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Perspective

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PLAN FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF C

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PLAN FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF CHENCHUS

TRIBAL CULTURAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE
TRIBAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
HYDERABAD

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P R E F A C E

Chenchus are one of the most primitive tribal groups of Andhra Pradesh who are mainly at the food gathering and hunting stage of economy. In the V Five year Plan, special attention is being paid to the primitive tribal groups in India who are facing problems of survival. Chenchus living in the backward and contiguous areas of Mahaboobnagar, Nalgonda, Hyderabad, Kurnool, Guntur and Prakasham districts are identified as primitive and isolated tribal group.

In order to promote accelerated development of the Chenchus who are at pre-agricultural level of technology, this plan is prepared to indicate advance action necessary to create the proper economic base for perspective development of the Chenchus. Formulation of this plan for Chenchus is fraught with several limitations. The Chenchu villages situated in Nallamalai region of Kurnool and Prakasham districts were treated as R.F. villages and they were under the control of Forest Department. The community development programme and Panchayat Raj Institutions were not extended to these forest villages. Therefore basic data on all developmental activities was not available to assess the present level of development of Chenchus. Land records are not available in these forest villages as they were until recently not under revenue jurisdiction.

Even in Achampet Block of Mahaboobnagar district where community development programmes have been extended, the Chenchus did not receive any special attention which was warranted by their backwardness. In general this group did not receive the attention due to ^{them as they} live in scattered settlements making them local minority group, besides being least vociferous due to low

level of aspirations and visions character sticks of a primitive group and the consequent lack of special allocations.. Perspective plan on the basis of human, forest, agro, mineral and water resources of the project area could not be formulated due to lack of data base which is a result of the limitations mentioned in the chapter on Methodology. In view of urgency of implementation of developmental programmes for Chenchus a preliminary plan is devised.

As the implementation of the development programmes is being taken up on the basis of the broad development frame provided a full fledged perspective plan for the development of Chenchus will be formulated on the basis of the experience gained and comprehensive data collected.

In this family based approach certain infrastructure programmes involving heavy investment such as laying of new roads, electrification of chenchu settlements, credit cum-marketing have not been specially mentioned as the existing infrastructure especially in case of roads and Girijan Co-operative Corporation net work are found to be adequate for the programmes suggested in this preliminary Plan document. Electrification Programme is not considered as the Chenchu ha neither the knowledge nor the other concomitant sectors need this sophisticated infrastructure facility in this short span of three years. However, in the perspective integrated approach proposed to be evolved after creating the economic base with the help of the present document, these infrastructure facilities will also be concomitantly developed so as to serve the promotion of other sectoral programmes.

26th April, 1976.

D.R.PRATAP,
DIRECTOR.

INTRODUCTION

A couple of hundred Kilometres south of Hyderabad metropolis flows the river Krishna through a deep canyon in the heart of green wilderness. In both the flanks of the Krishna river stand the hill ranges which have been excavated by the river over the past several millennia make its own course. The northern extension of the hills in the Mahaboobnagar District is known as Amarabad plateau while the southern extension of the hills runs across the Kurnool and Prakasam Districts. These hill ranges are covered with dense tropical woods popularly known as Nallamalai forests. At the approach of the river Krishna one discovers a modern township throbbing with activity, breaking the stillness of the sylvan surroundings. A small sleepy settlement called Egalapenta till a few years ago has transformed into a modern township with the commencement of the work of giant Srisailem Hydro-electric Project. A bridge spans the river to connect

the two regions long separated by the river Krishna. Across the river at Sunnipenta the massive programme for taming the mighty Krishna for power generation is going on round the clock. Thousands of people, Engineers, skilled and unskilled workers from far off places equipped with modern machinery are engaged in this titanic task.

As the sun rises in the east clearing the morning fog, one beholds the magnificent Srisailem Temple complex, standing in pure white against lush sylvan backdrop. The gleaming golden 'Kalashas' on the fabled Shivaji and Krishna Deva Raya towers greet the pilgrims from a distance. The ancient shrine at Srisailem sanctified by one of Jyotir Lingas in the country draws several thousands of pilgrims every year from all over the country. Every day is a festival day with pilgrims coming from various parts of country performing rituals and associated ceremonies. Day begins at dawn from the presiding deities of Srisailem - Sri Mallikarjuna Swami and Bhramaramba Devi with 'Suprabhatham'. The devotional music reverberating the Krishna Valley wakes up the pilgrims. As the pilgrims live up to enter the sanctum sanctorium the music ends and the microphone blares to announce. Chenchu palanquin bearers should immediately report for duty and prepare the palanquin for 'Palliki Seva' of the Lord.

To inquisitive pilgrims temple authorities explain that the Chenchus were the first inhabitants of the Srisailem and the presiding deities of Srisailem were originally the Chenchu deities. The Chenchus are still allowed to perform their special ritual to the deities now called 'Kumbhostavam' on 'Chaitra Sudda Pournami' every year. As the Srisailem gradually grew into a great Hindu pilgrim centre, the traditional rights of the Chenchus were protected in the form of 'Chenchu Mettas' and 'Pallaki Leva' etc. Until a decade ago, Srisailem was the hub of Chenchu life and economy. Even to this day Srisailem continues to be the centre of Chenchu habitat not only geographically, but also economically with the establishment of giant Hydro-Electric Plant in its proximity.

ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND SOCIAL SYSTEM:

From the top of Shivaji Gopuram over looking the river Krishna, one commands a bird's eye view of the high hill ranges covered with dense tropical forests. The forest clad table land interspersed with hill ranges north of the river Krishna constitutes the famous Amarebad plateau in Mahabubnagar District. Along the southern flank of the river run the Nallamalai hills. The Nallamalai hills run across in the Districts of Ferozabad and Prakasham. It is these dense woods ringed by the Nallamalai hills and Amarebad plateau that constitute the chief habitat of Chenchu Tribe.

The Amarabad plateau lies between 16° and $16^{\circ} 30''$ northern latitude and $78^{\circ} 30'$ and $79^{\circ} 15'$ eastern longitude. In the north the plateau rises sharply to a height of 300 feet over the plains and in the south and east descends precipitously into the valley of the Krishna river. The Amarabad plateau consists of two natural divisions: (1) the lower ledge to the north-east with an altitude of 2,000 feet which slopes eastwards to the Dindi River and (2) the higher ranges to the south-west with an elevation of 2,500 feet. On the lower ledge, where the land was cultivated extensively are situated large settlements like Amarabad, Mannanur and Vatvarlapalli where non-tribals outnumber Chenchus. The higher ranges are still a dense area and predominantly populated by Chenchus.

From the right bank of the Krishna river the hills abruptly rise and extend into the taluks of Atmakur and Mandyal of Kurnool District and Giddalur and Markapur taluks of Prakasham District. Situated between 78° and 80° eastern longitude, the Nallamalai hill ranges run for a distance of 113 K.Ms. in Kurnool and Prakasham District and extend southwards into Cuddapah District as far as Pennar river. The average height of the range is about 606 meters. Towards the north, the hills cluster around the great dome shaped mountain nucleus of Iswarakuppam beyond which its northern tip assumes generally the form of plateau.

PROJECT AREA:

The Chenchu habitat was originally confined to the Nallamalai hill tracts. But the Chenchu population for various reasons in the last one or two centuries had spilled over into the neighbouring areas. As a result the Chenchu habitat now extends over the districts of Mahboobnagar, Kurnool, Prakasham, Guntur and Nalgonda. There are also small pockets of chenchu population in Hyderabad, Warangal and Khammam districts. However, the project area for implementation of Chenchu plan is confined to the contiguous areas of Mahboobnagar, Kurnool, Hyderabad, Prakasham, Guntur, and Nalgonda districts for the sake of administrative convenience. The Chenchu population in the left out areas does not exceed 10% of the total chenchu population which can be benefitted under normal Tribal Welfare programmes.

The Chenchu project area covers chenchu settlements of Achampet Block and Kollepur Block in Mahboobnagar District, Devarekonda Block in Nalgonda District, Atmakur and Nandyal Forest Divisions of Kurnool District, Yerragondapalem, Giddalur and Markapur Blocks of Prakasham District and Macherla Block of Guntur District where the chenchu live in considerable concentration. The project area is contiguous and is bound on the north by

Nalgonda District, on the south by Cuddapah and Nellore Districts, on the east by Prakasham, and on the west by Mahboobnagar District.

The identified project area covers 128 chenchu settlements of which 25 settlements are in scheduled area and the remaining 86 settlements are in non-scheduled area. The total chenchu population in the project area is 14,300 of which 23.2% of chenchu population resides in scheduled area which is in Mahaboobnagar district. The village-wise population particulars are furnished in the Annexure-I.

PHYSICAL FEATURES:

The entire project area belongs to the same geographical formation. It belongs to Archaean age and is made up of the nearby horizontal Srisailem, or Irlande sand stone quartzites, a stage at the top of the Cuddapah system. The quartzites were denuded away and the underlying granite comes to the surface along the Amrabad-Mannanur valley which forms a cultivable plain.

Madapu Chelama valley slates are over laid by a thick series of white brownish red and dirty pink flat lying quartzites and quartzitic sand stones. These form the top most formation of the Irishna series and

named after the great temple of Sriseilam. The river Krishna had cut a deep gorge into these quartzites all along its course in the Nallamalai dividing the Kurnool and Prakasham Districts from Mahabubnagar District. Ferruginous variations are also noticed here and there. At places thin beds of purple shales are met with.

The hills are seamed with narrow valleys which cut through the hills from north-east to the south-west in Amerabad plateau and south-west to north-east in the Nallamalai hills. In the rainy season torrents rush through the rocky ravines into Krishna, but soon after monsoon these hill streams run dry exposing the naked rocky beds. During dry season the principal sources of water are a few springs which ooze from the stream beds and even mountain sides. The Chenchu habitat is generally characterised by the scarcity of potable water supply. It is this scourge that probably prevents large scale settlements of Chenchus. There are, however, one or two minor perennial streams like Gundla Kamma which meander through the Chenchu habitat. The Krishna river, however, carries water throughout the year. As Prof. Heimendorf very aptly describes the various phases of the river Krishna in a year thus: "A roaring, surging tide, flooding the gorge during the monsoon, it falls in April and May to a clear stream, flanked by yellow sand banks and

stretches of cracked, sun burnt mud; in some places it shrinks within its rocky basin and runs deep, narrow and green, or lingers in tranquil pools at the foot of naked red sand stone cliffs, but in others where the flow is diffused over long stretches of pebbles and boulders it rushes in broad shallow rapids"*

CLIMATE:

In the main chenchu habitat the year is punctuated by three seasons characterised by sharp variations in temperature and rainfall. Summer lasts from middle of February to the end of May during which the temperature reaches 105° F. The Summer is followed by rainy season. The rains start early in June and last until October with interruptions. The annual precipitation in the area averages 25". In the higher hills of Bellamalai area the rainfall is above 40". Minor showers occur during other seasons. From November the winter lasts till February. The nights are much colder in the Chenchu belt than in the neighbouring plains in the winter.

* C. Von Furer Heimendorf, The Aboriginal Tribes of Hyderabad Vol-I - The Chenchus, Mac Millan & Co., Ltd., London, 1943 pp.....11.

The Chenchu habitat is a typical refuge area of a tribe of primitive hunters and food-gatherers. The rocky terrain and poor type and depth of soils in the higher ranges offer little scope for agriculture and hence the forests have remained immune to the depredations of cultivators from plains. Endowed with a rich variety of flora and fauna the area provided the forest inhabitants with sufficient produce of the forest.

The Chenchu habitat endowed with a variety of flora and fauna changes its face in consonance with the seasons of the year. The seasons and concomitant influence on the forest are greatly reflected in the life and economy of the Chenchu tribe of food gatherers and hunters. A vivid description of the marked phases in annual cycle of natural vegetation in the Chenchu country is useful in understanding the forest potentialities of the area. In the tropical deciduous forests of the Chenchu belt, the trees laden with leaves, ranging from deep green, bright yellow to flaming red start shedding by the end of the January. The tall grass slowly wilts and turns straw-coloured. But the autumn landscape is here and there studded with small bushes covered with pink blossoms. As the temperature slowly increases and the winter cold recedes, the trees lose their leaves and

the stems of the creepers with dried up foliage hang like tangled ropes about the bare branches of the trees. As the year advances into March, the bare trees and dried up leaves on the ground which are often burnt due to accident present a picture of complete desolation. The leafless trees offer no shade, while the bare ground and stony surface radiating the sun's heat scald the human feet.

Towards the end of March, however, buds begin to appear and the some trees start budgening soon afterwards. The spring (Vasanta) is heralded by the exotic scent from Neem flowers. Soon the arid landscape was brightened by the carmine flowers of wild silk cotton, the yellow stellar blossoms of *Glemelina arborea* and others. Clusters of wild figs begin to ripen and the first Mohwa flowers fall to the ground, lending colour to the grey and gruesome landscape and filling the air with intoxicating aroma.

At the end of April thunderstorms followed by showers change the face of the forest within a few days. New tendrils spring from the stems of climbers, new leaves develop on many of the trees and cascades of bright yellow blossoms of *Cassia Pistula* light up the forest. Despite the torrid heat of mid summer, the

fresh luscious green of the new foliage of the forest, the ripening berries of *Buchanania Latifolia*, *Ficus Bengalensis*, mangoes and an abundance of Mohwa flower herald spring in the life of Chenchu. As the springs ushers in, the period of want suddenly ends and period of plenty commences for the Chenchus.

By June the entire forest looks lush with new foliage. The monsoon breaks out in June to nurture the grass. Soon the ground turns into a green carpet spread from horizon to horizon. By August the vegetation thickens, the climbers with large leaves, tangles of white and lemon tinted flowers lend colour to the green back drop. In places the forest turns into blocks of impenetrable thickets. The weather is cool and damp, the monsoon sun playing hide and seek across the cloudy sky.

FAUNA:

The tropical deciduous forests of the Chenchu habitat constitute the home of a great variety of wild game. There are considerable numbers of bears, panthers, hyaenas, wild cats and wild dogs. In some areas, tigers still pose a danger to cattle and men. Sambar, spotted deer, wild goat, nilgai, four horned antelopes and wild pigs are hunted by the Chenchus with bow and arrows. The smaller game such as hare, red and grey squirrel,

porcupine, brown and grey monkeys, rats, mice and monitor are hunted by the Chenchus for food.

There are multitudes of vividly coloured birds of which the peacocks are most graceful. Jungle fowls, parrots, doves and pigeons, crows, wood peckers, wag tails and hosts of smaller birds are found throughout the area. Numerous water birds live along the Krishna and Gundlakamma valleys, while birds of prey like kile, hawk, eagle and vulture are common in the area.

The reptiles, both poisonous and non-poisonous as well as various kinds of insects are plentiful in the Chenchu habitat. In the abundant flora of the Chenchu habitat honey bees flourish, providing honey in great quantities for the honey collecting Chenchus.

CHENCHU HABITAT THROUGH AGES:

It is in these forests walled off by the high hill ranges that the primitive tribe of Chenchu has been living in a state of semi-seclusion from time immemorial. They lived in a state of perfect ecological equilibrium until the outsiders encroached into their home. There is copious evidence to believe that the Chenchu habitat has had long history of contacts. But it is not known precisely when the first break in the seclusion occurred.

trekking. Small temples were also built along the routes. Such temples are found at Umamaheswaram and Nagaluti. The Chenchus living in the settlements situated along the routes used to lead a symbiotic life. They used to work as guides and porters to the pilgrims in jungle tracks. They used to protect the pilgrims from wild predators and in return the Chenchu used to collect traditional doles from the pilgrims. It is these doles that sustained the Chenchus living along the routes for many a month in a year. When the doles got exhausted, they fell back on forest for food.

There are many ruins in the Nallamalai and Anarabad plateau to speak of the contacts in the more recent history of the area. The ruined forts near Nagaluti in Atmakur Taluk of Tarnool District, Chennakesava Swami Temple near Ganjivaripalle in Markepur Taluk of Prakasham District and ruined forts and towers at Chandragupta and Madimankar in Achempet Taluk in Mahaboobnagar District testify to the age old contacts between Chenchus and rulers from outside. There are also many wells and tanks on the Anarabad plateau and in the Nallamalai forests constructed long time back. These cannot be the works of pre-agricultural Chenchus. These may be the remains of the military out posts stationed there to guard the frontiers of various kingdoms in the past. In the Achempet Taluk, however, there are traces of occupation by the

outsiders especially at places like Mannanur, Umamaheswarar
Amarabad and Boramacheruvu even before the Nizam's rule
in the area*.

It is not known that how long the infiltration of
the Chenchu area by the outsiders continued but their in-
fluence on the Chenchus appears to have remained super-
ficial. The contacts between the groups did not seem to
have fostered into a symbiotic relationship. Once the
immigrants and invaders had left the area, they were soon
forgotten; only their ruined forts, temples, wells and
tanks remained behind as endowments of the outsiders to the
Chenchus. These water sources might have also influenced
the settlement pattern of the Chenchus whose habitat has
been marked by acute scarcity of water.

In the long chequered history, the Chenchu habitat
did not register any marked change, until the forests of
the area were taken under control of Forest Department for
modern management and commercial exploitation towards the
close of 19th Century. Eventhough many other groups in-
filtrated into what was the traditional home of the Chenchu,

*C.Von Puror Haimendorf; The Chenchus, London (1943)
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a chenchu man or woman can easily be distinguished by any one due to his primitive features and extreme backwardness.

RACIAL FEATURES:

In spite of long contacts with outsiders, the Chenchu can easily be identified by his coarse and primitive features. However, the Chenchus do not constitute a homogenous ethnic group. Racially they can be classified into two types. The first group is more primitive one characterised by "a low face, steep forehead, a deep depression at the root of the nose, eyes overhung by strong supra orbital ridges and a broad, flat nose with wide nostrils. The mouth is large with a tendency to prognathism or rather small and child like with full upturned lips. The chin is small and pointed and usually receding".* An average Chenchu is of slender, medium stature, the average height of men being around 160 Cm. Their skin colour is usually black and rarely fair. The hair is coarse and wavy or curly. The facial growth is very weak and men have very sparse growth of beard and moustaches. According to measurements of B.S. Guha and observations of C. Von Furor Haimendorf, all Chenchus are dolichocephalic. The second group is mostly found in the

*C.Von Furor Haimendorf: The Chenchus, London (1943)
P.....

periphery of the main Chenchu habitat in the mixed villages or at the close proximity of Telugu people. The second group is more progressive in appearance than the first group characterised by a more prominent nose, a longer face and a stronger chin. Prof. Hainendorf is of the opinion that some of the somatic characteristics of the most ancient stratum in Indian racial history which Lickstedt found among the primitive tribes like Panyan and Kanikkars are exhibited by the first group of Chenchus.

The extreme backwardness is reflected in social and cultural life of the Chenchu. In the long march of human civilisation, these sons of the forests seemed to have missed their train of progress. They lost their way and found shelter in this refuge area. The rocky terrain, uncontrollable vegetative growth, lack of major water source did not permit agriculture. The luxuriant forests, endowed with rich flora and fauna, however, was a veritable store house of a wide variety of natural vegetarian and non-vegetarian food for the Chenchu. In course of time, the Chenchu developed the artifacts, socifacts and mentifacts suited to his style of life in his inhospitable jungle habitat.

The Chenchus in the heart of Nallamalai and Parshabad plateau seemed to have remained almost totally

secluded and time seemed to have stopped for them. The pilgrim traffic for the last several centuries and forest administration have had but superficial influence on the social and cultural life of the Chenchus. Their meagre and primitive material and non-material cultural traits indicate that they remained stagnant for several centuries. Ferishta's account of Chenchus confirms this. Ferishta describing the Chenchus in his 'History of Deccan in 1694' wrote: 'Their common food is honey, the roots of trees, plants and the flesh of animals caught in hunting. They are exceedingly black with long hair on every part of their bodies, and on their heads wore caps made of the leaves of trees. Each man had with him unbarbed arrows and a bow for hunting. They molest no one and live in caverns or under the shady branches of trees'*. A reconnoitral survey of the Chenchus in Andhra Pradesh conducted by the Tribal Cultural Research and Training Institute, Hyderabad reveals that the Chenchus in the interior Nallamalai and Farhabad forests have not changed much from the times of Ferishta. They still live as children of the forest. For these Chenchus, life from birth to death is a long and hazardous struggle for food for survival.

* Jonathan Scott: Ferishta's History of Deccan Shrewsbury 1794, Vol.II, P.P.83, 84.

SETTLEMENT PATTERN:

In their eternal pursuit for food, the Chenchus lead a semi-nomadic life. Their range of peregrination is determined by the availability of flora and fauna. Location of Forest coupes are also an important factor in determining the peregrination pattern, as most Chenchus depend upon forest labour for some months. In accordance with their semi-nomadic life, the Chenchus build simple shelters or huts with locally available material.

Most of the Chenchus build houses of bamboo and thatch them with grass. These constitute their permanent shelters. Many of them erect temporary conical shaped huts without any walls and roof them with leaf laden branches. The temporary shelters are erected in the proximity of 'Ippa' trees or near forest coupes. The permanent settlement is inhabited in the rainy season and greater part of winter. They move away from the permanent villages and live in small temporary settlements during the next season.

The community life is weakly developed among the Chenchus unlike among other tribes. The weak community life is reflected in the Chenchu settlement pattern. It is not uncommon to find lone chenchu hut secluded

from the rest of the Chenchu settlement. It is interesting to note that brothers do not live in proximity. It is attributed to the institution of levirate among the Chenchus. The wife is a prized possession of every chenchu. Marriage costs him a fortune. Hence he cannot afford to marry again. Life is impossible for the Chenchu without wife. Food gathering and honey collection expeditions require the assistance of his wife. As the levirate marriages are in vogue in the Chenchu Tribe, the Chenchu man does not trust his brothers. He keeps away from his brothers both in constructing houses and in hazardous honey collection and hunting expeditions because of his ingrained suspicion that the brother who is entitled to inherit his wife after his death may conspire to kill him in these dangerous pursuits to claim the only economic asset his wife. The affines are therefore preferred partners in all these risky expeditions.

CHENCHU DWELLINGS:

The Chenchu huts are entirely made of local material. The permanent huts consist of circular wall and a conical thatched roof. The circular wall is generally of wattle. As bamboo is available in abundance, they use bamboo wattle. The wattle wall is seldom plastered with mud. It is still rarer to find white washed chenchu houses. The Chenchu huts are between 8 to 15 feet

in diameter. The area of the circular huts varies according to the economic status and size of the family.

After choosing the house site, and clearing the site for house construction, the Chenchus bring the necessary bamboos numbering 25 to 30. They prepare the bamboos by trimming to the required size. The plinth of the hut is measured with a piece of string or bamboo measure. The centre of the plinth is marked and with the help of a string-measure the circle is drawn. Along the circle at every 3 or 4 inches bamboo stakes of 3 to 4 feet length are hitched. Towards the east an opening of 3 feet wide is left for doorway. When the walls are woven to a height of 4 feet, the lintel resting on two forked posts is set up and lashed with fibre to the wattle walls. A door frame is fixed up in the opening provided for in the wattle wall. The entire wattle structure is so simple and portable that it is sometimes woven at a convenient place under shady tree and transported on completion to the house site by the Chenchu themselves.

While the men are engaged in constructing the house, the women gather thatching grass and stack near the house. The men thatch the roof with the grass. Thatching is worked from below upwards. Each layer of

grass overlaps the one below. The thatch is held in place by a strip of bamboo that encircles the roof and acts as a binder which is tied to the rafters. When the thatching is completed, long trigged bamboos are laid over the thatch and lashed to the crown to prevent the thatching grass from being blown off by the wind.

The temporary huts of Chenchus are simpler and smaller and can be erected in a few hours. The grass is thatched over a simple conical frame work of stick or bamboos tied at the apex. The base diameter is seldom more than 6 feet. The entrance is so small that one has to kneel into the hut.

ECONOMY:

The Chenchus are essentially a tribe of hunters and food gatherers. A vast majority of them inhabiting the forests of Nallamalai and Amerabad plateau continue to be in this lowest and primeval stage of human development. The dense forest-clad hilly country served as a refuge area for these primitive group isolating them from the main stream of the society. Despite the fleeting contacts with the outside world through pilgrim population from very early times, the currents of change in the economic sphere that swept through the neighbouring plains did not seem to have reached the Chenchus. The

Chenchu habitat has been largely immune to outside influences. The shortage of water coupled with absence of fertile chunks of land in the Chenchu belt has been a major constraint for development of agriculture. At the same time, due to these two factors the Chenchu area did not attract agricultural population from the neighbouring plains. These geo-human factors have contributed to the stagnation of the Chenchu economy.

Describing the Chenchu economy three and a half decades ago, Christoph Von Furor Heimendorf wrote: "The Chenchu depends for nine tenths of his food supply on that which nature provides and it is only a limited number of families who, by owning a few domestic animals, are emerging from this lowest and primeval stage of human development. Cultivation is generally restricted to the planting of small plots of millet or Indian corn and the raising of a few tomatoes and chillies in the immediate vicinity of the houses. The resultant crops, however, are too negligible to add appreciably to the food supply of the Chenchus". Three and a half decades have not brought about any marked change in the life and economy of Chenchu. The observations of Heimendorf hold good even today for the Chenchus of interior Nallamalai and Parhabad. The recent reconnaissance survey provides ample empirical evidence in support of this.

Almost all Chenchus living in the Nallamalai forests and Parhabad and Amarabad forests depend almost entirely on forest for food and work. For a major part of the year the Chenchu relies upon the digging stick and the forest is the veritable store house of their food. The Chenchu calendar is marked by various seasons for tubers, roots, fruits, leaves and game hunting. Except during the period when the Chenchu get sufficient money income from forest labour, the Chenchu is engaged in collection of edible forest produce.

The most important item of their food is a large variety of tubers (Gaddas) each of which has a separate period for harvest. The most important of the tubers is 'Nalle Gadda'. It is a tuber of a large leaves Yellow flowered jungle plant. The Chenchu mostly depend upon on the 'Nallegadda' in February and March. 'Travelagadda' and 'Nulagadda', two important tubers of yam like creepers are available throughout the year except during the monsoon. 'Chenchu Gadda' is another important root which the Chenchus collect mostly during the rains when the other tubers are scarce, while 'Donda Gadda' is collected at all seasons, its ripened seeds are eaten raw in June. 'Sama-pure Gadda' is a round bulbous root of a small wild plant which sprouts up with first rains and is ready for collection after monsoon. Its pods are also collected and boiled

to extract seeds for consumption. There is the ubiquitous 'Gati Gadde' which is consumed only in acute scarcity of other 'Gaddes'.

The forest provides them a wide variety of fruits, nuts and flowers to please their palate. In January, he collects the large brown velvety pods of Adde creeper. The pods are roasted or boiled to extract the green seeds for consumption. Shortly afterwards, tamarind fruit is collected. The sour tamarind fruit is coated with ash to reduce acidity and eaten raw by the Chenchus till the end of February. Then come the green berries of Chironji (Charapappu) in March. The shells are cracked and kernel is extracted and eaten. During, March, 'Chironji' is the only major forest produce for Chenchu when other fruits and roots become scarce. By first week of April, however, forest food prospects improve 'Mikirikai' *Ficus infectoria*, *Ficus glomerata* and *Picopyros melanoxylon* ripen one after another, heralding a period of plenty for the Chenchu.

The commence the season of 'IPPA' for which the Chenchu eagerly await. The Chenchu go to the 'Ippa' trees at the first greying of dawn to collect the wind falls of corollae. The Ippa flower season lasts two months. Much of the harvest is boiled and eaten, while a smaller portion is set aside each day by individual families for distillation of liquor. The Chenchus boil the leaves of

wild plant with 'Ippa' flowers to counteract the sickly sweetness of the Ippa flower. The 'Ippa' flower is dried in sun for several days. It is soaked in water for twenty four hours and allowed to ferment. 'Kareka chakka' (bark of wild tree) is mixed with the dried flower in order to precipitate fermentation.

By May the Chironji fruits ripen and the Chenchu eat the pleasant sweet flavoured pulp as well as the kernels. It is during this period, that wild mangoes and fruit of *Ficus bengalensis* come into season. Towards the first week of June the period of plenty comes to a close and the Chenchu fall back on tubers. The tender leaves of tamarind are collected, boiled and eaten. Then come the Neredu fruit (*Eugenia Jamboo lens*) by the end of June.

With outbreak of monsoon, numerous plants sprout up. The tender leaves are collected by the Chenchu. Among the leaves frequently consumed by the Chenchus are Dogal Kura, Pauli Kura, Banka kura, Bodu Mala Kura and Sher Kura. From October to January, the Chenchu have nothing but tubers. It is during this period that their diet is devoid of vital nutrients.

Honey collection constitutes the most important economic pursuit for the Chenchus for some months in a

year. When the forest is aglow with inflorescence of *Boswellia serrata* and *Albizia procera*, the honey-collection season commences. Honey is seldom used to supplement the Chenchu diet. Honey is extracted from the combs and sold to plains people. Only the empty combs containing larvae and wax are eaten by the Chenchu..

Collection of honey is very hazardous. The Chenchu set out in small parties of three on honey collection expeditions. They first locate the honey combs and decide the technique to be employed for collection. Every technique involves skill and risk. If the honey comb is situated on the cliff face, long ropes are used to scale the cliff face to reach the combs. These ropes are secured to a tree on the cliff top to be watched over by a relative who is mostly a brother-in-law or son-in-law.

A twigged bamboo is first tied to the end of a stout fibre rope which is slowly let down over the side of the cliff. A chenchu man climbs down the rope and standing on the twigged bamboo parallel with the honey comb lashes himself firmly to the bamboo so that his arms are free for the work in hand. The man on top of the cliff slowly drops a long rope to which is attached a barbed bamboo spike, and the man on the twigged bamboo begins to swing so as to reach the honey comb with barbed bamboo spike.

opening of roads and extension of the activities of the Forest Department, has brought several changes in the dietary habits of Chenchus. The influx of a large number of plains people on the opening of the roads and the construction of the Srisailem Hydro-electric Project resulted in the progressive depletion of forests and indiscriminate killing of wild animals. Further with the improved transport facilities the wild fruits are being easily transported to the plains depriving the chenchus. The forest which could support only a limited number of people per Sq. mile, could not satisfy the dietary requirements of chenchus with the large increase in the density of population and commercialisation of forest produce. Under these circumstances the chenchus were forced to become labourers under the Forest Department or private contractors. The chenchus became experts in bamboo cutting, which became a major source of livelihood for a considerable part of the year. Some chenchus were also employed by the Forest Department as Guards and Village headmen on regular monthly wages, which brought significant changes in their traditional diet. The chenchus with regular salaried income have taken to rice eating as a novelty. Seeing the salaried class of Chenchus, other chenchus also gradually started consuming rice. The Forest Department has also contributed to formation of new food habit among Chenchus as it imported rice from outside and paid

wages partly in the form of rice to the Chenchu labourers. As paddy is not grown in this area, the imported raw and highly polished milled rice, deficient in vitamins, is consumed. With commercialisation several forest foods, which were their seasonal diets, are being sold for money. Thus forest foods and meat are becoming scarce in their diets and they are living mainly on rice, chilly chutney and wild leaves.

Wild leguminous seeds are collected and consumed by the Chenchus from times immemorial. Thanks to the little bitterness in the seeds, they are not commercialised. Red gram was introduced into their diets through the wandering tradesman and contractors, but the quantity of consumption is negligible.

However, in some places like Farhabad where the Chenchu lead a symbiotic life with cattle breeding Lambadas, the Chenchus acquired new food habits. The cattle breeding lambadis produce milk in excess of their requirements, which they cannot market in the interior jungles. Hence they convert the milk into cheese and curd to extract butter and ghee. The cheese butter and ghee are sold, while the excess butter milk is given to the Chenchus, who in turn fetch them water from the far off streams for the Lambadas. This symbiotic relationship between these

two communities is saving the chenchus from virtual starvation during rainy season, which is their extreme scarcity period. But the chenchus are yet to take up cattle rearing systematically.

Kitchen gardening is also not universal in the Chenchu area. Due to the present day culture contact, they are purchasing some vegetables occasionally, but no attempts were yet made to raise vegetables on a regular basis.

The impact of urbanisation on the food habits is very interesting. Several chenchu households at Srisailem and Mannanur which are urbanised have acquired the habit of tea. Having been employed as menial servants in hotels and with the contractors, they get tea sometimes from their employers. This has been taken as a novelty and prestigious item by the Chenchus. It was also observed that they were purchasing curries, sambar etc., from the hotels. Idli, Dosa, Sambar purchased from the hotels are relished with great. The influence of the hotels on their food habits was so high that the chenchus employed as household servants or Government servants are not at all bothering to prepare any curry at home, when they could afford to purchase curries from the hotels.

The plight of the Chenchus living in the forest areas regarding food is very serious to-day. They could neither obtain their food entirely from the forest, due to depletion, increase in the density of population, competition from non-tribals and commercialisation of forest foods; nor completely switch over to modern foods by taking up agriculture, animal husbandry or household industries. Except Bamboo cutting and forest labour, the Chenchus were not taking up any other manual labour, which limit their employment opportunities, to certain seasons only. During periods of unemployment they lead a semi starvation and under nourishment.

The nutritional deficiencies among pre-school age children, pregnant and lactating mothers were more serious. Deficiency diseases were more pronounced among them. The State and Central Governments have launched crash nutrition programmes to help these vulnerable segments. Most of the school going children have been provided with free boarding in the Ashram Schools. But as soon as these children leave the schools, they have to face semi-starvation and under-nourishment.

CRIMINAL PROPENSITIES OF CHENCHUS

The Weakly developed community life with built in suspicion of blood relatives and unproductive area and the consequent lack of stable occupation which usually result in periodic 'loss of nerve' forced some of the Chenchus to make a hazardous living on highway robbery and thieving. These periods of maladjustment which occur intermit^tently have been witnessed since a long time. Even when the pilgrims to Srisaillam were to trek through Chenchu country, incidents of Chenchu dacoities were narrated as reminiscence of pilgrimage and even a section of the Chenchus living in Telangana area were notified as criminal tribe. Eventhough, most of them have given up criminal activities certain hard core elements still remain in two or three villages, viz., Chilakacherla, Indireswaram and Allipalem. Frequent highway robberies and the resultant clashes with police have been reported and many of the incorrigible Chenchus lead a nomadic life, shifting their habitat in thick jungles to escape the law and order machinery. It is

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said that outsiders are afraid to enter Chilakacherla village for fear of ~~Chenchu~~ attack. Even the neighbouring Chenchus are also afraid of these villagers as some of them are victims of their predatory activities. These highway robberies and thefts are mostly committed for securing food grains from grain from grain carrying vehicles passing through Chenchu country and goats and other animals from neighbouring villages.

Offender complex and the resultant isolation from main stream of society and other law abiding section of their own group is also another important factor of recidivism. It is therefore imperative that these habitual offenders are brought under scheme of re-socialisation involving preventive, reformatory and productive measures. As a first step a temporary police post is to be established in Chilakacherla village for preventing them from their predatory activities and provide protection to the peace loving Chenchus of surrounding villages. The stern punitive action will certainly forestall recidivism.

The habitual offenders have to be assigned cultivable lands as a second step for reformation. Agricultural inputs have to be supplied free of cost

to those of the offenders to whom lands are assigned and should be guided at various stages of cultivation. Adequate food grains also should be supplied to these offenders till they get their first harvest. Training-cum-Production Centre has to be established to wean away the youth from delinquency by introducing them to productive activity. Training in forestry, logging techniques should be imparted. They should be taught Carpentry, Basket making etc., for which raw material is abundantly available in the vicinity of their habitats. The present primary school at Chilakacherla village should be converted into Ashram School with craft based education to keep the children away from the deteriorating home environment. While converting the existing Ashram School at Allipalem into a craft based one, the Ashram School at Bairlutu should also be converted into a craft based one and all Chenchu children of school-age should be enrolled in the school.

As the task of rehabilitation involves several difficulties, non-official organisations like Ramakrishna mission, or Chinmayananda Mission may be encouraged to undertake clinical methods of reformation of habitual offenders among Chenchus, especially the latter which has evolved the AWARE training for tribal youth. This

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could be adopted in preventing the Chenchu from taking to asocial activities of their elders and channelise their energies for constructive activities. Functional literacy centres may also be simultaneously started.

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CHENCHU DEVELOPMENT INRETROSPECT

THE welfare of Chenchus of Nallamalais has been the concern of the Forest Department from a very long time. But the forest conservancy laws of 1860 and the encroachment of neighbouring plains living agricultural population resulted in curtailing the area of perigrination for their food gathering. However, certain rights were provided in section 26 of Madras Forest Act, 1885 permitting the tribals to free grazing in forest areas, utilization of bamboo for house construction etc. Various welfare schemes were also tried from time to time by the Forest Department with a view to wean them away from their nomadic food gathering life by way of settling them in bigger settlements and providing welfare measures such as land for cultivation, plough bullocks etc., rights to use all minor forest produce for their domestic purposes as well as for sale. Taking advantage of the concession of allowing free collection of minor forest produce for sale by Chenchus and their ignorance, the private traders used to collect minor forest produce at rock bottom prices in

lieu of the usurious loans advanced to them, thus denying the benefits of the concession to the tribals in addition to the income lost by Forest Department due to non-auction of forests. Consequently in 1888 the Forest Department cancelled the permission given to Chenchus for collection and sale of minor forest produce. But as it caused much hardship to Chenchus, the concession was restored subsequently. From 1905 to 1917 large scale forest plantation activities were undertaken engaging the Chenchu labour. A sum of Rs.4,50,000 was spent on about 1200 acres of teak plantation and as a result a large number of Chenchus found regular appointment. The District Forest Officer, Kurnool West, Mr. F.A. Wood rendered yeoman service for about 9 years in the cause of Chenchu reclamation and welfare. Due to lack of finances the plantation work was stopped in the subsequent years and it resulted in acute shortage of work for the Chenchus. Added to this, in the same year, the South-West monsoon failed and virulent type of influenza, Cholera and small pox penetrated Nallamalais and took heavy toll of many lives. These difficulties and miseries forced them to resort to crime and violence. To mitigate the situation the Forest Department opened emergency coupes near Chenchu Gudems in 1919 and continued the same upto 1925 with a view to wean the Chenchus from unlawful activities and

bring them under control.

In addition to it the Government appointed a Special Officer, a Sub-Assistant Surgeon and one Education Superintendent specially to look after the welfare of the Chenchus. These officers entrusted with the task of rehabilitating chenchus by implementing ameliorative measures for the improvement of their economic conditions. They were expected to initiate suitable measures in consultation with the District Forest Officer, for providing employment opportunities to the chenchus. They were to ensure that chenchu children take to education in satisfactory numbers, improve sanitary condition refrain chenchus from setting forests on fire and implement preventive measures against the outbreak of dacoity and help in rounding up persons who might commit serious crimes. Further, it was made compulsory condition that the contractors working the bamboo coupes should employ the Chenchu labour for exploiting the forest resources.

For implementing these welfare measures effectively, every Chenchu Gudem was put incharge of a Chenchu headman and a deputy headman, who were employed on salary basis. In addition to helping the officials they were to maintain a register for recording the physical presence of the Chenchus in the colony both in morning and evening.

Any one who was found absent had to give satisfactory explanation. However, this practice caused great hardship to the Chenchus and they began to look upon all Government measures with distrust. As the response of the Chenchus to the initial welfare measures was not satisfactory, they were practically withdrawn in 1925, but the surveillance against crime continued till the forties.

In 1940's efforts were renewed for the educational and economic development of the Chenchus. The number of schools was increased and steps were taken to improve the working conditions of the forest labourers. It had been made compulsory, as before, for the contractors taking coupes in the forest inhabited by the Chenchus to engage Chenchu labourers only. They used to advance money to the Chenchus for purchasing their daily requirements. The contractors were advised to open provision shops near Chenchu Gudems and as far as possible supply their requirements in kind.

Since the initiation of Planning era, it was not until 2nd five year plan that the Government of India sanctioned a scheme of 'Land Colonization of Chenchus' at Bairlutu and Nagaluty Gudems as centrally sponsored project. Under this a Cooperative Land Colonization scheme was started in March 1957 for settling 100 households by providing the following amenities.

- 1) Reclamation of 500 acres of land for cultivation purpose at 4 acres of dry land and 1 acre of wet land per family.
- 2) Irrigation facilities.
- 3) Construction of huts
- 4) Purchase of plough bullocks at the rate of one pair per family
- 5) Supply of agricultural implements.
- 6) Supply of improved seeds.
- 7) Sinking of wells.
- 8) Civic amenities.
- 9) Construction of staff quarters.

The society started functioning with 40 members on the roll and share capital of Rs.5/- per member. A Senior Cooperative Inspector from the Cooperative Department was placed in charge of the society, under the general guidance of a Board of Directors consisting of 7 members including Deputy Tahsildar, Atmakur, Forest Range Officer, Bairlutu, Agricultural Demonstrator, Atmakur and four Chenchu non-official members.

During 1959-60 an area of 150 acres of land was made fit for cultivation and the society itself took up cultivation as the Chenchus were not willing to individually cultivate the lands. Accordingly 72 acres of land

was brought under cultivation and it suffered a loss of Rs.5,279 as against the investment of Rs.5,432-00. During 1960-61 the lands were distributed to the members of the colony. But the response was poor as they were lacking the technical know how for conducting settled cultivation. Again the society took up the cultivation and incurred heavy loss due to heavy rains. From then onwards Society ceased to function and the lands were left for cultivation to Chenchus themselves. But majority of them leased out their lands to plains cultivators of the nearby villages.

The low technological level of the Chenchus and their inability to deal with the complexities of the modern world made it impossible for them to ensure that the measures meant for their benefit are executed properly. In addition to their apathy, the other administrative shortcomings of the scheme also wrecked the implementation process of the scheme in the initial stages.

For the Chenchus living in Telangana region of erstwhile Nizam's dominions, Prof. Haimendorf, the then Adviser to Nizam's Government on Backward Classes and Tribal Groups evolved a special programme for their development after conducting a study into the life and problems of Chenchus, as part of larger programme for the development of backward and tribal groups of the region.

In 1942, sincere efforts were made to improve the educational and economic standards of the jungle Chenchus. In the same year, the Nizam's Government created a Chenchu Reserve and certain ameliorative schemes were started for the benefit of Chenchus living on the northern side of river Krishna. An area of 7,50,000 acres was declared as Chenchu Reserve. They were permitted to hunt and collect forest produce. The Minor Forest Produce was purchased by the Forest Department and in turn they were provided their daily requirements. No outsider was allowed to settle in Chenchu Reserve. Schedule of wages was fixed for the Chenchus working under the forest contractor. A provision was also made for medical attention. Employment rules were also relaxed to appoint Chenchus in the Forest Department.

In the following pages an attempt is made to give an account of the efforts so far made for the development of Chenchus during the planning era.

AGRICULTURE:

The land allotted to the Chenchus in various villeges of both the areas (i.e.,) Amarebad Plateau in Mahaboobnagar District and in Nallamalais of Kurnool and Prakasam Districts is not being cultivated by the Chenchus due to many bottlenecks in the implementation of

agricultural schemes sponsored by the concerned agencies. The Chenchus could not enjoy fully the fruits of the schemes. The high yielding variety of seed supplied to the Chenchus actually did not reach the Chenchus as they were snatched away by the non-tribal cultivators living in the Chenchu villages. For example during 1972-73, the high yielding paddy seeds to the tune of 18.95 metric tonnes were distributed to the tribals to cover an area of 858 acres of land in Achampet Block of Mahboobnagar District. This appears to be on the high side. The Chenchu do not have so much land under irrigation and almost all the lands under cultivation are leased out or owned by non-tribals. In addition to this, hybrid Bajra, Jowar etc., have been distributed to cover an area of 117.36 acres. There was no intensive development of agriculture in Nallamalais. But in 1957 under Bairluty and Nagaluty Chenchu Gudems Land Colonisation schemes, the Forest Department spent an amount of Rs.2,11,000-00. The Chenchus were provided dwelling houses, at a cost of Rs.500/- each. Plough bullocks were also supplied to facilitate the cultivation of an area of 805 Acres under the direct supervision of an Agricultural Fieldman. But it was told that the fruits of the scheme were not enjoyed by the Chenchus and it proved to be an utter failure. The plough bullocks and agricultural implements supplied to the Chenchus were lost and

most of the Chenchu lands leased out to Non-tribals. The following table gives the details of land under Chenchu possession in various villages of the Chenchu area and the area leased out to non-tribals.

TABLE

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Name of the Chenchu village	Extent of land available	Extent of land under cultivation by the Chenchu	Extent of land leased out to the N.Ts.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
1)	Mahbubnagar District	Vankeswaram	15.00	--	15.00
		Padra	150.00	35.00	115.00
		Macharam Colony	15.00	15.00	--
		Vetvarlapalli	70.00	25.00	45.00
		Udimella	130.00	--	130.00
		Appapur	48.00	28.00	20.00
		Rampur	50.00	--	50.00
		Chitlamkunta	40.00	--	40.00
		Umamaheswaram	40.00	25.00	15.00
		Chennampalli	50.00	--	50.00
		Billakal	25.00	25.00	--
		Kondenagul	20.00	2.00	18.00
		Farhabad	20.00	--	20.00
2)	Nalgonda District	Fullaipalli	3.00	3.00	--
				(Dibbing)	
		Taldevarapalli	3.00	--	3.00
		-do-	22.16	--	22.16
		Kambalpalli	18.00	--	18.00
		Pogilla	34.00	--	34.00
		Timmapur	6.00	--	6.00
3)	Kurnool District	Boggyadone	12.00	--	12.00
		Kecherajupalli	4.00	--	4.00
		Narapareddikunta	30.00	10.00	20.00
		Ahobilam	35.00	8.00	27.00
		Mattamallacheruvu	10.00	--	10.00
		Pecheruvu	1000.00	--	1000.00
4)	Ongole Dist.	Nagaluty	805.00	--	805.00
		Bairluty			
		Tummalebeilu	150.00	12.00	138.00
		Pedamantrola	1200.00	120.00	1080.00
		Chintala	100.00	20.00	80.00
Allipalem	20.00	5.00	15.00		
Murikimallapenta	50.00	5.00	45.00		

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY:

Traditionally the jungle Chenchus do not rear cattle, though the sugalis in their vicinity are in possession of cattle in abundance. In big Chenchu settlements some of the Chenchus have goats and a few cows and buffaloes. In Yerragondapalem and Ganjiveripalli ranges of Giddalur Forest Division the Chenchus rear buffaloes. The Chenchus living in the thicket expressed their desire to rear cattle in view of the rich forest grass available in their vicinity, besides being favourably influenced by the neighbouring successful cattle breeders - Banjara. They must be educated to rear the cattle by the Animal Husbandry specialists. The Chenchus who live in the mixed villages in symbiosis with non-tribal communities are in the habit of rearing the cattle especially in both parts of upper plateau and lower plateau of Amarabad in Mahaboobnagar District.

The Chenchus of Nallamalai continue to enjoy the concession of free grazing within the limits prescribed. In Amarabad plateau there are two Minor Veterinary Dispensaries at Amarabad and Padra villages in upper plateau and two Rural Veterinary Dispensaries at Lingal and Kondanagul in lower plateau. Another Veterinary Dispensary is there at Mannanur to cater to the needs of that area. Two

rams and 200 hens were distributed to tribals of Amarebad plateau in the year 1972-73.

IRRIGATION:

22 Minor Irrigation works have been taken up in Scheduled Areas of Mahaboobnagar District. In the year 1972-73, 16 works have been completed irrigating 2,208 acres of land which is under the control of both Chenchus and non-tribals. There are no irrigation sources especially in Nallamalai range except two big tanks i.e., one at Pechcheruvu and the other at Gosaikattu which require major repairs. Forest Department constructed 34 small tanks at a cost of Rs.15,150/- which are exclusively meant for providing drinking water for cattle in Nallamalai region. But in Telugurayunicheruvu, and Garapenta villages two irrigation tanks are to be repaired. The tank at Peddamanthrala, where the Chenchus own 1200 acres of land is to be repaired. It can be converted into an irrigation tank by providing lift irrigation facilities to the Chenchus.

COMMUNICATION:

The State high way roads pass through the project area. The State High Way Road from Hyderabad to Srisailem passes through the Amarebad plateau from Mannanoor to Srisailem. Again after crossing the river, the

Srisailem-Dornel road starts and passes through Chenchu settlements like Tummalabayalu, Chintala etc. The Kurnool-Ongole State High Way passes through Nallamalais in the East-West direction from Gajulapalli metta to Diguvametta R.S. in Giddalur Forest Division touching Bairlutu in between. Almost all the important Chenchu Gudems having more than 50 households are connected either by the Forest Roads or by approach roads in the project area.

46 K.Ms of Kacha road was laid and 13 K.Ms. road has been repaired by Achampet Panchayat Samithy in the year 1972-73. A metal road from Srisailem Road to Farahabad view point measuring K.M. 0/0 - 8/5 has been formed from Drought Relief Funds in the same year. In Nallamalai region the Forest Department laid 107.5 K.Ms. earthen road, 12.9 K.M. metalled and 8.00 K.M. cart tract.

COOPERATION:

The Atmakur Chenchu Cooperative Purchase and Sales Society was started on 29-1-1940 with a Forest Range Officer as Manager of the Society. The area of operation extended over the Nandyal Forest Division besides the Atmakur Forest Division. The aims and objects of the Society were (a) to encourage cooperation among members (b) to purchase from members and non-members the minor

forest produce by paying them either in kind or in cash, (c) to arrange for the sale of minor forest produce purchased from members and non-members to the advantage of the society, (d) to take contract or lease in forests for minor forest produce collection under Government or Quasi Government. There were 470 members with a share capital of Rs.2,00,498/- out of which 120 belong to Bairluti and Nagaluti Gudems. There were 16 members in the Board of Directors to manage this society out of which 12 members were Chenchus and the remaining 4 ex-officio Directors. It had two Sub-Depots - One at Bairluti and the other at Pechcheruvu. A godown was constructed at Atmakur at a cost of Rs.20,000/-.

There was Chenchu Cooperative Society at Dornal under the control of Deputy Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Nandyal with a total membership of 259. It had taken up the following works.

a) Peddachama	B.C. II	62-63	Dornal Range	Rs.11,000/-
b) Peddamanthrala	B.C.III	63-64	,,	Rs.19,000/-
c) -do-	B.C. I	64-65	,,	Rs.24,000/-

The main activity of the society was to purchase provisions from the nearby market and supply to Chenchu schools of Dornal and Markapur Ranges in Nallamelais.

Multipurpose Cooperative Society, Mannanur:

The Society was started and registered under No.20593 and started functioning from 12-7-1952. The main objective of the society was to advance loans to its members for development works. 167 persons including both Chenchus and non-Chenchus were enrolled as members on payment of Re.1.00 as membership fee. The society was managed by 11 Board of Directors of whom 5 are Ex-Officio Directors and of the 6 non-official directors one is a Chenchu and the remaining 5 being Scheduled Caste farmers from Mannanur village.

Forest Labour Cooperative Society:

A Forest Labour Cooperative Society was started at Mannanur in the year 1958. Its aim was to take up Bamboo-coupe cutting on contract with Chenchu labour. They were engaged on daily wages and the profits were distributed among the members. 53 members were enrolled with a share capital of Re.1/- per head. All the above societies are now defunct.

The Girijan Cooperative Corporation:

The Girijan Cooperative Corporation, Visakhapatnam has extended its activities to the Nallamalai region in the year 1974. It has organised Primary Marketing Society at

Atmakur, which inturn have opened Daily Requirement Depots at Bairlutu, Pechcheruvu, Srisailam and Dornala.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH:

To combat the disease, one Mobile Medical Unit is functioning at Dornal which is catering to the needs of Chenchus of Dornal and its neighbourhood. There is also one Chenchu Hospital at Dornal which was shifted from Pechcheruvu. Another Mobile Medical Unit is at Bairlutu. As regards the Gudems in Kurnool Division, the Medical Officer of Narsapuram visits periodically and gives necessary treatment to the needy.

In Amarabad Plateau, a Primary Health Centre is functioning at Padra with a Sub-Centre at Uppunuthula attached to Achampet Samithi. One Mobile Medical Unit is functioning at Mannaur besides an Ayurvedic Dispensary to cater to the needs of Chenchus of Achampet Samithi under the control of Tribal Welfare Department since 1973-74. In Achampet Samithi area there are 15 Special Nutrition Programme Centres benefitting 615 tribal children. In Devarakonda Block 5 Special Nutrition Programme Centres are there benefitting 250 tribal children. There are 20 Special Nutrition Programme Centres benefitting 1,000 Chenchus in Nallamalai region.

EDUCATION:

The first Chenchu Primary School was started in 1916 at Bairluty Gudem by the Forest Department. The Forest Department later extended its activities to 21 more villages to impart education mainly to the Chenchus. Some of these schools were provided with separate boarding facilities for boys and girls. In the beginning Bairluty school was started with 28 pupils and one teacher. From 1935 it developed into a two teacher school and by 1958 it became a 4 teacher school. Later it was converted into an Upper Primary School. The Chenchu students in this Bairluty Gudem are taught crafts like weaving and bamboo article making in addition to their regular courses of Primary education. The Chenchu boarders are provided with free boarding and lodging. Each boarder is supplied with three pairs of clothing, one mat and one bed sheet every year. In order to educate the Chenchu children and improve their knowledge about the outside world they are being taken on excursions every year to important historical and academic centres. The Forest Department used to receive the funds from Tribal Welfare Department upto 1973-74. The Tribal Welfare Department provided the funds under 39 Misc. as per the requirements of the concerned forest division. The expenditure of the Chenchu Schools in 1974 is furnished hereunder:

Sl. No.	Forest Division	Pay and Establish-ment.	D.A.	OCA	School build- ing	Mid- day- meal	Cloth- ing and books	Con tin- gencies	Total
1.	Kurnool	871.30	454.80	--	--	293.00	461.12	--	2080.22
2.	Atmakur	15079.81	7739.53	701.93	349.94	18886.86 /	500.00	--	43885.07
3.	Giddalur	14476.00	7503.35	214.19	--	17044.44	862.45	469	40869.46
4.	Nandyal	5184.21	2517.75	264.64	--	1649.99	935.27	--	10551.78

In the year 1974, Tribal Welfare Department took over the 22 Chenchu Schools from Forest Department and regrouped them into 7 Centrally located Ashram Schools which are kept under the close supervision of the Reclamation Officer or Social Welfare Officer of concerned District.

The first school for the Chenchus in Telangana area was started at Mannanur in the year 1942. Later schools were started in other villages viz., Vatverlapalli, Appapuram, Pulichelama, Padra, Umamaheswaram, etc. At present Mannanur Upper Primary School is converted into High School. 3 Upper Primary Schools at Padra, Amarabad and Lingal and 2 Primary Schools at Banal and Siddhapur are started by Panchayat Samithi, Achampet. One Ashram School at Farhabad and a Primary School at Vatverlapalli with hostel facilities for Chenchu students are functioning. The students are provided with free clothing, books

etc. The Ashram School and the hostel are under the close supervision of District Tribal Welfare Officer, Mahaboobnagar District.

In Devarakonda Panchayat Samithi an Ashram School with a strength of 30 boys is functioning at Peddamoola Rehabilitation Centre near Chitriyel village under the direct supervision of the District Social Welfare Officer (General), Nalgonda.

M E T H O D O L O G Y

The peculiar Chenchu habitat, settlement pattern, and social life restrict the scope for using latest and sophisticated growth centre approach or any other model requiring some degree of quantification. Their habitat varies from undulating slopes to clearings in thick forest. The settlements are situated both in reserved and unreserved forests and their locating and size are susceptible to frequent changes. Further, the settlements consists of usually a number of thatched huts dispersed irregularly. Huts suddenly crop up and disappear without any substantial reason or rhyme. This has been possible because of poor material and household possessions and the small size of the huts which are built within no time with the locally available branches of trees and a little thatch. Except in the settlements on the fringe, settled cultivation is almost non-existent among the tribals and the few pieces of land that are cultivated are on the basis of share cropping either by non-tribals or the Banjara (D.N.Ts in Telangana) in Mahabubnagar area. The inborn suspicion of the motives of brothers and the consequent development of closer ties with affines in all their economic activities frequently results in violent quarrels between brothers

and shifting habitat. If he has work, a Chenchu goes for forest labour or else engages himself in digging roots and tubers or collecting honey even from steep cliffs. besides hunting the small game around. Further, many of the Chenchu families migrate to neighbouring villages to serve as crop watchers to the plains farmers living in small thatched huts, either pitched up on the road side or in a corner of the field. Consequent upon the absence of sedentary life and the attendant difficulty in assessing income and expenditure, it is not possible to quantify their economic resources or means of livelihood. Even the data required for measuring the requirements of social services like Schools, Health facilities etc., can not be precisely given as the size of the villages and the number of school age children or settlements in view of their frequent shifting of habitat and seasonal migrations to plains. Even the particulars of land utilisation and cropping pattern cannot be precisely obtained as the lands are neither fully cultivated nor clearly demarkated nor properly reclaimed but for clearing the jungle and demarkating an enclosure by the Forest Department to which the settlement and the fields are to be confined. Even the few fields which are cultivated are sown with small millets especially Ragi,

that too either by non-tribal plains settler or Banjara pastoral who while continuing to tend his cattle herd undertakes cultivation on a small patch without applying any improved inputs. Moreover different types of administrations have been in action in the Telangana and Andhra Areas of this primitive pockets. In Andhra area of the Chenchu pocket, the Chenchu settlements are declared as Reserve Forest villages and their administration was the responsibility of the Forest Department. Until very recently thin village have therefore been excluded from the jurisdiction of Panchayat Raj bodies. In Mehboobnagar District, the Chenchu area is under Achampet Panchayat Samithi with one or two Panchayats covering the entire settlements and population. There is no uniformity in the concept of a village and most of the Chenchu settlements have the status of a hamlet either for revenue or Panchayati Raj Administration purposes. Further, as many of the villages are located in the reserve forest area and for the Forest Department human habitations within their jurisdiction have secondary importance, village records are either non-existent or poorly maintained. Hence, it is neither desirable nor feasible to resort to statistical estimations for deciding either levels of development or

central places. Consequently, quantification is kept at its barest minimum while describing the sub-regions and variations in levels of development.

The programme formulation mainly aims at creation of a stable economic base for this primitive and food gathering tribe so that the shift from food gathering to sedentary economic life, with dependable source of livelihood is smooth without disrupting the gradual process of growing out from one stage of economic life to another due to setting in of maladjustment which very frequently manifests when a society is deliberately attempted or accidentally subjected to accelerated development.

The following are the objectives of the Plan.

- i) To evolve and provide suitable economic infrastructure as a first step for introducing them to a stable economic system.
- ii) To introduce Chenchus to Animal Husbandry which they have knowledge because of their symbiotic relationship with local Banjara Pastorals.

iii) To impart them training Animal Husbandry so as to enable them to acquire new skills and knowledge of improved feeding, breeding and management practices.

iv) To introduce them to improved techniques in traditional occupations like honey collection and other simple forest based and easy to learn trades such as basketry and equip them with necessary skills in improved practices through training.

v) To encourage horticulture with special emphasis on growing vegetables and fruit trees.

vi) To train progressive Chenchus and those living on the fringe of the primitive pocket in improved agricultural practices and provide the necessary agricultural inputs.

The strategy has been to help the primitive Chenchu to grow out of the food gathering stage by first introducing him to Horticulture, Forestry and Animal Husbandry so that he can be introduced to more complex operations of agriculture and local raw material based industries in the next stage. While preparing him for the first stage programmes, a simultaneous programme of land development will be introduced

besides extensive training programmes to introduce him to various agricultural operations and cottage and small scale industries programmes. All the enclosures cleared by Forest Department are mostly lying uncultivated with abundant growth of weeds. It is therefore essential that a programme of weed-control and removal of stumps is undertaken besides preparing the land for agricultural purposes. Further the Chenchu pockets can be divided into three sub-regions on the basis of varying geoethnic factors and their adoptability varies from region to region. The soil types, potentialities for growing various crops, the climatic conditions, availability of raw materials locally etc. are taken into consideration while evolving programmes of development.

PLAN IN OUTLINE

CHENCHUS are the most primitive of all the Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh, eking out a precarious livelihood from the forest. They subsist on edible forest produce and on forest labour. The majority of them are still at a pre-agricultural stage of development. They are mostly distributed in the Nellamalai forests of Kurnool and Prakasham Districts and Achampet Taluk of Mahaboobnagar District and in the adjacent villages of Nalgonda and Guntur Districts. A few of them are residing in mixed villages of Pargi Taluk of Hyderabad District also.

Realising this low level of their economic development and the need for bringing them on par with advanced sections of the society, a special programme is being evolved for areas of Chenchu concentration under special programme for primitive and small tribes. The programme envisages developing of their economic level by laying stress on animal husbandry, forestry, agriculture and cottage industries which can be readily adopted by primitive Chenchus as they are improvements upon traditional ways of livelihood.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY:

Taking into consideration the potentialities, quick and immediate returns consequently the need for special emphasis on development of livestock the following schemes are suggested for around development of Chenchu living.

- a) Establishment of Mobile Veterinary Centre: Two Mobile Clinics are suggested in the plan period to serve the Chenchu Project.
- b) In addition to the two Mobile Clinics, 3 First Aid Centres are suggested at Pedamentanala, Garapenta and Pogilla to achieve further dispersal of services.
- c) Development of cattle is to bring about an improvement in the milking capacity and draught efficiency of cattle, taking into consideration the prevailing conditions.
- d) Deiry Farming: It has the highest potentiality in Chenchu area. Most of the Chenchus rear buffaloes and cattle.
- e) Sheep Development: Sheep rearing can be taken up by them as a source of income. It is proposed to distribute 50 Sheep Units at the rate of Rs.4,500/- for one Unit. Each Unit comprising of 20 Ewes and 1 Ram.

POULTRY DEVELOPMENT:

Poultry production offers great scope and has a large potentiality for quickly increasing the supply of quality proteins in the diet of Chenchus which is deficient in their food. It can provide supplementary income if taken up as a subsidiary occupation by Chenchus.

It is proposed to have units of 50 crossbred hens, in the selected contiguous villeges.

FORESTRY:

A short duration programme is proposed to impart training to the Chenchus in modern methods of timber felling and processing and in forestry operations. In addition to forestry training specialized training in logging techniques is proposed to be given to Chenchus working in Forest Department. The aforestation programme can be takenup in the project area.

AGRICULTURE:

It is also envisaged to introduce them to improved agricultural practices in areas where settled cultivation is practised by the Chenchus. Land development and training in agricultural practices are proposed for those who are still in pre-agricultural stage so as to introduce them to settled cultivation. Besides this, to makeup nutritional deficiency, it is proposed to encourage kitchen gardening in the backyards of chenchu dwellings.

SOCIAL SERVICES:

Provision of drinking water supply better medical facilities through Mobile Medical Units and Dispensaries, Ashram schools to improve the living conditions of this backward group. Thus the special Chenchu Project while improving upon the existing occupation base of the chenchus paves the way for smooth switch over to more dependable and complex occupations like Agriculture besides introducing them to improved skills and technology.

..... proposed for 3 years of the fifth Five
.....

During the current year i.e., 1976-77 an amount of Rs. 1 lakh is available and release of another one lakh amount is also anticipated for Integrated Tribal Development Agency for Chenchus. As the amount is very meagre, only Animal Husbandry and Agricultural Programme can be taken up during the year. Top priority may be given for distribution of plough bullocks, Milch cattle, Sheep, poultry. Improved Agrarion inputs may be distributed on selection basis to the settled Chenchu agriculturists. The funds allotted during the current year may be allocated to the six districts on the basis of population as detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the District	No. of villages inhabited by	Chenchu Population.	Percentage to total Chenchu population in project area.
1.	Hyderabad	17	798	5.45
2.	Mahabubnagar	34	4,171	28.48
3.	Nalgonda	12	285	1.95
4.	Kurnool	20	2,432	16.60
5.	Prakasham	32	3,447	23.56
6.	Guntur	9	3,509	23.96
Total:		124	14,642	100.00

During the 1st year identification of resources will be taken up with the help of various district Departmental Officers and perspective plan for their systematic development will be formulated for implementation in the succeeding year. The total outlay for succeeding years is furnished here under.

FINANCIAL OUTLAY

1. 0.	Name of the programme	Kurnool			Prakasham			Mahabeobnagar			Total
		76-77	77-78	78-79	76-77	77-78	78-79	76-77	77-78	78-79	
1.	Animal Husbandry	4.53	2.70	2.58	3.69	1.69	1.53	0.99	1.15	1.10	19.96
2.	Forestry	0.75	0.58	0.59	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.55	0.40	0.40	4.14
3.	Agriculture	2.60	2.56	2.05	2.09	1.60	1.65	1.56	2.41	2.01	18.53
4.	Cottage Industries	1.03	0.46	0.98	0.71	0.17	0.15	0.79	0.48	0.46	5.23
5.	Medical and Health	1.89	0.74	0.65	0.90	0.42	0.35	0.40	0.05	0.95	6.35
6.	Education	0.22	1.53	1.03	0.89	0.97	1.27	1.40	0.79	0.55	8.65
	Total:	11.02	8.57	7.88	8.57	5.14	5.24	5.69	5.28	5.47	62.86

FINANCIAL OUTLAY

Sl. No.	Name of the programme.	Nalgonda			Guntur			Hyderabad			Total
		76-77	77-78	78-79	76-77	77-78	78-79	76-77	77-78	78-79	
1.	Animal Husbandry	0.31	0.10	0.09	0.85	0.56	0.66	0.40	0.20	0.10	23.23
2.	Forestry	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4.14
3.	Agriculture	0.10	0.15	0.15	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.09	0.07	0.04	19.73
4.	Cottage Industries	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.23
5.	Medical and Health	0.10	0.05	--	0.10	0.80	0.60	0.10	0.10	0.10	8.30
6.	Education	--	0.50	0.02	--	--	0.57	0.50	0.95	0.56	11.75
Total:		0.51	0.80	0.26	1.15	1.56	2.03	1.09	1.32	0.80	72.38

(61 C)

A B S T R A C T

Sl. No.	District.	Financial Outlay (Rs. in lakhs)			Total
		1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	
1.	Kurnool	11.02	8.57	7.88	27.47
2.	Prakasham	8.57	5.14	5.24	18.95
3.	Mahabubnagar	5.69	5.28	5.47	16.44
4.	Nalgonda	0.51	0.80	0.26	1.57
5.	Guntur	1.15	1.56	2.03	4.74
6.	Hyderabad	1.09	1.32	0.80	3.21
Grand Total:		28.03	22.67	21.68	72.38

PROGRAMMESANIMAL HUSBANDRY1. ANIMAL HUSBANDRY:

CHENCHUS, although a majority of them are food gatherers and forest labourers, yet cattle breeding is quite congenial to them and their nomadic nature in contrast to agriculture. Cattle breeding can play a prominent role in Chenchu economy and there are very few households in the settlements who do not possess atleast a few buffaloes, cows and goats. In Srisailam area each household owns on an average three to four cows in addition to goats and chicken and in Pedacheruvu area, there are good number of buffaloes. In most of the Chenchu settlements, there are families who own buffaloes, cows and goats and the life stories of many old men and women reveal that about 70 or 80 years ago there was considerably larger number of cattle in the hands of the Chenchus. They say depletion of their stock was affected by the epidemics brought in by the cattle graziers who annually invade the forest with their sick and disease carrying herds. Though disease undoubtedly did take a heavy toll, the decline is also largely due to the deterioration of the Chenchus

economic situation, which led them to sell many of the calves, so that year by year the number of their cattle dwindles instead of increasing. The fact that a tribe of good collectors had and still has the desire and the aptitude to keep and breed these animals is noteworthy and shows that under these circumstances the development from hunting and collecting to cattle breeding is easier than jumping from hunting and collecting to agriculture. In the past though some encouragement was given to the acquisition of cattle by Chenchus enough has not been done as mostly attempts have been made to settle the Chenchus as cultivators and that too unsuccessfully. It is therefore conceivable that cattle breeding can be readily adopted by the Chenchus for it is fully consistent and even favoured by their nomadic habits. And once a tribe is introduced to pastoralism, it is not difficult to introduce them to agriculture in turn as has been the case with Banjaras and Goudus the two pastoral tribes who could quickly adapt themselves to settled agriculture also.

The few cattle that Chenchus own are mostly kept for milk and for the calves, which always realise a certain quantity of grain in exchange or cash on sale. Milk is used in various ways. Children are given small

quantity of milk. But a larger part of milk is used for ghee making which is sold to the traders. Especially, during lean seasons when no other food is available the milk sold by Banjaras is consumed as substitute of food either on payment of cash from forest labour wages or in exchange for minor forest produce, collected. Beef is not eaten by them, but meat of sheep, goat, and fowl is consumed. Buffaloes are as a whole more favoured than cattle for they seem to be physically better fitted to withstand the climate of the plateau besides being better milkers than cows and in most Chenchu villages there are atleast three or four buffaloes, cows and a few calves. At nights buffaloes and cows are tied to wooden posts. Cows are milked generally and a little quantity of milk is left for the calf. Generally young boys and girls drive the cattle for grazing.

There can be little doubt that one of the possibilities for an improvement in the Chenchu's economic situation lies in the extension and encouragement of cattle breeding, and if the Chenchus are no longer forced by economic necessity to sell a larger part of their cattle, they may become pastoral tribe while preparing the ground for their adoption of settled agriculture,

combining the breeding of cattle with horticulture and the collection of forest produce. Owing to the existence of perennial water in several places, the upper plateau constitutes a valuable grazing reserve and it would appear highly desirable to develop it as such Lambadi graziers drive large herds upto the plateau during the hot season and even some of the cultivators of the plains entrust some of their cattle to Chenchus during this period.

The live-stock population of the Chenchus is non-descript and stunted in growth. Veterinary Institutions functioning in the area are conducting prophylactic vaccinations besides treatment of minor ailments and their details are given below:

1. Minor Veterinary Dispensary, Anarabad.
2. Minor Veterinary Dispensary, Padra.
3. Rural Veterinary Dispensary, Lingal
4. Rural Veterinary Dispensary, Kondanagul.
5. Rural Veterinary Dispensary, Mannanur.

In addition to this the following livestock development work has been taken up in the area:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1) Breeding Bulls distribution |) 6 Ongole Bulls |
| | (1 Murrah Bull |
| 2) Improved Rams supplied | 13 |
| 3) Pedigree birds distributed | 1654 |

Taking into consideration the potentialities and the need for greater development of livestock the following animal husbandry schemes are suggested for around development of Chenchu livestock.

1) Establishment of Mobile Veterinary Centres:

To serve far flung areas and provide services to Chenchu Cattle of Kunrool and Ongole District areas it is proposed to have 2 Mobile Clinics in the following places in the project area.

1. Bairluty
2. Palutla

Veterinary Assistant Surgeon will be incharge of Mobile Veterinary Clinic. One Compounder is also provided to assist the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon for conducting vaccinations and treatment work. These mobile centres are proposed so as to cover interior and scattered Chenchu villages which hitherto have not been covered. These Mobile Clinics will also serve as Mobile Input Van,

Catering to all other livestock development activities.

The Mobile Veterinary Clinics will carry on the following activities.

- 1) Treatment of sick animals in the villages.
- 2) Attending to outbreaks of diseases in addition to routine prophylactic vaccinations in villages.
- 3) Conducting Ranikhet and Fowl pox vaccinations in birds.
- 4) Supervision of Breeding Bull Centres.
- 5) Intensive propaganda and extension work.

Financial implications of Mobile Clinics.

Non-Recurring:

	Rs.
1. Cost of Van (Diesel).	70,000
2. Cost of Equipment (Micro Scope, Castrater etc.)	5,000

	75,000

3. Buildings and Garage for Van	40,000

Total:	1,15,000

<u>Recurring:</u>	Rs.
1. Running and maintenance charges of Van	3,000
2. Cost of Medicines.	5,000
3. <u>Establishment:</u>	
Pay and D.A. of the Veterinary Asst. Surgeon.	10,000
Pay and D.A. of the Compounder.	4,000
Pay and D.A. of the Driver.	5,000
Attender	1,800
4. T.A. for the Staff.	4,000
5. Contingencies.	1,200
	26,000
	26,000

Total amount for One Clinic:

	Rs.
Ist year =	1,41,000
2nd year =	26,000
3rd year =	26,000

2) Establishment of First Aid Centres:

In addition to 2 Mobile Clinics, 3 First Aid Centres are suggested at Peddamanthala and Gara Penta, Pogilla to achieve further dispersal of services and to serve the above mentioned places which have a good number of livestock.

These three First Aid Centres will take up prophylactic vaccinations against different diseases and also routine treatment of clinical cases. These proposed institutions along with existing Minor Veterinary Dispensaries and Rural Veterinary Dispensaries will form the core of animal husbandry development activities in the Project area.

Financial implications of the First Aid Centres are as follows:

Non-Recurring:

Rs.

1. Construction of Dispensary Building and Quarters for the staff.	30,000
2. Purchase of equipment and furniture.	5,000
3. Iron Trevis.	1,000

	36,000

Recurring:

1. Medicines and other drugs.	1,500
2. Contingencies etc.,	500

	2,000

<u>Establishment:</u>	Rs.
1. Pay and D.A. of Stockman	3,700
2. Pay of Attender	1,800
3. T.A. for the Staff	- 500

	6,000

Ist Year	=	Rs. 42,000
2nd Year	=	Rs. 8,000
3rd Year	=	Rs. 8,000

		Rs. 58,000

Phasing out of the dispensaries and financial implications are furnished in Annexure

3) Development of Cattle:

The main object of cattle and buffaloe development is to bring about an improvement in the milking capacity and draught efficiency of cattle, taking into consideration the prevailing conditions. Measures such as controlled breeding effective disease control and adequate feeding are suggested for improvement of the cattle. As most of the Chenchu families rear only buffaloes and do

not maintain any white cattle except one or two buffaloes, it is proposed to station upgraded buffaloes at the Breeding Bull Centres. This is suggested in view of the programme of intensive distribution of buffaloes for milk production. As the Chenchus are backward and ignorant of better livestock rearing practices, natural breeding operations in cattle are suggested for which 7 breeding bull centres are suggested. These breeding bull centres are proposed to be located at 5 existing and proposed veterinary institutions in the area. At each centre upgraded buffalo bull will be stationed and will be released for mating into the herds. Usually one or two bulls are proposed for each centre depending upon the buffalo population. The idea of starting these centres at Veterinary Institutions is to have a direct control over these centres by the technical personnel. Intensive castration of bulls at the Veterinary Institutions is suggested in the area for the success of the breeding programme. Provision is also made for conducting deworming and disease control measures for the off-springs born to these bulls in the veterinary institutions suggested in the Plan.

Financial Implications: Rs.Non-Recurring:

1. Cost of 1 Breeding Bull	2,000
2. Cost of Bull shed with attendant room.	10,000

Recurring:

3. Equipment buckets, feeding and watering equipment, feed storing drum, contingencies etc.	1,000
4. Cost of feeding of breeding bulls at Rs.200/-p.m. Rs.2,400/- each.	2,400
5. Attendants pay Rs.150/-p.m.	1,800
	17,200

For one Breeding Bull Centre for 1st Year	17,200
2nd Year	2,400
3rd Year	2,500
Total:	22,100

Phasing out of these Centres with financial implications are given in Annexure No.

Dairy Development:

Rearing of milk animals can be taken up by Ghonchar as there is good scope for harnessing the

facilities available with them. Apart from increasing milk production, such a programme, by adequate investment would help to improve the economy and nutritional status of the Chenchus. Dairy farming has the highest potentiality in Chenchu area. Most of the Chenchus rear buffaloes, but it is well known that the animals with them in most cases are not good producers. Therefore it is imperative that any programme designed to encourage Chenchus to take up dairy cattle rearing should ensure a profitable system which would guarantee minimum economic gain from this venture. The success of dairy farming therefore depends upon the supply of buffaloes with a fairly good level of production and optimum reproductive efficiency. Apart from the supply of good milk producing animals, the programme also envisages improved and controlled breeding suggested in the Plan, so that the progenies of the existing cattle and buffaloes are comparatively much better producers and can supplement the original low producing stock in the course of a few years. As an adjunct of increased and economic milk production programmes, the improvement of fodder and pasture lands is also suggested. The programme also, inter alia, provides for veterinary cover through veterinary institutions for prevention of infectious diseases and treatment

of ailments. One Dairy Unit is proposed to be attached to each Ashram School in the project area. This will enable the Chenchu boys to learn the art of dairy, cattle rearing and will also provide nutritious milk to them.

Taking into consideration the existing facilities and other factors, the requirement of milch animals could be fulfilled mainly by graded buffaloes.

It is proposed to supply milch animals in the villages identified for forming a milk belt in the area (Annexure). About 50 families will be selected for the supply of milch animals during the first phase. It is proposed to supply 2 buffaloes to each family. Initially one buffalo will be supplied and after 6 months another buffalo will be supplied. This unit will form a nucleus for further development of dairying in Chenchu family. 50% of the cost of buffaloes, shed and feed for 3 months will be subsidised, the balance being made available as loan from commercial bank or any other financial institutions in the area. Such villages only will be selected for distribution of milch animals where there is market for milk so that the villages can be clubbed together for marketing of milk.

The working details of the scheme are as follows:

<u>A.</u>	Rs.
1) Cost of 2 Milch buffaloes including transport.	4,000
2) Cost of shed.	500
3) Cost of feeding charges for 3 months.	900
	----- 5,400 -----
 <u>B.</u>	
1) Cost of feed for 2 buffaloes for 300 days	2,000
2) Cost of feed for 65 days dry period.	200
3) Cost of feed for 2 calves.	500
4) Machineries	100
5) Other miscellaneous	200
	----- 3,000 -----
 <u>C.</u>	
1) Interest on loan.	250
2) Repayment of 1st Instalment of loan.	500
3) Depreciation on buildings and equipment.	200
	----- 950 -----

<u>Receipts:</u>	Rs.
1) Sales of Milk at the rate of 5 litres a day per buffalo at the rate of Rs.2/- per litre 2 x 5 x 50	5,000
2) By Sale of 2 one year old calves.	500
3) By Sale of manure.	100
	----- 5,600 -----
Receipts at the end of 1st year.	5,600
Expenditure in the first year.	3,950
	----- 1,650 -----
Net surplus at the end of first year.	1,650

The net surplus will go on increasing in succeeding years.

Marketing of Milk:

The Marketing of milk will be taken up by Cooperative Milk Supply Society formed for the purpose. Initially, marketing of milk can be taken up by the proposed cooperative society. In the later stages of the plan i.e., from 6th plan onwards a milk collection centres can be established. The society will be formed with the members who are supplied with milch cattle. The society in addition to dealing with marketing of

milk will also look after credit requirements of the members for the purchase of milch animals, feeds etc.

Pasture and Fodder Development:

For the success of the milk production programmes and other animal husbandry programmes among Chenchus, it is imperative to have adequate provision for feeds and fodder in addition to good producing milch animals and other livestock besides good health cover. There are no cultivated lands under fodder crops in the area. Undulating terrain, extension of reserve forest boundaries and restrictions on grazing of cattle in forest areas further set limits to the extent of grazing and pasture lands available for livestock grazing. Moreover, Chenchus are not in the habit of feeding green fodder to the working and other animals as theirs is primarily not an agro-based economy. They also do not grow fodders. The existing grazing lands are not maintained properly and most of them are poor in quality and quantity due to lack of proper management. The area as such is denuded of good grasses as a result of continuous grazing by over populated animals.

The improvement of grass lands consists in increasing the productivity of grasslands and their judicious utilisation by controlled grazing or by making hay. The measures for improving production of grasses will include 1) Bush clearance 2) Fertilizer use 3) Reseeding and planting where necessary 4) Moisture conservation through contour furrows; and above all 5) Protective or controlled grazing or timely harvesting of grass for making hay to preserve its nutritive value.

For reseeding of grass lands perennial grasses such as *Chenopus ciliaris* C. *Setigeras*; and *lasiurus sindius*; *dichantherin annulatum*, *scheme nervosum* and other grasses are proposed.

Next controlled grazing in grass birds is proposed. By closing part of the area for grazing and dividing the rest into compartments for rotational, grazing deteriorated over grazed lands can be brought under good grass cover. Unwanted bushes and shrubs which encroach upon the grass lands and reduce the effective area for grasses and their productivity are also to be cleared. Mannanur area has got vast areas for grazing, the hay from these forest areas of Mannanur are taken to far off places for feeding of livestock. As such this area can be

developed for more and nutritious grass production. The area under forest grasses which are not open to grazing are proposed to be utilised for making hay by timely harvesting and curing the herbage. Green forages supplemented by good quality hay is the naturally balanced ration for ruminants. Apart from nutritional soundness this system of feeding with a judicious combination of green and dry roughage is most economical.

As irrigation facilities are not adequate, the cultivation of fodder grasses and legumes is not proposed on a large scale. Only limited area will be utilised, and that to under rotational crop rearing. Cultivation of leguminous and other fodders, in rotation with other food crops will also improve the soil fertility of the Chenchu lands.

Management of grass lands will be taken up by the Forest Department and the different methods proposed for improvement of grass lands will be undertaken by the Forest Department.

It is proposed to develop the grass lands upto the extent of 300 acres.

For pasture and fodder development an amount of Rs.3.00 lakhs is provided.

Sheep Development:

The sheep population of the Project area is of non-descript type with compact body. The sheep are sparsely distributed, with few pockets here and there. As the Chenchus are mostly food gatherers and forest labourers. Sheep rearing can be taken up by them as a source of income. It is therefore proposed to distribute a sheep unit each comprising of 20 Ewes and 1 Ram (Helleore breed). Provision is also made for concentrate feed for the sheep. For the effective implementation of the scheme, sheep will be regularly dewormed and provision is also made for regular vaccination against sheep pox and enterotoxaemia.

Cost of one Unit will be Rs.4,500/-.

About 50 Units are proposed at an estimated cost of Rs.1.50 lakhs.

Poultry Development:

Most of the Chenchu households have atleast 3 or 4 birds with them. But they are non-descript in type and less remunerative. The birds are mostly of Jungle type with coloured plumage. Though much was not done for the development of poultry in Chenchu area, still poultry production offers great scope and has a large potentiality for quickly increasing the supply of quality proteins in the diet of Chenchus which is deficient in their food. It will also help in improving the economic status as poultry population could be increased quantitatively and improved qualitatively in a comparatively short time. Poultry rearing can provide supplementary income if taken up as a subsidiary occupation by Chenchus.

The following schemes are suggested for development of poultry in the area.

1) Distribution of Cockerals:

It is proposed to distribute cross bred cockerals with coloured plumage for selective breeding with local hens. For this programme compact areas with contiguous villages only will be selected where cockerals will be

exchanged with local cocks in the project area. The entire poultry population of the selected Villages will be covered with cross bred cockerals for upgrading the local stock. For regular provision of health cover to these villages veterinary institutions will take up regular vaccination and medical care.

An amount of Rs.1 lakh is provided for cockerals distribution in the area.

2) Poultry Units:

As the Chenchus are very backward and slow in accepting new programmes, small poultry units on a very modest scale are suggested. It is proposed to have units of 50 crossbred hens, in the selected contiguous villages, where upgrading programme is suggested in the Plan. The units will have ready to lay pullets or two to three months old pullets in the first year. The advantage of this type of rearing is that the birds will be protected with Ranikhet and Pox, and other medications would also be completed. Such a system could also help these farmers to learn rearing of small sized flocks of poultry of good laying capacity during the first year and gain confidence in rearing

day old chicks later. Two types of rearing of birds are suggested. One is intensive system of rearing, with deep litter system and cafeteria system of feeding and free range system of rearing. The poultry houses are proposed to be constructed with local materials like mud walls, bamboo mesh and thatched roof. This system of rearing will not only provide supplementary income to the tribals but also proteinous food to them. Besides this system of rearing will provide one ton of useful manure a year, which contains about 3% nitrogen, 2% phosphorus and 2% potash plus some trace elements. Thus the Chenchus can use this manure on his own land, which will help him in increasing the yield from the land.

The establishment of these units will be taken up in a phased manner at Ashram Schools, This will enable the tribal boys to learn the art of poultry rearing and at the same time enable them to get nutritious diet. These units will be clubbed together so as to facilitate effective marketing of surplus eggs, after leaving some percentage for the consumption of Chenchus.

An amount of Rs.1.00 lakh is provided for this programme.

Training Programme:

The Chenchus are very backward and ignorant of both better method of livestock rearing and their economic importance. In order to keep abreast of the developments in their areas, it is essential to train tribal beneficiaries from the area in all aspects of livestock rearing, feeding, breeding and management practices. Training will be conducted at Government livestock farm, Mahanandi where facilities are available for training in animal husbandry. The training will be imparted for 15 days. Each batch will consist of 10 persons. Altogether 20 batches in a year are proposed.

The financial details are as follows:

	Rs.
1) Stipend for each trainee for 15 days at 5.5/- per day.	75.00
2) To and fro charges.	25.00
	100.00

For Teaching Staff:

1) Veterinary Assistant Surgeon	10,000
2) Attendant.	1,800
3) Other charges, Contingencies.	1,000
	12,800

Non-Recurring:

	Rs.
Furniture and Teaching Aids.	5,000
For Stipend and other charges for 200 trainees.	20,000
	12,800
	5,000

	37,800 or
Say	38,000

Strengthening of Livestock Farm, Mahanandi:

The programmes suggested in the Plan would require large inputs of Cattle, Poultry and Sheep, For this purpose the existing livestock farm at Mahanandi would be strengthened. The Farm would produce required number of livestock and at the same time training programmes will be conducted at the Farm.

The following activities will be taken up at the Farm.

- 1) Production of Breeding Bulls and Milch Animals for supply in the Chenchu area.
- 2) Production of Crossbred cockerals and poultry birds for distribution in the area.
- 3) Investigation of diseases prevalent in the area by setting up clinical laboratory.

- 4) Supplying balanced feed by setting up feed mixing plant.
- 5) Production of improved variety of sheep for distribution.
- 6) Training of Chenchu Farmers on improved livestock rearing practices.

For this purpose an amount of Rs.6.00 lakhs is provided.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY PROGRAMMES PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS
FOR THE YEAR 1976-79

Sl. No.	Programme.	1976-77		1977-78		1978-79		3 Years Total	
		Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
I. Veterinary Institutions:									
	i) Mobile Veterinary Centres.	2	1.66	--	0.52	--	0.52	2 Nos.	2.70
	ii) First Aid Centres.	3	2.82	--	0.26	--	0.26	2 Nos.	3.34
II. Cattle Development Breeding Bull Centres.									
		5	0.86	4	0.81	--	0.23	9 Nos.	1.90
III. Dairy Development Supply of Milch Animals.									
		200	0.40	400	0.80	400	0.80	1000	2.00
IV. Pasture Development.									
		100 acres	1.00	100 acres	1.00	100 acres	1.00	300 acres	3.00
V. Sheep Development.									
		10 Units	0.45	20 Units	0.90	20 Units	0.90	50 Units	2.25
VI. Poultry Development:									
	i) Supply of cockerals.	1000	0.10	2000	0.20	2000	0.20	5000	0.50
	ii) Poultry Units.	--	0.10	--	0.20	--	0.20	--	0.50
VII. Training Programme.									
		200	0.38	200	0.38	200	0.38	600	1.14
VIII. Strengthening of Livestock Farm, Mahanandi.									
		--	3.00	--	1.50	--	1.50	1	6.00
Total:			10.77		6.57		5.99		23.33

2. FORESTRY:

Forest is the home, the most important source of livelihood, and this very base of existence for the Chenchus. As described in Part I, the forest provided them with food in the form of tubers, roots, leaves, flowers and fruits, honey, meat of wild animals and birds. It supplies them building material and raw material for their crafts and chores. Forest labour is the most important source of cash income for many Chenchu villages. It constitutes the backdrop for Chenchu settlement in which they have lives from time immemorial. There is hardly any sphere of Chenchu life which is not linked with forest. In other words, the forest constitutes sheet anchor of Chenchu economy. Development of Chenchus would therefore be linked with the development of forestry. Forest development should receive foremost importance in the action plan for development of Chenchus.

A review of the forest policy and forest concessions available to the Chenchus is essential to determine the status of Chenchu in his forest habitat and to suggest measures for their amelioration,

while survey of forest potentialities is necessary to examine the scope for establishing forest based industries which can provide direct as well as indirect employment to the Chenchus.

New Forest Policy:

From time immemorial the Chenchus lived as children of forest enjoying the unrestricted freedom in their exclusive habitat. They collected forest produce and hunted game without any restriction. This state of affairs continued happily until about the last quarter of 19th Century. The gradual extension of the authority of the Government in these areas and beginning of commercial exploitation of the forest resources and policy of scientific management of forests imposed restrictions on the freedom of Chenchus to use forest and its products. In the Nallamalai forests (forming part of the erstwhile British India) the forest policy was first introduced in 1894. It is only after 1894 that the forest officials appeared in the Chenchu habitat and claimed authority to limit and regulate tribal rights in favour of the rights of Government. This policy of curbing the rights and restricting the privileges affected the chenchus very deeply and

this has been the root cause of the delicate relations between them and Forest Department which continue to the present time. This policy lasted for fifty years and more. Many settlements of the rights of the Chenchus in the forests were made in the meantime.

The policy was reassessed by the Government of India and new forest policy was adopted in 1952 according to which the area under forest in the hilly areas should not fall below 60 per cent. The new forest policy envisaged various measures for scientific conservation of forest which in turn involves regulation of rights and the restriction of freedom of the tribal inhabitants of the forest tracts. The new forest policy places greater emphasis on the national interests. "While, therefore, the needs of the local population must be met to a reasonable extent, national interests should not be sacrificed because they are not directly discernible, nor should the rights and interests of future generation be subordinated to the improvidence of the present generation".

In pursuance of this policy, the following forest concessions are extended to the forest living Chenchus in the Project area.

- 1) Chenchus in Nallamalla region are allowed to cultivate the forest land free of charge.
- 2) They are also allowed to enjoy the concessions of free grazing, the removal of Paraka Mowha, and thatching grass from reserved forests for their domestic requirements.
- 3) They are also eligible for the removal of timber, bamboo and forest produce, from the protected forests for domestic and agricultural purposes like:
 - a) Timber for Agricultural implements.
 - b) Roles and thorns for hedges.
 - c) Bamboo for fencing and roofing of huts and sheds in the field.
 - d) Leaves for green manure.
 - e) Fuel for hutting and cooking.
 - f) Timber and other forest produce for the erection of temporary dwelling, cattle sheds, paddles and fencing of compounds.
- 4) The specific reservations are made for recruitment of various category of posts in the Forest Department.

There is an abridgement of the Forest rights and concessions available to the Chenchus as a result of the new forest policy. The Chenchu, who regarded himself as the master of the forests is now placed

under the close watch of the Forest Department. The traditional rights of the Chenchus were no longer recognised as rights. In 1894 they became 'rights and privileges' and in 1952 they became 'rights and concessions'. Now they are being considered as 'Concessions'.

The Forest staff multiplied over the successive Five Year Plans. The population of Chenchus also increased perceptibly over the years. Population increase and concomitant increasing pressure on forest on one hand and increase in the number of Forest conservancy staff on the other hand led to a situation in which mutual distrust and tension persists. A new dimension has been added to this already strained relationship. The Chenchu habitat in Mahboobnagar District and Prakasham District is now infiltrated by various groups, especially, Sugali or Banjara pastorals. In the Chenchu areas of the Kurnool District, the ex-criminal tribes have been settled. These tribes, especially Waddras, have a seducing effect on some Chenchus living in their neighbourhood. There are many complaints that the Waddaras and Chenchus in some places have taken to illicit felling of timber and smuggling to the plains. This led to more vigilance on the part of Forest Staff who, it is alleged, resort to coercive measures in

enforcing forest conservancy laws. This type of atmosphere, saturated with mutual distrust and negative attitudes, is far from congenial for development of forestry or for the welfare of the Chenchus themselves.

There is no denying of the fact that Forest conservation is of utmost importance to the nation as a whole. The forest wealth should be protected and developed on scientific lines. The human problems involved in the process, however, require new approach. The Forest Department, as a wing of governmental machinery, should also consider itself responsible for the development of the Chenchu inhabitants who provided working force for various operations involved in the development of Forests all along. On the other hand the Chenchus and tribal inhabitants should realise the need to preserve the forests. This approach envisages continuous employment to the Chenchus in Forest work by the Forest Department. Development of the Forest and the welfare of the Chenchus should go hand in hand.

This calls for a partnership approach in which the Forest Department should consider the Chenchu as friend of the forest and involve him as an

indispensable partner in the scientific development of forestry. In return, the Chenchus should also regard the Forest official as a benefactor and not foe and consider the Forest conservation as protection of their own wealth. If this change comes about, the tribal can easily be won over and right atmosphere for development of forest on scientific lines can be established.

In pursuance of this policy, the following programmes are envisaged under Forestry in the action plan for development of Chenchus.

1) Provision of employment opportunities to the Chenchus:

The Forest area in the Chenchu habitat is 18,11,723 acres (2,830 Sq.Miles) with a Chenchu population of 13,400. The various activities of the Forest Department can easily sustain a large section of the Chenchu population by providing employment to them for 300 days in a year.

A scheme for providing assured employment to the Chenchus has to be evolved taking into consideration the requirements of the Forest Department. The Chenchus lack skill and know-how required for modern forest management and the Forest Department complains

that the Chenchus lack the stamina and skills for felling the timber trees. It is also a problem to procure the forest labour in required strength from a single Chenchu settlement. A short duration training programme is proposed to impart training to the Chenchus in modern methods of timber felling, and processing and in forestry operations. Two training centres are proposed at Bairluttu and Mannanur. The details of the Forestry Training Centres are furnished hereunder:

1)	Training of 25 persons for first year -- 3 months	
	a) Stipend Rs.100 x 25 x 3 x 2	= Rs.15,000
	b) T.A. and others 50 x 25 x 2	= <u>Rs. 2,500</u>
	@ Two batches every year	Rs.17,500
	Rs.17,500 x 2 x 3	= <u>Rs1,05,000</u>
2)	Establishment charges:	
	a) Extension Officer	} for 3 years = 72,000
	b) Clerk	
	c) Attender	
	d) Buildings (2)	<u>Rs.1,77,000</u>
	d) Buildings (2)	<u>Rs. 33,000</u>
		<u>Rs.2,00,000</u>

The Forest Department can also recruit the Chenchus who have primary education and successfully completed their training course at these training centres for protection services and conservation work.

Training in Logging Techniques:

In addition to forestry training, specialized training can be given to persons working in the Forest Department. In consultation with the Forest Department the Chenchu boys who have studied upto 7-8th Class can be given training in this specialised branch of forestry. As new comers, they may require sufficient time to acquaint themselves with logging techniques. If they successfully complete the training under logging techniques they can be absorbed on the Forest Department. Every year 15-20 candidates can easily be recruited by the Forest Department. The training may last 5-6 months. The financial implications for starting this training centre is furnished hereunder:

Training for 20 persons in first year - 6 months:

	Rs.
a) Stipend Rs.100 x 20 x 6	= 12,000
b) T.A. and other Misc. 50x20x6	= 6,000

	18,000 x 3
	= Rs.54,000

Exploitation of Major Forest Produce:

Exploitation of major forest produce offers ample scope for gainful employment for Chenchus. The processing can also be undertaken by the Chenchus.

The Training of the Chenchus in modern methods of timber logging, sawing, slicing etc. in the training centres will provide the skilled labour for undertaking the exploitation of major forest produce by Chenchus themselves. Exploitation of major forest produce, however, cannot be taken up individually. This can be best achieved by forming Forest Labour Cooperative Societies with Chenchus as members. There have been a few Forest Coupe Societies in the Chenchu area. These have become dormant due to various reasons. Their problems are insurmountable. Since the Forest Labour Cooperative Societies are right institution to mobilise the labour for its economic and efficient use and to improve skills and income of the Chenchus, it is proposed to organise Forest Labour Cooperative Societies. It is proposed to cover the entire project area with Forest Labour Cooperative Societies in phased programme and a sizeable share in exploitation of major forest produce can be entrusted to them. The Cooperatives cannot however succeed without the strong support from Government. The major direction in which such support is required is a policy decision by the Government to replace the system of contractors in the Chenchu area in exploitations of major forest produce. The primary responsibility for promoting forest labour Cooperative Societies should rest on the Forest Department.

It is proposed to organise and register two Forest Cooperative Societies in a phased manner as detailed hereunder:

Year	Name of the Society	Share Capital. Rs.	No. of Members
1976-77	Mannanur	2,500	250
1977-78	Bairlutu	3,500	350

Each society will have the following as objectives:

- 1) To promote the economic interests of its members by securing contract of forest coupes and to work such coupes for production of timber, firewood charcoal etc., to supply these products to Government of Andhra Pradesh Forest Development Corporation, Girijan Cooperative Corporation and other Institutions on indent basis or to arrange for their sale.
- 2) To Promote the economic interest of its members by obtaining contracts for execution of public or private work and to organise in such a way as to provide assured employment to the members.

3) To purchase or hire tools equipment and machinery for carrying out the above objects.

4) . . To act as agent to procure, and for disbursing for domestic, professional, credit requirement of the members.

The size of the membership of a forest labour cooperatives may be fixed with reference to the work load and the area of operation. Initially any ten members may be permitted to promote a society.

The share capital of the society may be small denominations and there should be a limit on the number of shares that a member can hold. Having regard to the poor economic status of the Chenchus the Girijan Cooperative Corporation or Project authority should provide share capital on behalf of individual members.

The Managing Committee of each primary forest labour Cooperative Society shall elect from amongst themselves a President and Vice President as per the provisions of the bye-laws of each society.

The Managing Committee may comprise of the following:

- 1) 5 Elected representatives of labour members.
- 2) 1 Nominee of Forest Department.
- 3) 1 Nominee of Forest Development Corporation.
- 4) 1 Nominee of Girijan Cooperative Corporation.
- 5) 1 Nominee of Tribal Welfare Department/Project authority.
- 6) 1 Nominee of Cooperative Department.

The Society may employ the following officers and field staff depending upon the volume of work:

- 1) Secretary who will be in overall charge of the management of society and accounts.
- 2) Accountant.
- 3) Coupe Agent to be incharge of Forest exploitation work.
- 4) Depot Clerk at Disposal Centres.

Collection and processing of Minor Forest Produce:

The Andhra Pradesh Girijan Cooperative Corporation is given the monopoly to collect and purchase minor forest produce from the Chenchus and other tribals in the Project area. The Girijan Cooperative Corporation has extended its activities recently. It is now

organising its activities through its primary societies situated at Atmakur and Mannanur. It covers the Project area through 10 D.R. Depots situated at Bairlutu, Pecheruvu, Srisailam, Dornala, Mannanur, Vatwarlapalli, Banal, Padra, Amrabad and Lingal. The total turn over of the Girijan Cooperative Corporation in the area during the year 1973-74 is as follows:

<u>Sl.No.</u>	<u>Name of the item.</u>	<u>Quantity purchased.</u>
1.	Addaleaf	250 Tons
2.	Tamarind	2,450 "
3.	Myrabolans	110 "
4.	Soapnut	50 "
5.	Honey	33,002 Lbs.
6.	Relabark	1,900 Tons
7.	Wax	856 Lbs.

The Nallamalai and Amarabad forests are not very rich in minor forest produce. There is however ample scope to develop minor forest produce potentialities. This, however, depends upon Forest policy of the Government. With depletion of timber yielding species and increasing demand of paper industry, the afforestation programme is now mostly confined to the plantation of teak, and other timber yielding species, bamboo, eucalyptus and other quick growing species. This forest policy has changed the very eco-system of the Chenchus. Chenchu, as discussed earlier draws

his food from the forest in the form of tubers, flowers, leaves and fruits. His by far most important secondary occupation--honey collection is also affected by introduction of new species. The new forest policy has no place for his traditional food yielding species like tamarind, 'Ippa', 'Velaga', 'Neredu' etc. The disappearance of these trees would also affect the honey-bees. The Chenchus not only lose their natural nutrients like honey, fruits, leaves etc., but also lose an important source of income, if the traditional minor forest produce yielding species are entirely ignored in the forest plantations.

The Government should issue a policy directive to the Forest Department and Forest Department Corporation to reserve a fixed extent of forest area for minor forest produce species in the Vicinity of the Chenchu settlements. Wherever there is dwindling of minor forest produce species, the Forest Development Corporation and Forest Department should be instructed to regenerate minor forest produce species. The Forest Department should undertake a survey for this purpose and prepare working plan for the purpose. Prolific bearers like Jack and Mango can be profitably raised in such forests.

The financial implications of various schemes envisaged under forestry are furnished hereunder:

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme.	Location.	Items of Expenditure.	
1.	Forestry Training.	Mannanur	Building Establishment and Stipend	2,00,000
		Chintala	Building Establishment and Stipend	
2.	Plantations	Nagarkurnool Atmakur Nandyal Giddalur Forest Divisions	Chenchu labour wages.	1,50,000
3.	Training in logging techniques.	Chintala	Stipend	54,000
			Total:	4,04,000

3. AGRICULTURE:

Agriculture and horticulture have to be developed on scientific lines in the Chenchu habitat to improve the consumption standards of the Chenchus as well as to provide an assured source of food and supplement their income. Development of agriculture assumes more importance in the Project area in view of changes in the eco-system. The development of agriculture, however, is fraught with formidable problems. The past experience in Nallanalai forests and Amarabad plateau shows that the food gathering Chenchus lack the tradition of cultivation. The large extents of land excised and assigned to the Chenchus in many Chenchu settlements remained uncultivated or leased out to non-tribals. Lack of knowledge of various agricultural operations, necessary inputs and tools and their handling are responsible for failure of agricultural development programmes in the project area. Sustained extension work and supply of inputs at subsidised rates to the Chenchus in the past would have paved way for agricultural development in the Project area. As most of the Chenchu villages were situated in Reserve Forests, they did not have the benefit of the Agricultural extension

programme undertaken by the Community Development Blocks in the neighbouring area. Eventhough the Chenchu pocket in Mahaboobnagar District is covered by Achampet Block, the Chenchus did not receive the required attention due to their sparse distribution and inaccessibility of the area. Moreover, the Achampet Block was not a Tribal Development Block. In other districts, Chenchus are too small in number and scattered to receive any special attention of the Extension Agencies of the concerned Blocks. The Land Colonisation schemes at Bairluti, Magaluti and other places are good indicators of bad planning. These schemes were designed to settle this tribe of food gatherers and hunters straight away on land without initiating them into agriculture and preparing them to take up cultivation without necessary infrastructure. The agriculture without assured water supply was gamble in monsoon. The poor yields in the initial years must have discouraged the Chenchus. The food gathering Chenchu has no sense of thrift and so provision for a few weeks ahead. Agriculture in forest areas require constant care which the Chenchus could not afford. They could not sustain themselves till the harvest. The poor yields and crop failures after 5 months of waiting forced the Chenchus to fall back on forest for work and food. The forest work involves semi-nomadic life. Eventually the lands were left fallow

and weeds enveloped them. A few enterprising non-tribals leased in some land from Chenchus for cultivation. But it was stopped as it was considered to be detrimental to the forest wealth to allow the land greedy non-tribal farmers to cultivate in the reserve forest areas. Thus came to a close a scheme which was good intentioned but ill-planned.

Strategy for Agricultural Development:

Two decades have rolled by since the first experiments were conducted in Mahboobnagar District. These two decades have witnessed a lot of change in and around the Chenchu habitat. These changes have brought about changes in the outlook, attitude and aspirations of the Chenchus. Many of them are now mentally prepared to take up agriculture if necessary inputs are supplied free of charge. The Chenchus in Nallamalais are clamouring for livestock. With this, the most formidable psychological barrier to introduction of agriculture is overcome to a large extent. There are, however, other constraints which have to be taken into consideration before introducing agriculture on a regular basis.

The first constraint is the geo-physical factors of the Chenchu area. The Chenchu habitat is mostly hilly and wooded characterised by lack of perennial water sources. The water table is also too deep to be tapped for irrigation purposes. The few streams which meander through the Chenchu area offer limited scope for irrigation. There are tanks at places like Nagaluti, Pedacheruvu, Telugurayanicheruvu and Pedamantanaia which can be used for irrigation. In other places the crops have to be rain fed. Since restoration of these tanks for irrigation purposes takes two or three years, the cropping pattern in the Project area has to be mainly characterised by dry crops. Further, the introduction of agriculture is to be restricted to such Chenchu settlements where the Forest Department has made available land for agricultural purposes. As most of the Chenchu settlements are situated in and around the Forest area, the Forest conservation policy would therefore be an important limitation factor for agricultural expansion in the Chenchu pocket.

The food gathering Chenchus are not inclined to Agriculture calls for persistent and continuous labour, undertake hard and sustained physical work.

This is mainly due to undernourishment and lack of similar work habit among the Chenchu. When all the programmes embodied in this action plan are put on ground, the programme benefits would enable them to improve their consumption standards. During the first year of implementation, the farmers may be provided with credit liberally for subsistence purposes. The D.R. Depots of the Girijan Cooperative Corporation may act as retail outlets for State Civil Supplies Department. An intensive medical care programme envisaged under the Action Plan will be able to correct the nutritional deficiencies. Regarding the other aspect, a programme has to be formulated to induce the Chenchu into the type of work habit required in the proposed settled cultivation. The provision of incentives like subsistence allowance for the Chenchu members engaged in cultivation during the first crop season, and supply of inputs at subsidised rates would induce them to take to cultivation and gradually inculcate the work-habit required for settled cultivation. To avoid the dismal performance of past experiments, steps must be taken to induce community action against defaulters. The Chenchu tribe has a weakly developed traditional leadership organisation. It is too weak to initiate or organise any community action. There is, however, an institution of leadership created by the Forest

Department in each Forest village. The Forest Department had appointed Chenchus in the post of 'Head Man' and 'Deputy Head Man' to act as Liaison Officers in each Chenchu settlement between the Forest and other Governmental Departments and Chenchu residents of the respective settlements. With the abolition of R.F. villages and consequent transfer of execution of Chenchu development programmes to various Departments, the Forest Department has discontinued the Offices of 'Head Man' and 'Deputy Head Man'. The office can now be continued and can be used for inducing and organising community action in Chenchu villages. They can also be entrusted the duties of Village Muncif (Police Patel) and Karanam (Patwari) of the respective Chenchu Gudems after some training by the Revenue Department. This is also appropriate in the wake of conversion of Reserve Forest Villages into Revenue Villages.

Lastly, there is skill and technology constraint, the level of technological skill of the pre-agricultural Chenchu is very low. This fact must be constantly kept in view while formulating agricultural development programme. It has also to be kept in view that additional skill component should as far as possible, be

within the adaptive capacity of the Chenchus. If the agricultural development is formulated in such a way that the entire Chenchu community in the Chenchu settlement participates in this new pursuit, it will induce new work habits and ensure successful adoption of the programme. It is essential to impart training to the prospective Chenchu farmers in various methods of farming, so that the trainees can act as innovators in their villages. Two farmers training centres are proposed at Mannanur and Bairluti.

There is need for sustained and vigorous agricultural extension programme. To carry out extension work a cadre of dedicated extension workers with adequate experience of working in similar programme among pre-agricultural people is required. To attract good staff incentives to the staff working in the project area may be provided in the form of free accommodation, project allowance at 20% of the basic salary, etc. The targets may be fixed realistically taking into consideration various local factors. The staff in-charge of each Chenchu settlements may be induced to achieve the physical targets by instituting Bonus for those who achieve targets each year. An agro-service centre cum-depot to provide necessary guidance to the farmers and supply agricultural

implements and other agrarian inputs to the Chenchu farmers is proposed to be set up at the selected centres viz., Bairlutu, Mannanur and Garapents. One Agricultural Extension Worker is proposed to be posted at every large Chenchu settlements, to constantly demonstrate various agricultural operations and use of agricultural implements to the Chenchu farmers and also to guide them in application of manures, fertilizers, pesticides and other agrarian inputs. He is also responsible for distribution of agricultural inputs to the Chenchus. He will be under the control of Agricultural Extension Officer of the concerned project area.

It is necessary to survey land and complete settlement operations in order to assign land individually. Distribution of 'patta' also would create a sense of ownership and security of tenure.

Lastly, there is the financial constraint. The food gathering and hunting Chenchus lack the money to invest for short term inputs but alone the huge money required for land development and other medium and long term inputs. It is therefore envisaged to undertake land development by the Government on 100% grant-in-aid basis. The District Units of Agro-Industries Corporation situated in Kurnool, Mahaboobnagar,

Ongole and other places may be commissioned for the work in their respective districts. It is also proposed to control the weeds in the fields with application of weedicides. It can be entrusted to the Plant protection Unit of State Department of Agriculture. It is also envisaged to supply various kinds of improved inputs to the farmers at subsidised rates. The subsidy component in the inputs supplied by the Project will taper off gradually steps must also be taken to ensure the timely supply of various inputs.

Following the methods enunciated above under the strategy, a plan for introduction, stabilisation and development of agriculture is formulated in the following pages.

Cropping Pattern:

The cropping pattern in and around the Project area is characterised by predominance of millets especially ragi and jowar in Mahaboobnagar District - Arika, Sama and other small millets. The agricultural yields are very low. It is proposed to step up agricultural production gradually in the Project area by introducing qualitative and quantitative shifts in the cropping pattern.

It is proposed to bring more area under regular cultivation in a phased programme. Taking into consideration the various constraints and adopting capacity of the Chenchus, it is proposed to increase cropped area to 4055.40 acres in a phased programme as detailed below:

T A B L E N O . I I

Sl. No.	District.	<u>1976-77</u> (acres)	<u>1977-78</u> (acres)	<u>1978-79</u> (acres)
1.	Mahaboobnagar	339.10	339.10	339.10
2.	Kurnool	649.75	649.75	649.75
3.	Nalgonda	25.00	25.00	25.00
Total:		1013.85	1013.85	1013.85

The present cropping pattern is not profitable as evident from the low productivity and pronounced shortages of food grains in the project area. Moreover the crops grown in many places are local varieties and not good yielders. There are no high yielding varieties among them. It is therefore proposed with improved and high yielding varieties of profitable crops suited to the project area. The qualitative shift in cropping pattern of the project area

will be effected after careful consideration of agro-climatic and ecological factors, irrigation potentials of the area, profitability, dietary habits and preferences of the Chenchus of the Project area.

The data on agro-climate, type, depth and texture of soils etc. are not available. These are to be gathered by the Project Agricultural staff in the first year of project itself so as to prepare a cropping pattern profitable and most suitable to the area.

The programme of coverage by improved and high yielding varieties of crops is indicated in the following table:

T A B L E NO.III
COVERAGE OF HIGH YIELDING VARIETIES

Sl. No.	District.	Area covered in			Total (acres)
		1976-77 (acres)	1977-78 (acres)	1978-79 (acres)	
1.	Mahaboobnagar	85.00	170.00	339.00	594.00
2.	Kurnool	100.00	150.00	300.00	550.00
3.	Prakashan	62.50	93.75	187.50	343.75

* Source: District Tribal Welfare Officer, Mahaboobnagar, Reclamation Officer, Kurnool and District Social Welfare Officer, Prakashan District.

There is urgent need as well as scope for cultivation of vegetable and fruit crops in the Chenchu settlements. The fruit and vegetable intake of Chenchu is at present very low. To make up vital nutritional deficiency, it is proposed to encourage kitchen gardening, besides earmarking some area for vegetable and fruit crops.

Significant increase in agricultural yields is now possible with adoption of improved agrarian inputs viz., High Yielding Variety seed, fertilizer, pesticides and insecticides improved implements etc. It is envisaged to supply these agrarian inputs to all the Chenchu farmers in the Project area in phased programme as detailed below:

T A B L E NO.(1)SUPPLY OF INPUTS

Year.	Type of inputs.	Quantity	Area to be covered (acres)	No. of beneficiaries	Estimate cost (Rs.)
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
1976-77	Improved Seed	25 Qtls	247.50	70	4,375
	Fertilizers	125 Qtls	247.50	70	12,500
	Pesticides	50 Ls.	247.50	70	1,250
	Supply of imple- ments.		--	70	2,100
1977-78	Seed	70 Qtls	661.25	200	12,250
	Fertilizers	330 Qtls	661.25	200	39,600
	Pesticides	120 Ls.	661.25	200	3,000
	Supply of imple- ments.	@ Rs.40/- per individual		130	5,200
1978-79	Seed	150 Qtls	1487.75	500	16,250
	Fertilizers	745 Qtls	1487.75	500	81,950
	Pesticides	300 Ls.	1487.75	500	7,500
	Supply of imple- ments.	@ Rs.40/- per individual cultivator		300	12,000

 1,97,975

Irrigation is one of the most important factors for adoption of modern agrarian practices and stepping up agricultural production. A survey of irrigation potentialities is necessary. After the results of techno-economic feasibility survey are available, the irrigation works can be taken up. There are, however, some investigated minor irrigation works in Achampet Block of Mahaboobnagar District. The tanks at Nagaluti, Pedacheruvu, Pedamantanala and Telugurayanicheruvu can be repaired and restored for irrigation purposes. Restoration work and pumping of water from these tanks can be started immediately. Pending the feasibility report, a sum of Rs.10/- lakhs is provided for irrigation development in the project area. It is proposed to take up irrigation work on 100% grant-in-aid basis.

The short term inputs are proposed to be supplied in the first 100% subsidy basis. In the second year the inputs will be supplied at 75% subsidy and in the third year the subsidy will be reduced to 50% of the value of inputs supplied. The financial implications for supply of inputs on subsidy are furnished hereunder:

T A B L E NO.(2)SUPPLY OF SHORT TERM INPUTS

Year.	Total Extent (acres)	Total Esti- mated cost Rs.	Subsidy Rs.	Loan Rs.
1976-77	766.35	53,620	53,620	--
1977-78	766.35	53,620	40,215	13,405
1978-79	766.35	53,620	26,810	26,810
Total:	2,299.05	1,60,860	1,20,645	40,215

Adequate credit for productive and unproductive purposes and subsistence allowance to the Chenchu farmers in the first crop season-wise also provided for in the plan. The financial implications of various programmes envisaged under agriculture sector are furnished hereunder:

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Programme.</u>	<u>Estimated Cost.Rs.</u>
1.	Establishment of Agro-service Centre. (Towards salaries for staff and quarters and Depot)	1,87,200
2.	Land development.	6,00,000
3.	Weed control operation.	15,000
4.	Supply of inputs.	3,58,835
5.	Training Programme	2,00,000
6.	Subsistence Allowance	4,62,000
7.	Salaries of Head Men and Deputy Head Men.	50,000
8.	I r r i g a t i o n .	10,00,000
	T o t a l :	19,73,035

4. COTTAGE INDUSTRIES:

The hand to mouth living characteristic of a food gathering tribe leaves spells of leisure and unemployment due to seasonal variations and the concomitant non-availability of forest produce. Further, for a primitive tribe like Chenchus however rich may be the resource endowment of the area, the level of its utilisation will be at the lowest. It is therefore imperative that introducing the Chenchus to advanced technology and sophisticated industry is a long drawn process with an initial phase of improving upon his traditional skills and industry. Hence in this Vth Five Year Plan period it is proposed to develop the traditional Chenchu cottage industry like Bee-keeping, Basket making, Tunga Mat Weaving, 'Patroli' making and Gum collection and processing to which they have an in born flair for adoption, as they are their traditional occupation.

1. Bee-Keeping Industry:

The extraction of honey from bee-hives and its various uses have been known to Chenchus for centuries. Bee-keeping industry, developed on modern lines will not only increase the production of honey, but can play a positive role in raising the output of

agricultural and horticultural crops. Honey extracted from bee-hives is a nutritious and wholesome food.

It contains some precious and rare natural nutritional elements, the substitutes of which are difficult and costly to manufacture. Bee Wax, and royal jelly which are the other by-products of the bee-keeping industry have medicinal and industrial uses. Wax is used in the manufacture of ammunition, candle, paints and varnishes.

The Project area is full of flora and there is immense potential for developing bee-keeping as an industry which can become a subsidiary source of income to Chenchus. This will not only augment their income but also help increase agricultural production. For this purpose it is necessary that sub-stations are started appointing fieldmen for extension work in imparting training to Chenchus in the rearing of bee colonies and in the extraction of honey etc. Improved and standardised bee boxes are to be distributed free of cost to the Chenchus.

a) Sub-Stations: Sub-Stations will have to be started in centrally situated Chenchu villages like Anarabač, Bairlutu, Garapenta and Palutla to serve different regions in Chenchu country. The following of the details of funds required for each Sub-Station,

		Rs.
1. Salary of 1 Field Staff	300 x 12 =	3,600
2. T.A. and D.A.	30 x 12 =	360
3. Rent and contingencies	30 x 12 =	360
Total for four Sub-Stations for four Years.		4,320
4 x 3 x 4,320 =		Rs.51,840/-

b) Training:

It is also proposed to train 10 Chenchus who have atleast primary education in Bee-keeping for three months. The cost of the training programme is as follows:

		Rs.
1. Stipend at the rate of Rs.100/-P.M. per trainee for three months	100 x 10 x 3 =	3,000
2. T.A. for 10 Chenchus at the rate of Rs.50/-per trainee - 10 x 50	=	500
Total:		3,500

c) Distribution of Bee Boxes and Extraction:

It is proposed to distribute 500 bee boxes for 5 hundred Chenchu families and 50 extractors in the areas of 4 Sub-Station free of cost.

	Rs.
1. Cost of 500 bee boxes at Rs.52/- each 500 x 52	= 26,000
2. Cost of 50 Extractors at the rate of Rs.60/- each -- 60 x 50	= 3,000
Total:	29,000

Total funds required for implementation of schemes:

1. Sub-Stations- 4	51,840
2. Training - 10 (Number)	3,500
3. Purchase of Bee Boxes and extractors - 500 + 50	29,000
	84,340 or 84,400

Bamboo household article making production centre for Chenchu areas in the District of Mahboobnagar and Prakasham.

The Chenchu area abounds in Bamboo and the Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Andhra Pradesh is running a basket making training centre at Pecheruvu village and imparting training to 8 candidates annually by paying stipend. About 8 people have completed training. Making bamboo basket is known to Chenchu but it is mainly done by a few families in Mannanur, Vatvarlapalli, Pecheruvu and Srisailam Chenchuvada for the manufacture of baskets, storing drums, handicrafts and other domestic articles which

may find ready market in and around these villages especially in Srisaillam Dam work. Pecheruvu is already having a departmental training cum-production centre. Each Centre may require about Rs.25,000 working capital annually besides a capital investment of Rs.8,000 for 20 artisans per year. The economies and estimates of manufacturing cost per annum of one training centre are given below:

I. Assumptions:

- | | | |
|--|----------|--|
| 1. No.of working days per month
and year. | --
-- | 25
300 |
| 2. No.of working hours per day | | 8 hours |
| 3. Annual capacity of the Centre: | | Processing of 9,000
pieces of Bamboo and
manufacturing of
various domestic
articles. |

II. Capital Investment:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Land | | Lease/holding land of Government |
| 2. Building
(Light roof) | | A shed of about 400 Sq.Ft.
areas costing about Rs.7,500/-
given as total grant. |
| 3. Implements Rs.30/-
per artisan for 20
persons
Rs.20 x 30 = 600 | | Rs.600/- as full grant. |

III. Working Capital:

	Rs.
1. Raw material procured in the forest area at a subsidised rate.	6,750-00
2. Salary and Wages per annum.	14,400-00
3. Miscellaneous.	4,100-00
	<u>25,250-00</u>
2. Turn over of working capital i.e., 50% of the total requirements at subsidised interest of 4%	12,625-00

Economics and Estimate of manufacturing cost per annum of a Bamboo Household Article making production centre in Chenchu Girijan Areas in Mahaboobnagar, Kurnool and Prakasham Districts.

A. Raw material:

1. Raw Bamboo	Rs.
1½ pieces of Bamboo per artisan for 20 artisans for 300 days.	
20 x 1½ x 300 = 9,000	
Cost of raw material at Rs.0.75 per piece at available forest site in the Girijan Area in the proximity of 2-3- Kilo meters.	6,750-00

B. Salaries and Wages:

1. Salary of Instructor-cum-Manager at Rs.200/- per month = 2,400.00	
2. Wages for 20 artisans at Rs.2/- per day	
20 x 2 x 300 = 12,000.00	14,400-00

C. Miscellaneous:	Rs.
1. Rent & Contingencies	1,200.00
2. Transport & Travelling charges.	2,400.00

	3,600.00
D. Over-heads:	
1. Interest at a subsidised rate of 4% on working capital of 12,625/-	495.00

Total Manufacturing Cost:	25,245.00
Selling price of 9000 pieces of processed bamboo articles at a rate of 3.50 per bamboo piece	31,500.00
Manufacturing Cost	(-) 25,245.00
Net Annual Earning	-----
	6,255.00
Net Annual Income	6,255.00
Repayment of working capital loan per annum with interest	(-) 4,366.00
Annual Surplus earning of the Centre	-----
	1,889.00

Abstract

Capital investment for three centres at the rate of 8,100 per centre.

$$8,100 \times 3 = 24,300$$

Recurring expenditure towards salary and wages and miscellaneous expenditure for three centres for three years.

$$18,500 \times 3 \times 3 = 1,66,500$$

TOTAL: 1,90,800

TUNGA MAT WEAVING:

Tunga grass is available in the Tank beds. This can be utilised for mat weaving purpose. For this a Mat Weaving Unit can be started in Mannanoor for training the Tribals in mat weaving. The centre can be attached to the proposed Bamboo production cum-Training Centre at Mannanoor. The following are the details of the Scheme.

Non-Recurring:

	Rs.
1. Machinery and Equipment	900.00
2. Furniture	400.00
3. Raw Material	2,000.00

Total:	3,300.00

Recurring:

1. One Maistry (250-10-430)	3,000.00
2. One Watchman (Rs.140)	1,680.00
3. Stipend for 10 Trainees @ Rs.60/- for six months (Two Batches).	7,200.00
4. Rent for Building @ Rs.50/- P.M.	600.00
5. Contingencies and TA to Staff.	800.00

Total:	13,280.00

Abstract

Non-Recurring	--	--	3,300.00
Recurring	--	--	13,280.00

		Total:	16,580.00
		say	16,600.00

Funds required for 3 years:		Rs.
Non-recurring	--	Rs. 3,300.00
Recurring	--	Rs. <u>40,140.00</u>
		43,500.00

PATROLI MAKING:

The forests of Mahaboobnagar Chenchu area are rich in Babunna Vahuli or Adda leaf which is used in preparing leaf plates and cups and finds ready market. A peripatetic demonstration unit is proposed to be started in Mannanur with one Demonstrator. The Demonstrator has to visit atleast two villages in one month with 15 days stay at each village. He gathers women folk and teaches them the art of making these "Patrolies". The Girijan Cooperative Corporation will have to organise the trained tribal women into cooperative societies for production and marketing of the finished leaf plates and cups. The financial implications and the training programme as follows:

Salary of one demonstrator	Rs.
@ Rs.200/-P.M. per one year.	2,400.00
T.A. and D.A. etc.	600.00
Total:	<u>3,000.00</u>

For three years $3,000 \times 3 = \text{Rs. } 9,000.00$

Gun Karaya Collection and Preprocessing:

Gun Karaya which is used in the preparation of Gums, sweets, chewing gum, paints etc., is tapped from Firurian trees which grow in the forests of Chenchu area. The Chenchus collect them in small quantities and the Girijan Cooperative Corporation procure them. It is proposed to start one unit for collection and pre-processing of gum at Mannanur.

The financial implications of this Unit as follows:

1. Capacity of the Unit	100 Tons.
2. No. of Tribals provided employment in Tapping and Grading etc.	500 (Number)
3. Collection and preprocessing charges @ Rs. 4,500/- per ton for 100 tons.	Rs. 4,50,000
4. Working Capital @ 35 1/3% on the Target.	Rs. 1,50,000
5. Godown with platform	Rs. 25,000
6. Staff 2 @ Rs. 250/- P.M. for one year	Rs. 6,000
7. T.A. etc.	Rs. 500
Managerial assistance	Rs. 7,000

The total cost of the programme for 3 years:

	Grant Rs.	Loan Rs.
1. Collection and processing		1,50,000
2. Godowns		25,000
3. Managerial grant	21,000	--
Total:	21,000	1,75,000

The managerial assistance will have to be provided by the Government while loan part can be secured from the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and other financial bodies. The Industries suggested are already under the perview of the Girijan Cooperative Corporation. The technical staff of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission may have to be drafted initially till such period that the tribal candidates are in a position to equip themselves with technical skills and expertise in the organisation and implementation of the programme.

Abstract

	Rs.
1. Bee keeping Industry for three years.	84,400
2. Bamboo production centre	1,90,800
3. Tunga Mat Weaving	43,500
4. Patroli making	9,000
5. Gum Karaya	21,000
Loan 1,75,000	-----

1,75,000	-----
-----	3,48,700

5. HEALTH:

Public Sanitation and Personal Hygiene:

By and large the sanitary condition in Chenchu settlements and dwellings are very unsatisfactory. They rear goats, sheep, pigs and fowls for domestic consumption. But they are not kept separate and they are housed under the same roof. These domesticated birds and animals roam about freely in the houses as well as the locality. As a consequence it is but natural that their houses and the localities emit foul smell due to the accumulation of excreta of the pet animals. Sanitation worsens with the children defecating in the vicinity of the huts. There is no sense of public sanitation. The huts are so small and congested that the inmates huddle together at night and the close physical contact and lack of personal hygiene among the Chenchus spread various contagious diseases easily. Due to lack of public sanitation in Chenchu settlements become breeding grounds of various communicable diseases especially in rainy season. The cow-dung and other waste material are

not kept away from the dwellings. They have no traditional method of disposal of human, animal, culinary and other household waste. The villages are littered with the decomposing matter polluting the village atmosphere with unbearable odour and breeding disease carrying flies and mosquitoes.

The Chenchus do not have the habit of taking regular bath probably due to scarcity of water. They are illclad and inadequately dressed to protect themselves against the cold and heat. The traditionally semi-naked Chenchu has no habit of washing his clothing, except in some places where they have contacts with outsiders. The Chenchu does not use any detergent to wash his clothes. The same rags are generally worn without any washing till they are wornout. The dirtidden and sweat soaked rags are responsible for high incidence of skin diseases. Incidence of fungus diseases is also very high due to lack of scarcity of drinking water.

Due to rocky terrain, low rainfall and lack of perennial water sources and deep water table, the project area is generally characterized by shortage of drinking water in summer. The Chenchus drink the contaminated water in the period of water shortage as well as in rainy

led to nutritional deficiencies which in turn resulted in various diseases of malnutrition.

The contacts with outsiders and introduction of money economy led to incidence of venereal diseases. The venereal diseases may assume alarming proportions among the preliterate Chenchus who neither know treatment in traditional medicine nor aware of preventive measures cure and preventions of venereal diseases is very difficult among the Chenchus who utterly lack personal hygiene. During the reconnaissance survey a study has been conducted by this Institute to know the incidence of venereal diseases in the project area. The study reveals that out of a total population of 643 persons covered 34 were affected with venereal diseases. Barring one girl in the age-group of 15-19 years and an old man aged about 50 years all the affected were in the age-group of 20-39 years. Of the total population covered 260 were children in the age-group of 0-15 years. This leaves 383 individuals in the reproductive age of which 34 are affected. The percentage of the affected individuals to the total population above 15 years is 6.26% and to the total population it is 3.75%.

Out of the 331 males 16 and out of the 312 females 8 are presently suffering from venereal diseases. The age specific distribution of the affected individuals shows that there were no cases of venereal diseases upto the 15th year. The males in the age-group of 15-19 years were also free from the disease barring alone case (2.94%). The maximum incidence was observed in the age-group of 20-29 years in both sexes. 19.23% of the males and 6.56% of the females of this age-group were currently suffering from venereal disease. The age-group of 30-39 years shows the next highest order of incidence being 8.20% for males and 5.17% for females.

All the affected females and 11 out of 16 affected males were married, thereby revealing that the transmission of the disease is mainly due to extramarital relations 15 out of the 16 affected males and 5 out of 8 affected females had atleast primary education. This indicates that the literate people were more prone to the venereal diseases. 4 out of the 16 affected males and 2 out of the 8 affected females contacted the disease outside their village. Perhaps these people might be responsible for spreading the disease in their village.

The pattern of incidence indicates that the disease is imported from outside. The fact that the incidence is high among educated and people with nobility proves that disease contracted outside and spread among Chenchus by those semi-educated and advanced Chenchus.

Number of T.B. and Leprosy cases are also noticed during the reconnitral Survey.

Medical and health facilities have to be extended to Chenchu villages. A two pronged strategy is necessary to improve the sanitary conditions in the Chenchu village and control the diseases among the Chenchus. The strategy should consists of 1) Health education programme, 2) Provision of effective medical care through a net work of Hospitals, Dispensaries and Mobile Medical Units.

A vigorous Health Education Programme has to be conducted in the Chenchu villages to remove their superstitions, beliefs about various diseases and educate them about preventive and curative measures necessary for various diseases. Health Education Programme also inculcates sense of public sanitation and impart personal hygiene among the Chenchus. Through effective extensive work, changes in their food habits

will be brought about ^{to} improve their nutritional status. The importance of kitchen gardening, dairy farming and poultry keeping will have to be explained.

For provisions of effective medical care, the following medical institutions are suggested. One Primary Health Centre (Sub-Centre) is proposed at Kondanagul during the project period. With this the entire Amrabad Plateau region is covered with medical institutions to serve the population. In view of prevalence of venereal among adult Chenchus and skin diseases especially among Chenchu school going and other children a special skin and Venereal Disease Mobile Medical Unit at Srisailam is suggested. Besides one Health Education Unit is suggested for the Project area in order to educate Chenchus. The details of the existing institutions are furnished in the Annexure. In Mallanalai region there is one dispensary at Bairlutu to look after the medical problems of Chenchus. Previously there was a dispensary at Pecheruvu and recently it was shifted to Dornala. But Chenchus are unable to get the maximum benefit from it as it is far away from Chenchu settlements. Hence the Primary Health Centre has to be shifted from Dornala to Pedamantanala and Sub-Centres are proposed at Ghintala, Garapenta and Palutla. Maternity and child welfare centre is proposed at

Pecheruvu, Kambalapalli of Devarakonda taluk and Gangalakunta of Guntur District. As the Chenchu settlements are scattered over a wide area, the population criterion could not be appropriate therefore, the above suggested medical institutions are proposed for effective coverage. These institutions would be able to cater to the needs of the Chenchus of the Project area. The financial implications are furnished in the Annexure.

Drinking water supply:

The provision of safe and adequate water supply is of foremost importance for healthy living. Most of Chenchu settlements are not provided with drinking water wells. They usually make use of stream water for their domestic purposes. Many of the hill stream reduce to a trickle flow and some even totally dryup in summer season. In Mallanalai region, the Forest Department spent huge amounts for construction of wells for Chenchus. But there is no proper maintenance and most of the wells are not in good condition. The old wells will have to be repaired and restored and new wells are to be sunk in places where there are no wells or other sources of water supply. The details of well sinking programme are furnished hereunder:

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Name of the Chenchugudem.</u>	<u>Estimated Cost Rs.</u>
1976-77	Appapur	5,000
	Udimella	5,000
	Farhabad	5,000
	Rayanam	5,000
	Rekulavarani	5,000
	Loyalapalli	5,000
	Abbarajukunta	5,000
	Pecheruvu	5,000
	Pedanantamala	5,000
	Nagatuty	5,000
	Thummalabailu	5,000
	Allipalem	5,000
	Marripalem	5,000
	Rampur	5,000
Salwaid	5,000	
1977-78	Palutla	5,000
	Guttalachenu	5,000
	Chennupalem	5,000
	Rollapenta	5,000
	Pedda Arutla	5,000
	Bheemarayuricheruvu	5,000
	Yelmamanda	5,000
	Mutukuru	5,000
	Challapur	5,000
Annasagar	5,000	

1978-79

Garapenta	5,000
Chinamantrala	5,000
Chintala	5,000
Chilakacherla	5,000
Mallalammagudem	5,000
Kambalapalli	5,000
Kandlagunta	5,000
Patlaveedu	5,000
Maddimadugu	5,000
Uppunuthula	5,000
Mored	5,000
Kondanagul	5,000
Jakkulapalli	5,000
Antaram	5,000
Kusumasamudram	5,000

MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROGRAMMES

Scheme	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	Total Rs.	
1. Proposals of Sub-Centres	Chintala Kondanagul	Rs. { RC. 8,400 { NR. 30,000	Garapenta-RC. 4,200 Garapenta-NR. 15,000	Palutta-RC. 4,200 NR. 15,000	RC. 37,800 NR. 60,000
2. Proposal of Maternity and Child Welfare Centre	Manapareddykunta	RC. 4,200 NR. 15,000	--	--	RC. 12,600 NR. 15,000
3. Proposal of dispensaries	Pecheruvu	RC. 30,000 NR. 50,000	Gangalak- unta. RC. 30,000 NR. 50,000	Teldeva- RC. 30,000 rapalli. NR. 50,000	RC. 1,80,000 NR. 1,50,000
4. Quarters for P.H.C. Staff		NR. 50,000	--	--	NR. 50,000
5. Drinking Water Wells	15	NR. 75,000	10 NR. 50,000	15 NR. 75,000	NR. 2,00,000
6. Mobile Medical Unit at Srisailem		RC. 25,000 NR. 50,000	RC. 25,000	RC. 25,000	RC. 2,75,000 NR. 4,50,000
				Total:	RC. 3,45,400 NR. 5,25,000
					8,70,400

Integrated child development schemes

While the Chenchu children suffers from mal-nutrition and under nutrition, skin diseases especially scabis anemia, the expectant and nursing mothers suffers from under nutrition prenatal and postnatal diseases after child birth. It is therefore, of urgent need that these diseased groups are provided a package of services like supplementary nutrition, health education, immunization, health checkup and referral services and nonformal education by adopting a co-ordinated approach as envisaged in the integrated child development services scheme. The Chenchus of the most deserving group for such a project area because they satisfy the following factors enumerated for selection of the project .

1. Areas predominantly inhabited by tribes particularly backward tribes.
2. Backward areas.
3. Drought prone areas.
4. Nutritionally deficient areas.
5. Areas poor in development of social services.

Thus Chenchu Project area satisfies the 5 out of 6 considerations.

STAFF

Child development project officer				1
Assistant	..	..	..	1
Supervisors	..	..	..	3
Anganawadi workers		..	..	50
Driver	..	..	..	1
Helpers	..	..	..	50

Strengthening of staff of Dispensary/Hospital

Doctor with Diploma in child Health	1
Lady Health visitor/public health nurse	1
A.N.M. 	4

The Dornala hospital should be shifted to Podamantanala and the project should be co-ordinated with the Hospital activities.

6. EDUCATION:

The literacy percentage among Chenchus is appallingly low when compared to other tribal groups of the State. The reconnoitral survey conducted by this Institute in Pedamantanala, Avorajakunta, Farhabad, Hampur and Appapur villages reveals that out of 400 persons only 9 are literates which constitutes 2.25% to the total. The literacy rate among the females is 1.52% only in the above villages studied. Eventhough schools were established in Chenchu area as early as 1920's there were only 2 male Matriculates as per 1961 census Reports. According 1971 Census 11% are literates among Chenchus. However this figure does not reflect the actual literacy situation in the project area as most of the literate Chenchus live outside project area i.e., in the plains and even those Chenchus who have been enrolled in the schools and dropped out later and lapsed into illiteracy might have also been enumerated as literates. As the Chenchus settlements are scattered over wide area, usually consisting of 5 to 10 houses, schools established in their settlements serve only a few. As the Chenchus are suffering from grinding poverty, children usually assist the parents in digging tubers and roots and collection of other items of minor forest produce. Consequently, many Chenchu pupils dropout or even stay back from school immediately after enrolment.

The study conducted by this Institute in the year 1972 in connection with reorganization of Chenchu schools revealed the rampant absenteeism (63.05%), stagnation (47.81) and wastage (67.34). The above mentioned triple evils are largely due to their poor economic conditions, ingrained apathy towards education and lack of proper incentives to Chenchu students to make education attractive. In order to rectify these shortcomings 22 Chenchu schools hitherto functioning in Nallamalai region were regrouped into 7 Ashram schools in the year 1974. The locations of Ashram schools are as follows:

<u>District</u>	<u>Location</u>
Kurnool	Pecheruvu
	Narepareddikunte
Prakasham	Pedamentanala
	Chintala
	Garapente
	Paultla
	Allipelem

Besides these 7 Ashram Schools, one Upper Primary School is functioning at Bairlutu with hostel facilities. Another hostel is functioning at Srisailem to serve Srisailem Area Chenchus who are in both secondary and primary schools. In Amrabad plateau one Ashram school is started during 1974 exclusively for Chenchus

of Farhabad, Rampur, Appapur and Mallapur villages. Another Ashram School at Ippaipally is started during 1975 to serve exclusively Chenchus of lower Plateau.

Besides these two, one High School is functioning at Mannanur with two hostels one for boys and another for girls. The existing hostel at Vatwarlapalli is serving the requirements of Chenchus of that area. The Denotified Tribes hostels at Amarabad is also serving a few Chenchu students from Amarabad, Padra and Udimella villages. In Nalgonda District one Ashram School is functioning at Peddemoola exclusively for Chenchu students. In Hyderabad District a separate Ashram School is functioning at Rampoor in Pargi taluk for the benefit of Chenchu students. The existing Upper Primary School at Bairlutu has been upgraded into High School. A separate hostel for girls has to be provided there.

The above mentioned Ashram Schools are able to cater to the needs of Chenchus of the various Districts. At present most of the Ashram Schools are not having pucca buildings. During the Plan period pucca buildings for these Ashram Schools are suggested. In addition to these, teacher's quarters are also to be constructed.

It is estimated that there are about 1,625 school age Chenchu children in the age-group of 6 to 11 years. Out of these about 1360 are already enrolled in various educational institutions discussed in the preceding paras. The enrollment works out to 84%. This high percentage among these primitive people could be achieved due to the replacement of all previous ordinary primary schools with Ashram schools about 3 years back. No new institutions are therefore proposed and the incentives provided in Ashram Schools are quite adequate to attract the Chenchu children.

However, the need of the hour is inculcating a sense of cleanliness among Chenchu mothers and demonstrate proper and healthy upbringing of their children. Further their hand to mouth existence does not permit them much time to look after their kids. Usually a child is carried in a cloth string tied across the shoulder or left to play in the forests if the child is old enough while the mother is engaged in her food gathering activity. It is therefore necessary to start cresches at least in the big Chenchu villages like Peche-ruvu, Nerapareddikunta, Gerapenta, Bairlutu, Pogilla and Pedamentanala so as to provide an opportunity for Chenchu mother to learn proper care of their children while relieving her of the additional burden of carrying the child in her food gathering activity. Andhra Mahila Mandali and Bharatiya Gramina Mahila Sangh have not able role to

play in maintaining some of these institutions and their expertise and resources will be utilised to the maximum possible extent.

In view of the low literacy, it is essential that adult literacy programme should also be introduced. In the context of proposed improved methods of cultivating the diffusion of innovations, it is imperative to resort to the instrumentality of functional literacy for expanding mental horizons of these primitive people and bringing about a change for the better in their work ways and thought ways. For this purpose specially trained men will be posted in the existing Ashram Schools and they will be paid an additional allowance of Rs.50/- to conduct night schools for the adults. The financial implications are furnished hereunder.

EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Item	1976-77		1977-78		1978-79	
	Location	Cost Rs.	Location	Cost. Rs.	Location	Cost. Rs.
School Building	Farhabad	30,000	Narapareddikunta	50,000	Malchintapalli	30,000
	Chinchugudem	30,000	Garapenta	50,000	Allipalem	30,000
	Pedamantanala	50,000	Peddamool	30,000	Palutla	30,000
Renovations			Banai	30,000	Siddhapur	30,000
			Rampur (Rargi Tq.)	30,000	Ahobilam	30,000
	Indreshwaram	10,000	--	--	--	--
	Chilakacherla	10,000	--	--	--	--
	Vatwarlapalli	20,000	--	--	--	--
Teacher's Quarters	Appaipalli	10,000	--	--	--	--
	Farhabad	25,000	Narapareddikunta	30,000	Malchintapalli	25,000
	Chenchugudem	25,000	Garapenta	30,000	Allipalem	25,000
Proposed Ashram School	Pedamantanala	30,000	Peddamool	25,000	Palutla	25,000
			Banai	20,000	Siddhapur	20,000
			Rampur (Rargi Tq.)	15,000	Ahobilam	20,000
Proposed Upgrading	Salveid	50,000		50,000		50,000
			Upgrading Bairlutu U.P. School into High School	70,000	R.C.	50,000
Balawadis	Pedamantanala	3,500	Chintala	7,000	Rampur	10,500
	Garapenta	3,500	Palutla	7,000	Lingala	10,500
Adult literacy Centres.	Pecheruvu	0	Bairlutu	0	Rampur	0
	Pedamantanala	10,000	Chintala	12,000	Pogilla	26,000
	Narapareddikunta	0	Farhabad	0	Gangalakunte-	0
	Garapenta	0	Mannenur	0	pallipalem	0
		3,07,000			4,4,56,000	4,12,000

7. PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION:

The Chenchus are still at the stage of food-gathering economy and new to agriculture. Due to long isolation and illiteracy they are very gullible. The Chenchu habitat is now opened up and many non-tribal groups immigrated into the area and some places they outnumber the Chenchu. Out of 4,175.16 acres of land assigned in the Chenchu settlements of Mahboobnagar, Nalgonda, Kurnool, Prakasham districts only 338 acres are under the occupation of Chenchus and the rest of the land i.e., 3,837.16 acres are being cultivated by non-tribal cultivators. As the preagricultural Chenchus lacked necessary equipments and inputs for cultivating lands assigned to them, the land gradually passed on to the hands of non-tribals. As Chenchus are largely dependent upon flora and fauna of the forests they are forced to lead semi-nomadic life and consequently they have not developed any attachment to the land. This trend is only with regard to Chenchus living in the midst of forests and interior places but some of the Chenchus living in the vicinity of roads and other progressive communities, are settled agriculturists. Chenchus living in Garapenta, Pedamantanala and Marripalem villages of Kurnool district and ^Mannanur of Mahboobnagar district are settled agriculturists.

In order to promote economic development and to wean them away from nomadic habits of living, Chenchus have to be gradually settled on land. This transition

from food-gathering to settled cultivation may be difficult and slow process. During this transition period, the Chenchus may be exploited by greedy farmers from outside. Unless the lands assigned to the Chenchus are made inalienable to non-Chenchus, there is a danger of large scale alienation of land in the project area.

In the erstwhile Hyderabad state, several schemes were introduced to settle the Chenchus on land. In the year 1942 an area of 6,000 acres earmarked as 'Chenchu reserve' in upper Plateau of Anarabad area. No non-Chenchu was allowed to settle in the reserve and no money lender was allowed to do his business of money lending in the Reserve. Within this demarcated area the Chenchus were allowed to cultivate free of any charge or revenue. The Chenchu colony at Mannanur was established with an agricultural farm, a co-operative society, a school and a rural dispensary. Under this scheme 262 acres of land was given to 19 Chenchu families for collective farming.

Another Chenchu Colony at Vetavallapalli at a distance of 18 miles away from Mannanur was established in the year 1951-52 for the Chenchus living in the jungles. 800 acres of land was earmarked for the rehabilitation of Chenchus.

But in these Chenchu Colonies several non-tribals settled and grabbed the lands from the tribes. In former days Chenchus cleared jungles at Vetavallapalli colony at the rate of 5 acres for each family. But latter on local

non-tribes burnt the houses of Chenchus and drove them away. Presently there are 8 Chenchu households out of approximately 200 houses found at Vetavallapalli. Similarly several non-tribals have been cultivating the lands assigned to Chenchus at ^Mannanur. When the poor Chenchus applied for restoration of lands, concerned Revenue Divisional Officer gave eviction orders but actual possession of the land is not restored. The local landlords with the connivance of petty revenue officials continue to cultivate the lands.

The Andhra Pradesh (Scheduled Area) Land Transfer Regulation 1959 is applicable to Scheduled villages in Mahboobnagar district and the said Regulation is not applicable to any of the villages in Kurnool, Prakasham, Guntur, Nalgonda and Hyderabad districts. All the land alienation cases and other land problems pertaining to Chenchus as detailed in annexure to this chapter have to be expeditiously solved and tribals have to be given possession of their lands.

The Chenchus who are living in non-scheduled villages of Kurnool, Prakasham, Nalgonda, Hyderabad and Guntur districts should also be given necessary protection against the exploitation of outsiders as the problem is no less alarming in the areas. The problem of land alienation may assume more serious proportions in future as the land in Chenchu villages is proposed under the plan to be developed on a scientific basis and more development aid will be pumped into the Chenchu areas. This may

attract non-tribal farmers from outside to acquire the lands from the Chenchus with the help of various inducements. This actively, if unchecked may make the development effort infructious.

As the extension of Andhra Pradesh (Scheduled Areas) Land Transfer Regulations 1959 to the Chenchu villages in Kurnool, Prakasham, and other districts is fraught with certain difficulties due to mixed population of the villages, a legislation may be brought about to declare the land assigned onhold by the Chenchus in various non-scheduled villages inalienable. The Government of Andhra Pradesh is also contemplating to bring forward a legislation to declare the land assigned to various weaker sections inalienable. The proposed Bill may cover the Chenchu villages so that the Chenchus would be made invulnerable to exploitation of outsiders. Similarly, the Government is contemplating to bring forward a uniform law to regulate usurious money lending through out the state. The Chenchus can also be benefitted by the proposed law.

The cases listed in the annexure-III and statistics of land alienation cases in Mahboobnagar District furnished indicate that the legislation to regulate the transfer of land does not automatically prevent land alienation. The Andhra Pradesh (Scheduled Areas) Land Transfer Regulations is observed more in violation in Mahboobnagar district. The special staff appointed for the purpose is not effective in implementing various provisions of the Regulations.

It is necessary to gear up the special staff working in Mahboobnagar district so as to effectively implement various provisions of Land Transfer Regulation and restore land to the tribals expeditiously. In each of the two major viz., Kurnool and Prakasham districts, it is necessary to appoint one Deputy Thasildar and two revenue inspectors to implement the Land Transfer Act and Money Lenders Act effectively.

Besides these the personnel required for the implementation of the new programme form part of respective programmes.

Similar to existing Integrated Tribal Development Areas, an Integrated Tribal Development Agency has to be created by registering it under Societies Act. An Officer from Tribal Cultural Research and Training Institute Hyderabad will be the Ex-Officio Project Officer treasurer of this Integrated Tribal Development Agency with Director, Tribal Welfare Department as its Ex-Officio Chairman. Chenchus, being a primitive tribe, the development requires thorough knowledge of human engineering. Consequently, anthropologist or Sociologist well versed in work ways, and thought ways of primitive groups and their needs has to be closely associated with the programme planning and execution for deft handling of delicate situations involved in the process of transforming a pre-agricultural society into a society with stable economic and social life. It is to provide their much needed expert input that one of the researches from Tribal Cultural Research and Training Institute is proposed for appointment as Ex-Officio Project Officer besides making the Director, Tribal Cultural Research and Training Institute, Hyderabad as Member of the Integrated Tribal Development Agency. As the Project is distributed in six districts, the following will be the Members of the Integrated Tribal Development Agency.

1. Director of Tribal Welfare,
Andhra Pradesh,
Hyderabad. Chairman
2. Deputy Director of
Animal Husbandry (Livestock),
Hyderabad. Member
3. Senior Joint Director of
Agriculture,
Directorate of Agriculture,
Hyderabad. Member
4. Additional Director of
Medical and Health Services,
Andhra Pradesh,
Hyderabad. Member.
5. Director, Tribal Cultural
Research and Training
Institute, Andhra Pradesh,
Hyderabad. Member
6. Representative from Department
of Industries, Andhra Pradesh,
Hyderabad. Member
7. Regional Manager,
Girijan Cooperative Corporation,
Hyderabad. Member
8. Conservator of Forests,
(Research and Development,
Office of the Chief Conservator
of Forests, Andhra Pradesh,
Hyderabad). Member
9. Representative of Registrar of
Co-operative Societies,
Hyderabad. Member
10. Representative of Director
of School Education,
Hyderabad. Member
11. Anthropologist/Sociologist from
Tribal Cultural Research
and Training Institute,
Banjara Hills,
Hyderabad. Ex-Officio
Project Officer.

8. ADMINISTRATION

Though small in size both in terms of area and population, the Chenchu Project area is distributed in six Districts viz., Nalgonda, Mahboobnagar, Hyderabad, Kurnool, Prakasham and Guntur Districts. Added to this natural barriers like Krishna, Dindi, Gundla Kamma and other streams, Nallamalai and Farhabad hill ranges and dense forests besides shifting Chenchu settlements pose challenging problems for development executive. Further, different types of development administration have been in action in Telangana and Andhra areas of Chenchu Project villages. Most of the Chenchu villages in Mahboobnagar District are in Achampet Community Development Block while a small section are spilled over in the neighbouring Kollapur Community Development Block. Another section is spilled over in the Devara Konda Block of Nalgonda District. There is a small segment of Chenchu population in the Pargi Block of Hyderabad District also. The Reserve Forest villages of the former Kurnool District (now distributed in Kurnool and Prakasham Districts) were under administrative control of Forest Department untill recently without any Panchayat Raj administration. It is only after converting them into Revenue villages, they have been tagged on to

the nearest Community Development Block in some places. Thus the Reserve Forest villages of Yerragondapalem Sub-Taluk are attached to Yerragondapalem Community Development Block.

In view of the small size of the project area distributed in fragments in as many as six districts and limited funds available it is not feasible to have a separate implementation authority for each district. The only alternative left is to implement the project through the existing machinery in each district so as to avoid drain on funds intended for development due to administrative over heads.

Besides the Collector, who is the Chief Coordinating and implementing authority, District Tribal Welfare Officer/District Social Welfare Officer/Reclamation Officer, as the case may be assist him in the implementation of tribal development programmes in each district at district level. While Reclamation Officer looks after execution of tribal welfare programmes in Kurnool district the District Tribal Welfare Officer executes them in Mahboobnagar district. In other districts the District Social Welfare Officers concerned implement the programmes. The subject matter specialists drawn from various Departments implement the programmes at various levels.

For affording necessary guidance in planning and execution besides reviewing development at the district level a Sub-Committee headed by the concerned District Collector, will be constituted for each of the districts with the following composition.

- | | | |
|----|---|------------|
| 1. | Collector | Chairman |
| 2. | Conservator of Forests concerned having jurisdiction over the Chenchu area in the District. | Member |
| 3. | Member of Parliament and MLAs in whose constituency the Chenchu habitation in the District is situated. | Member |
| 4. | Chenchu Leader of the District nominated to the Integrated Tribal Development Agency. | Member |
| 5. | District Level Officers (DTWC/DSWO/Reclamation Officers and other district Heads), concerned with Tribal Welfare schemes. | Members |
| 6. | Ex-Officio Project Officer. | Secretary. |

CHENCHU POPULATION

ABSTRACT

Source: 1971 Census.

Sl. No.	Name of the district	Name of the Taluk	Total Population	Scheduled Tribe Population	Chenchu Population
1.	Mahabubnagar	Achampet	1,11,079	3,512	3,439
		Kollapur	1,48,615	778	732
2.	Hyderabad	Fargi	1,31,935	802	793
3.	Nalgonda	Devarakonda	2,29,241	316	285
4.	Guntur	Palnad	3,00,425	17,945	1,782
		Vinukonda	1,53,111	8,341	457
		Settenapalli	1,65,246	12,654	1,270
5.	Prakasham	Markapur	1,74,977	7,281	3,447
6.	Kurnool	Atmakur	1,26,159	4,511	1,531
		Nandyal	1,99,942	3,472	456
		Allagadda	1,59,127	2,183	305
Total:			18,99,857	50,995	14,642

ANNEXURE - I

INTEGRATED TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

CHENCHU PROJECT VILLAGES

District: ONGOLE

Block: YERRAGONDAPALEM

Sl. No.	Code No.	Name of the Village	Total population (1971)	S.T. Population (1971)
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
1.	1	Palutla	362	335
2.	2	Guttalacheru	106	106
3.	3	Ponnalebayalu	46	46
4.	20 A	Allipalem	125	125
5.	21	Telugurayanicheruvu	18	18
6.	23	Madamanichelma	UI	UI
7.	24	Suddakunta	72	72
8.	25	Burugundala	17	17
9.	26	Garnipenta	57	57
10.	27	Murikimallapenta	169	165
11.	27 A	Nerajamula	233	225
12.	34	Garepenta	295	189
13.	35	Chennapalem	74	67
14.	35 A	Uppaladinnepenta	UI	UI
15.		Narathadikala	UI	UI
16.		Nekkenti	UI	UI
17.		Darebayalu	UI	UI
18.		Aletam	UI	UI
19.		Daddanala	94	94
Total:			1,668	1,516

Block: MARKAPUR

1.	5	Marripalem	139	139
2.	6	Chinna Arutla	63	63
3.	7	Thummalebayalu	166	136
4.	8	Kollapenta	26	26
5.	9	Chinamentrala	107	106
6.	10	Pedamentrala	233	233

contd...

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
7.	12	Pedachama	73	62
8.	19	Chintala	157	143
9.	13 A	Chilakacherla	217	215
10.	12 A	Chinnachama	42	42
11.	64	Peddâ Arutla	217	215

Total:

1,440

1,380

Block: GIDDALURU

1.	RF(1)	Bheemareyanicheruvu	120	115
2.	RF (2)	Isukagundam	51	46
			171	161

District: KURNOOL

Block: ATMAKURU
Firka: ATMAKURU

1.	14	Indireswaram	939	174
2.	RF I/1	Kothapalligudem	39	39
3.	RFII/1	Sandrampetgudem	27	27
4.	RFV/1	Pecheruvugudem	599	490
5.	RFVI/1&2	Srisailam	2,417	256
6.	RFVI/3	Hatikeswaram	13	6
7.	RF IX/1	Nagalutygudem	160	160
8.	RF X/1	Bairlutygudem	578	366
9.	RFXII/2	Rudracodegudem	27	27
10.	RFXV/1	Pangidigudem	31	31
11.	RFXVII/1	Abberajukuntagudem	93	93
12.		Sudinagudem	UI	UI
13.		Pasurutlagudem	UI	UI

Total:

4,923

1,669

Block: SANTHAJUTURU

Firka: Tamedapalli

1.	RF(2)	Narapareddikunta	140	140
2.	RF(3)	Mallalamdnagudem	181	67
3.	RF(1)	Nemallagudem	87	87
			408	294

Total:

408

294

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
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Taluk: ALLAGADDA
Block: ALLAGADDA
Firka: ALLAGADDA

1.	52	Ahobilam	1,506	117
2.	53	Bachepalli	1,836	157
Total:			3,342	274

Firka: NANDYAL

1.		Mahanandi	172	172
2.		Krishnanandi	34	34
Total:			206	206

District: NALGONDA

Taluk: DEVARAKONDA
Block: DEVARAKONDA

1.	196	Chitriyal	869	42
2.	200	Rekulagadde	50	46
3.	206	Kambalapalli	256	92
4.	198	Teldevanapalli	724	84
5.	205	Yelmamanda	375	84
6.	207	Rekulavaram	800	42
7.	208	Pogilla	88	72
8.	133	Kothapalli	232	7
9.	176	Gonboinapalli	1,986	52
10.	175	Bogguladone	800	16
11.	194	Thimmapur	1,062	18
12.	204	Kecherajpalli	774	8
Total:			8,016	563

District: GUNTUR

Block: MACHERLA
Firka: VELDURTHI

1.	33	Sirigiripadu	5,084	1,060
2.	34	Veldurthi	3,688	144
3.	38	Kolegutla	2,246	116
4.	28	Manjadi	2,576	286
5.	35	Uppalapad	2,176	164

Contd..

(iv)

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	32	Kardlagunta	2,495	245
7.	36	Patlaveedu	2,310	104
8.	37	Mutukuru	5,419	1,003
9.	96	Kothapullareddipuram	1,652	831
Total:			27,646	3,953

District: NHHABOBNAGAR

Taluk: ACHAMPET
Block: ACHAMPET
Pirka: AMARABAD

1.	72	Ainolu	1,855	16
2.	74	Bommanapalle	2,125	81
3.	75	Sidhapuram	2,115	61
4.	76	Mannewarpalle	757	8
5.	77	Ghanpur	1,028	26
6.	78	Vankeshwaram	3,321	153
7.	79	Pedra	3,551	151
8.	80	Amarabad	7,666	339
9.	81	Macharam	573	52
10.	83	Mannanur	2,688	203
11.	84	Vetwarlepalli	679	131
12.	85	Thirmalepur (U.P)	1,321	12
13.	86	Uppunuthula (D) & (U.P)	406	136
14.	87	Lakshmapuram	995	25
15.	89	Udimilla	1,092	113
16.	90	Mared	686	68
17.	91	Meddimadugu	412	118
18.	92	Akkaram	785	18
19.	93	Ippalapalle	1,154	26
Total:			33,209	1,787

Block: ACHAMPET
Pirka: BALMUR

1.	82	Turkapalli	1,612	120
2.	36	Lingel (all Hamlets)	736	736
3.	41	Baxnel	1,064	96

Contd..

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
4.	42.	Billakal	116	68
5.	43	Kondanagul	3,372	280
6.	45	Belmur	2,653	26
Total:			9,553	1,326

Taluk: KOLLAPUR
 Block: KOLLAPUR
 Firka: KOLLAPUR

1.	112	Tirmalapalli	277	67
2.	113	Narlapuram	1,006	51
3.	43	Yapatla	520	50
4.	111	Maredumandinne	631	10
5.	39	Rayaram	901	37
6.		Mukudugudem	42	42
7.		Jagannathapuram	32	32
8.		Kerpamula	44	44
9.		Ambetpalli	2,534	27
Total:			5,987	360

District: HYDERABAD

Block: PARGI

S.No.	Code No.	Name of the village	Total Population	S.T. Population
1.		Kusuma samudram		147
2.	103	Rampoor H/o Kusuma samudram	1,950	
3.		Challapur		
4.		Shaikapally H/o Mohamadabad		
5.		Chinnapally H/o Mohamadabad	6,743	130
6.		Dharnapur H/o Mohamadabad		
7.		Salwaid		165
8.		Bandayelikicherla & Serilingampally		40
9.		Merjahidpur	474	100
10.		Jakkulapally		50
11.	134	Antaran		26
12.		Istopuram	1,414	10
13.	135	Puttapad	1,167	6
14.	98	Kothapally	1,374	26
15.	147	Sakalapalli	754	45
16.	102	Ananthagar	410	46
17.	93	Chavadapuram	1,560	7
Total:			15,846	798

1. ANNEXURE II

AREA SELECTED FOR MILK PRODUCTION.

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>VILLAGE</u>
1. Mahabubnagar	1. Eegalapenta
	2. Sunnipenta
2. Kurnool	3. Srisailangudem
	4. Hatekeswaram
	5. Sikharam
II. Kurnool	Nagaluti
	Bairluti
III. Mahabubnagar.	Umamaheswaram
	Mannanur
	Turakapalli
	Venkeswaram
IV. Ongole	Dornal
	Chintala
	Tummalabayalu
	Pedamantrala
	Nallaguntla
	Marripalem.

2. MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS

<u>Type of Institution</u>	<u>Existing</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Hospital	Lingal	Mahabubnagar	
	Anarabad	-do-	
	Dornala	Prakasham	
	Srisailam	Kurnool	
Ayurvedi Dispensary	Mannanur	Mahabubnagar	
M.M. Unit	Mannanur	-do-	
	Dornala	Prakasham	
Primary Health Centre	Padra	Mahabubnagar	Bedamanthana ¹ (Prakasham dis.)
	Dornala	Prakasham	
P.H.C. Subcentre	Uppunthula	Mahabubnagar	Kondanagul
			Chinthala
			Garapenta
			Palutla
Maternity & Child Welfare Centre	Mannanur	Mahabubnagar	Narapareddi- kunta.
Dispensary	Bairtuty	Kurnool	Pecheruvu
			Kambalpalli (Nalgonda dt.)
			Gangalakunta (Guntur Dist.)

3. EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

<u>Type of Institution</u>	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
High School	1. Mannanur 2. Srisailam	1. Bairlutu
Upper Primary School	1. Bairlutu 2. Dornala	
Ashram	1. Farhabad 2. Chenchugudem (H/o Kondanagul) 3. Malchintapalli (Kollapur Tq) 4. Pedamantrala 5. Pecheruvu 6. Chintala 7. Narapareddikunta 8. Garapenta 9. Allipalem 10. Palutla 11. Mahanandi 12. Peddamoöl (Nalgonda Dist) 13. Banal 14. Siddapur	1. Mahanandi
Prim-ary School	1. Indireswaram 2. Chilakacheela 3. Vatwarlapalli 4. Appaipally	
Boarding Homes and Hostels	1. Srisailam 2. Bairlutu 3. Dornala 4. Vatwarlapalli 5. Appaipalli 6. Mannanur (E) 7. Mannanur (G)	

4. COMMUNICATIONS

Sl. No.	Type of Road	From	To	Length
1.	Earthen	Chintala	Pedachama	3.2 Km
2.	Earthen	Nallamadugulapenta	Pedachama	12.9 Km
3.	Earthen	Cherlopalli	Chinamantanala	9.7 Km
4.	Earthen	Tummalabailu	Pecheruvu	6.4 Km
5.	Earthen	Ganjivaripalli	Telugurayani-Cheruvu	17.7 Km
6.	Earthen	Ganjivaripalli	Narathadikala	21.0 Km
7.	Earthen	Narathadikala	Guttalacheruvu	7.0 Km
8.	Earthen	Muguturu	Chintalaimudipi	11.1 Km
9.	Earthen	Pullalacheruvu	Garapenta	11.3 Km
10.	Earthen	Akkalapalem	Chennupalem	8.0 Km
11.	Earthen	Pecheruvu	Rollapenta	14.0 Km
12.	Earthen	Bairlutu	Rudrace	16.0 Km
13.	Earthen	Velugode	Gundla Brahmeswaram	21.0 Km
14.	Earthen	Nallakalva	Rudrace	8.0 Km
15.	Earthen	Gundla Brahmeswaram	Diguvameta via. Iskagundan	13.0 Km
16.	Earthen	Chelama	Bairani	7.0 Km
17.	Earthen	Racherla	Pechigundala	10.0 Km
18.	Earthen	Mannanur	Farhabad	16.0 Km
19.	Earthen	V.V. Palli	Sarlapalli	32.0 Km
20.	Earthen	Pullaipalli	Burjugundal	14.0 Km
21.	Earthen	Appapur	Behrapur	6.0 Km
22.	Earthen	Farhabad	Nelganga	48.0 Km
23.	Earthen	Lingal	Appaipally	2.3 Km
24.	Earthen	Srisailam Road	Jatravakhalla	8.0 Km
25.	Earthen	Chintapally	Peddavote	7.6 Km

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Podium Pinka Bulis

Pemangkuhan Puan dan ITON. Pasduk