select NGOs through CAPART.

It is observed that all the NGOs are maintaining the accounts properly and schemes were implemented as per formulation. One of the successful NGOs complained that for getting the Inspection Report from D.C., the NGOs had to first move the Tribal Welfare Department and then D.C. concerned which was time consuming. The concerned DCs may be empowered to issue Inspection Report directly by the fund sanctioning authority.

Some of the NGOs did not give due emphasis to include members from SC and ST communities in the Managing Committees. Even in the employment sector some schemes do not have required SC/ST employees. As already mentioned, personnel from within the community can deliver the goods in case of SC/ST schemes. As NGOs are entering into the SC/ST welfare in a big way, representatives from reputed NGOs may be invited to the sittings of state level Advisory Committees of SC and ST. Similarly in the Panchayat bodies of village and district levels, representatives of local NGOs may be included which will help in avoiding duplicacy in respect of providing facilities to the SC/ST. To conclude we may quote Shri S.N. Mishra and Ms. Choitali Pal's observation, "The challenge before the NGOs is how to take full advantage of the environment that the government has created through formation of policies and schemes that are helpful to the poor, particularly the rural poor, take advantage of the decentralised institutions created at the grassroots level and work in harmony with such institutions so as to empower the poor to take advantage of the resources available to the both as par of environment in which they live and what the government provides". (Non Government Organisations in Rural Development' – S.N. Mishra and Ms. Chaitali Pal in the Non Government Organisation in Development (Theory and Practice) by Noorjahan Bava (Ed), Kanishka Publishers Distributors, New Delhi, 1997).

## SCHEDULE FOR EVALUATION STUDY ON NGO WORKING FOR SC/ST PEOPLE OF ASSAM

### INSTITUTIONAL SCHEDULE

1. Name and complete postal address (with Telephone No.) of the Organisation. Registration No. & Date. :-
2. Whether the programme/ Trade/ Training School, Mobile Medicine Unit, etc. has been recognised by the State Government/competent authority. :-
3. Type of service provided in the Centre. :-
4. Whether the V.O. follows the principle of joint operation of Bank Accounts. :-

5. Composition of Managing Committee. :-

| SC |   | ST |   | Others |   | Total |   |
|----|---|----|---|--------|---|-------|---|
| M  | F | M  | F | M      | F | M     | F |
|    |   |    |   |        |   |       |   |

6. Activities undertaken by the V.O. :-
7.
  - a Date of actual commencement of the functioning of the School/ Residential School/ Mobile Medicine Unit/Trades/Other programmes etc. (Use separate sheet, if necessary). :-
  - b Working hours. :-
  - c Break period in the working days. :-
  - d Holidays etc. observed in the centre. :-
8. The procedure adopted by the organisation for admission of students to School/Hostel/Trades, etc. :-

9. Whether necessary caste certificates have been obtain at the time of admission of students. :-
10. Facilities provided to the students/beneficiaries. :-
  - a. Uniform :-
  - b. Books & Stationery :-
  - c. Games & sports materials. :-
  - d. Washing & Cosmetic. :-
11. Whether the students are given sufficient food (supply of items of food served to the students in morning, noon and night). :-
12. Whether furniture in the class room and bedroom materials in Hostels have been provided to the students. If so, details thereof. :-
13. Other details given to the students/beneficiaries. :-
14. Details of teaching non teaching Medical and paramedical staff employed. :-

| Sl. No. | Name | Designation | Salary | Qualification | Whether belongs to |    |        |
|---------|------|-------------|--------|---------------|--------------------|----|--------|
|         |      |             |        |               | SC                 | ST | Others |
|         |      |             |        |               |                    |    |        |

(Use separate sheet if necessary)



15. Whether the employees are getting Honarium/Salary regularly and in full (If so, specify the reasons).
16. Whether the organiser is watching the progress of
- The students residing in hostel
  - Beneficiaries of trade centre
  - Health of the beneficiaries (If so, how, please specify).
17. No. of trainees/beneficiaries enrolled for the training during 1999-2000 & 2001-2002.

**a. 1999 - 2000**

| Trades/Class | ST |   |   | SC |   |   | Others |   |   |
|--------------|----|---|---|----|---|---|--------|---|---|
|              | M  | F | T | M  | F | T | M      | F | T |
|              |    |   |   |    |   |   |        |   |   |
|              |    |   |   |    |   |   |        |   |   |
|              |    |   |   |    |   |   |        |   |   |
|              |    |   |   |    |   |   |        |   |   |

(Use Separate sheet if necessary).

**b. 2001 - 2002**

| Trades/Class | ST |   |   | SC |   |   | Others |   |   |
|--------------|----|---|---|----|---|---|--------|---|---|
|              | M  | F | T | M  | F | T | M      | F | T |
|              |    |   |   |    |   |   |        |   |   |
|              |    |   |   |    |   |   |        |   |   |
|              |    |   |   |    |   |   |        |   |   |
|              |    |   |   |    |   |   |        |   |   |
|              |    |   |   |    |   |   |        |   |   |

(Use separate sheet if necessary).

18. What are the potential areas where trainees can get employment after training is over in the centre.

19. Action taken by the V.O. if any :-  
for the placement of trained  
candidates of previous years)

20. What are the disease treated by :-  
the mobile medical unit.

21. Whether medicine supplied are :-  
free of cost.

22. No. of patients treated during the  
year 2000-01 & 2001-02.

| Year      | Male | Female | Total |
|-----------|------|--------|-------|
| 2000-2001 |      |        |       |
| 2001-2002 |      |        |       |

23. What are the main diseased :-  
treated by the V.O.

24. Total grants received during the  
year 1999-2000, 2000-2001.

| Year    | Recurring | Non<br>recurring | Total |
|---------|-----------|------------------|-------|
| 1999-01 |           |                  |       |
| 2001-02 |           |                  |       |

25. Whether grant received has been :-  
fully utilised.

a. 1999-2000 :-

b. 2000-2001

(If not, reason thereof)

26. Difficulties faced by the V.O. :-

27. Your suggestion for overall :-  
improvement of the V.O.

28. Any other information. :-

Signature of the  
Secretary/President with Official Seal;

**EVALUATION STUDY ON NGO  
WORKING FOR SC/ST PEOPLE OF ASSAM**

**BENEFICIARY SCHEDULE**

1. Name of the beneficiary :-
2. Name of the Organisation :-
3. Sex :- Male                      Female
4. Castes :- SC              ST              Others
5. Class/Trades :-
6. Facilities provided to you by the V.O. :-
  - a. Uniform :-
  - b. B. Books and Stationers :-
  - c. Games & sports materials :-
  - d. Washing & cosmetics :-
  - e. Medicines :-
  - f. Any other detail

(Please specify item-wise in details)
7. Whether you are getting sufficient food in the morning, noon and night. (Please specify) :-
8. Whether bedding materials in Hostels have been provided to you. If so, the details thereof :-
9. Is there any tutor/teacher to watch the progress of your studies? If so, subject wise in details. :-
10. Whether you are getting any stipend/scholarship from the V.O.? If so, in details :-
11. Whether any capitation fees/donations/fees etc. have been and are bring changed by the V.O.? If so, specify in details :-

12. Whether you are getting free medicines and treatment from the mobile medical unit :-
13. What are the potential areas where you can get employment after training is over :-
14. Action taken by the V.O. for placement of trained candidates of previous years :-
15. Do you have any complain against the V.O.? If so, in details. :-
16. Whether regular tests are being conducted by the V.O. to watch the progress of your studies? If so, in details. :-
17. Whether the instructors/teachers are capable imparting knowledge and skill. :-
18. Whether you are getting training/study materials regularly. :-
19. Do you have any suggestion for improvement in the training programmes/school/hostels/mobile medical unit, etc. :-
20. Any other information. :-

***Signature of the beneficiary.***