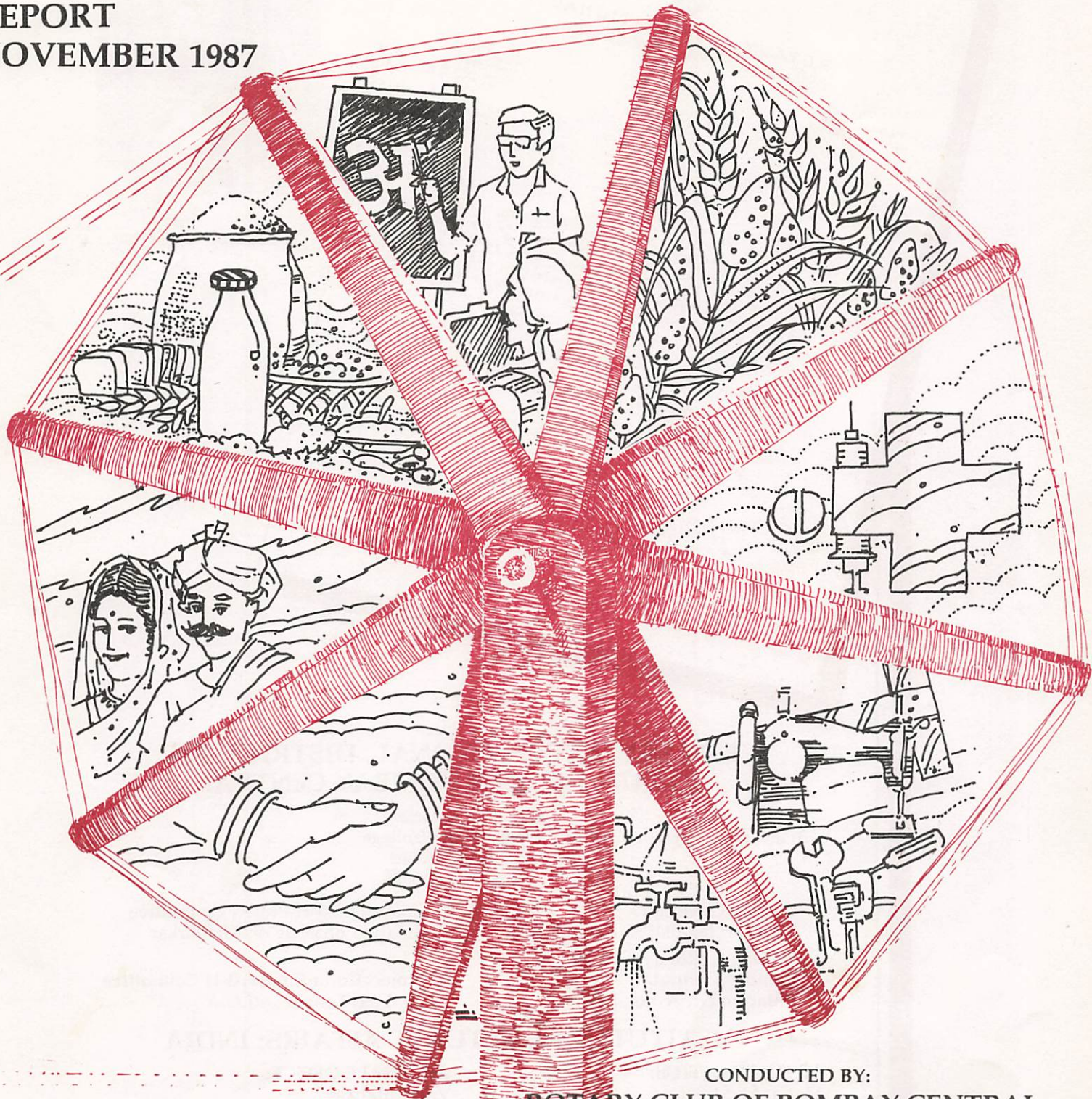


VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

A HEALTH, HUNGER & HUMANITY(3-H)
PROGRAMME OF ROTARY FOUNDATION

REPORT
NOVEMBER 1987

ROTARIANS—
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CONDUCTED BY:
ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY CENTRAL
IN COLLABORATION WITH
THE INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS: INDIA


ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
Service Above Self - He Profits Most Who Serves Best

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12th November, 1987

Dear Ashok,

I am very happy to learn that you are publishing a special report on 'Human Development' programme at Chikhale Village. This is one of the finest programmes funded by Health, Hunger and Humanity Division of Rotary Foundation. Every member of Rotary Club of Bombay Central has a right to be proud of this project.

With best wishes and regards;

Sincerely yours in Rotary,


(JAGDISH)

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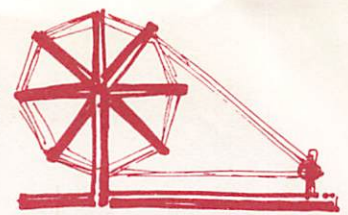
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Village Development In India

A Training Programme Centered In Chikhale Village

In April 1984, Rotary Club of Bombay Central inaugurated the project "Village Development in India", located in Chikhale Village and the surrounding Panvel Block. Rotarian PP Jagdish Khanna conceived of this project in the year 1976 when he was the President of the Rotary Club of Bombay Central. This Club, in association with the Institute of Cultural Affairs: India, made the beginning towards this end in the year 1978-79. The Rotary Club of Bombay Central got fully involved with Chikhale village by the year 1979-80. In that year Rotarian Khanna, at the request of then President Ghanshyam T. Demble, made a comprehensive study and applied for a grant with the Health, Hunger and Humanity programme of the Rotary Foundation. He pursued this every year and finally Rotary Foundation of Rotary International approved a grant of US \$ 122,000 in the year 1983. The project was actually initiated in April 1984, and was formally inaugurated in the Rotary Year 1983-84 at the hands of the District Governor Dr. Shrish S. Sheth, when Rotarian Mahendra Mehta was the President of the Club. Thereafter, Rotarian PP Mahendra Mehta worked tirelessly year after year on this project. Our Club, however, continued to be involved with Chikhale and surrounding villages since 1978.

The entire grant is focused on training: for village leaders, youth, farmers, community health and Anganwadi workers, women, and other local development workers. The programmes have been conducted out of the Western India Human Resource Development Centre (WIHRDC) located in Chikhale village. The initial emphasis of the project was on the cluster of 12 villages around Chikhale. Two years ago programmes expanded to the 37 villages of the Ajivali PHC and now they include Panvel Block and Western Maharashtra. Except for Rs. 25,000 for playground equipment, not a single rupee was designated for capital equipment or improvements. In the 3½ years of the project to date, over 50 villages have received direct programmes, involving approximately 30,000 people.

In brief, the objectives of the grant are as follows:

1. to train villagers in health and agriculture
2. to provide basic skills and motivation through vocational training
3. to offer women greater social & economic participation
4. to ensure early nutrition & training through preschool education
5. to catalyse development in neighbouring villages
6. to train leaders in the 12 cluster villages and in Western Maharashtra

This report will describe the extent to which these objectives have been met. It will also outline the programmes to be held during the final year of the project. In order to evaluate the project's impact and benefits, it is helpful to look at both quantitative as well as qualitative changes. How many people have benefited and in which ways? How are people different and how do they now talk about their future? Are they more active in their village or organisation and do they see an improved quality of life? This report will attempt to answer some of these questions through interviews, direct data and a summary of project accomplishments.

Another important aspect of this project has been the contribution of the three International Rotarian teams. Out of the total grant, 42,100 US \$ was retained to cover their travel and expenses. They have played a crucial role in the implementation of the project, particularly as catalysts. One article will feature their contribution.

“DEVELOPMENT IS NOT A CLUSTER OF BENEFITS “GIVEN” TO PEOPLE IN NEED, BUT RATHER A PROCESS BY WHICH A POPULACE ACQUIRES GREATER MASTERY OVER ITS OWN DESTINY.”

From: State of the World's Children 1981-82 UNICEF

Evolving An Entrepreneurial Environment

Self-sufficiency in a village is largely related to the entrepreneurial spirit of its people. A major programme emphasis has been to offer ways for villagers to increase income and confidence in their ability to support themselves. In May 1984, over 50 farmers came to an Agricultural Seminar. They participated in soil testing and fertiliser demonstrations. Then they visited Dapoli University and learned which horticulture crops grow best in the Konkan region. Soon after, one farmer started a large mango and coconut farm.



In May 1986, Konkan Krishi Vidyapeth (KKV) demonstrated improved paddy cultivation equipment at the Chikhale HRD Centre. Farmers began to talk with each other about other ways they could develop their land. In August, 50 farmers gathered with local resource people at the HRDC to look at second crop vegetables. This event was conducted in a very unique way because during the first hour the farmers talked and the resource people listened. ICA facilitators then asked a series of questions to help the farmers focus their issues, concerns and main questions for the resource people. This produced a very fruitful dialogue which gave many farmers specific ideas and the confidence to begin growing vegetables. A recent survey of the 12 cluster villages revealed that over 350 new farmers are growing second crop vegetables.

Livestock is a major asset for villagers. In the first year of the project, 3 Animal Camps were held where 1500 animals were inoculated for Rindopest. Farmers also discussed improved methods to care for their livestock with the government resource people.

Another major village concern is how to finance farm activities and small businesses. The ICA and Canara Bank have conducted a number of workshops on loans and financial repayment. The second International Rotary team met with villagers and the bank to discuss financial problems, particularly with loan repayments. A budget seminar was conducted with villagers which focused on solutions for their main financial problems. This seminar will be taught again this year.

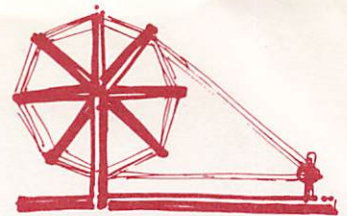
Mango and coconut plantation started after first Agricultural Seminar.

Chikhale Cluster Biogas Scheme

In November, an Economic Conference was held in Chikhale with the BDO, the Chief Executive Officer and the Gram Panchayat Samiti Agricultural Officer. They and the villagers decided to start a biogas programme. Today there are 14 biogas units in the cluster.

The initial survey in 1985 indicated that 60 families were interested in the scheme. The government provides $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ the expense

of the plant, technical guidance, cement at the government rate, and access to bank loans. 5 qualified masons were trained to build the units under the 21 day TRYSEM scheme. Biogas training meetings were also held for women since women are most involved in caring for and cooking with the units. 32 women came to a meeting in Chikhale and 50 came to a meeting in Wardoli.



Tree Planting In Chikhale

Chikhale village leaders first learned about Social Forestry Schemes at a Leadership Training Programme at the HRD Centre. A Social Forestry Officer gave a presentation about environmental preservation and income generation through tree plantations. Afterwards, Chikhale leaders discussed the possibility of setting aside some grazing land for trees. The village later agreed and 32,000 trees were planted on the hill adjacent to the village and an additional 18,000 were distributed to villagers for planting on their farms.

This year, with the assistance of Rotarians from Bombay Central, a smaller scheme was implemented. Trees were planted around the Chikhale primary school, the HRDC, the pond, and several individual farms.

Both the Biogas scheme and the Tree Plantations provide a way for villagers to care for the future of their environment. Biogas creates an alternative energy form and decreases the amount of wood that is needed for cooking and washing. Trees prevent erosion from run off, preserve the water table, and provide future income for the village.



Rotary Club of Bombay Central planting trees at the Chikhale primary school.

Health And Nutrition

“After a lot of effort, we have finally nearly wiped out Nuru Worm from our village. This year very few cases have been found.”

Mr. Vishrawath Ghangrekar, Chikhale.

This success story marks years of effort to control Nuru Worm in the well adjacent to the Chikhale pond. And the technique turned out to be fairly simple. Gambussi fish, which eat the Nuru, were put into the well by the second International Rotary team in 1986. This is an example of an innovative, low cost and natural method to deal with a persistent health problem. The third Rotary team also gave health education on the importance of always using cloth filters for drinking water in Chikhale and the Ajivali PHC villages.

The 3H health and nutrition programmes have benefited thousands of people, directly or indirectly. Women have been the major participants and recipients. This is because the majority of the Health and Anganwadi workers are women, and because women are the primary caretakers of the family. There have been significant accomplishments on the original grant objectives, although much work still remains to be done.

In 1985, the scope of the health and nutrition programme expanded as a result of cross-organisation and government collaboration. Several more objectives were taken on, which were funded and co-ordinated out of the 3H grant. These were: to integrate existing health services, to establish a network of 25 village MCH clinics, to provide continuing health education, and to educate and involve villagers in their own health care.

Collaborative efforts actually extend back to 1978. At that time there was little or no regular health care in the area. Bombay

Central Rotary Club, ICA, Sanjivani Trust and concerned health professionals began to sponsor health and immunisation camps, weekly clinics, nutritional subsidies and other preventative programmes. Since 1979, Rotary has held 8 yearly eye camps in Chikhale. Over 2,250 people were examined and fitted with glasses when necessary and over 360 people received operations to restore their sight.

In 1984, the government finally extended the PHC and Anganwadi schemes to the 37 villages around Ajivali. Since then, the challenge has been to co-ordinate efforts between government and voluntary agencies to minimise duplication. With this in mind, the ICA and two consultants, Ms. Saroj Shah and Patricia Campbell RN, established 25 Maternal/Child Health clinics in 1986. These were done collaboratively with the Ajivali PHC and ICDS Anganwadi scheme. The clinics focused on curative and preventative care for pregnant women and children ages 0-5. The 5 main components were: immunisation, family planning, nutrition, growth monitoring, and oral rehydration therapy. Health education was held with PHC staff, Anganwadi teachers, CHV's, Mahila Mandals and villagers. Topics included: communicable diseases, MCH, nutrition, sanitation, water purification, health systems and referral, and village health education. Unfortunately in 1987 the 25 MCH clinics have been scaled down to immunisation and family planning due to other district health priorities.

Nutrition Education has been provided to Cluster Villages and the Block through the SNTD College of Home Sciences and the Food and Nutrition Board of India. This has been done through cooking demonstrations, nutrition surveys, baby weighing, home garden discussions and blood testing for anemia. Groups of SNTD students have come out for week long camps several times a year for the past three years. They have worked closely with the Anganwadi programme.

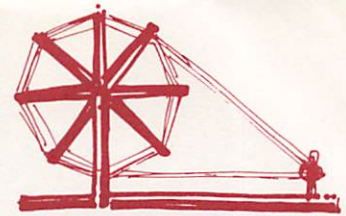
Preventative health and sanitation education is being provided through village level Health Forums, done by ICA staff, CHV's and Anganwadi teachers. Forums have been held in 45 villages in the Ajivali and Nere PHC areas, with over 1500 villagers. These forums have culminated in 2 Health Education Assemblies, the first at Chikhale with 156 participants and the second at Shantiwan, with 86 participants. Dr. Jyoti Patel, from Bombay Central, was a guest speaker. The third International Rotary team also focused on preventative health, sanitation and health education. They worked closely with the Ajivali PHC to test 110 wells and to provide numerous health education sessions. They initiated a demonstration toilet for Wagni preschool.



Maternal Child Health Clinic, Chikhale Anganwadi.



Another major collaborative effort was the Ajivali Health Fair in February 1986. 3,000 people from 100 villages came for health education and speciality clinics. 80 health and dental professionals from 21 organisations donated their time. 350 villagers had never



seen a doctor before. 75 new TB cases were detected, most of whom are now being treated by the Sanjivani Trust weekly clinic in Ajivali. As a direct result of the Health air, Ajivali clinic rates have jumped from 200 to 400 patients a week.

Yet perhaps the impact of the 3H health and nutrition programmes can best be summarised by the health workers themselves.

“ Now people understand the importance of immunisation. No longer do they need to be told to come because they are already bringing their children to the Anganwadi Centre.”

Sunanda Gaiker, Ajivali CHV

“ Willingness for family planning has gone up 40% this year. Co-operative effort between ICA and the Ajivali PHC has served villagers by increasing health awareness, immunising more children and providing more medical services to the villages. It has increased the effectiveness of the Anganwadis. The government sector alone is always limited, hence collaboration with any organisation will certainly benefit more people.”

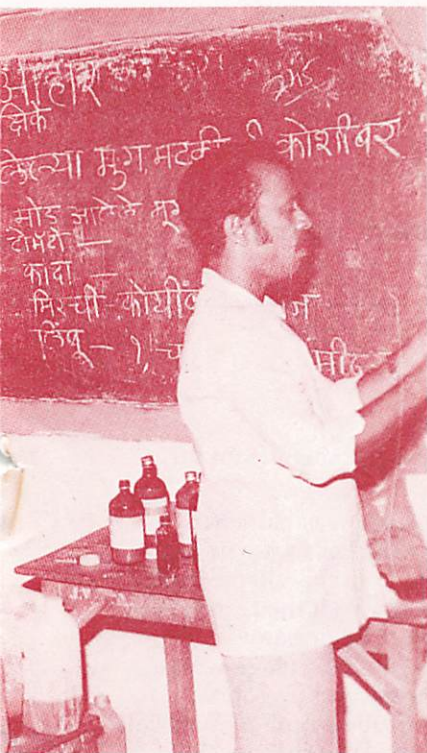
Mr. Suresh Kharivale, MPW at Kholke Subcentre

Women's Advancement

Women play a crucial role in village and social development. From the beginning of the Chikhale Human Development Project in 1978, women's involvement and advancement through new social roles, income generating skills, and health, nutrition and education has been a priority. Many women have taken on new possibilities, roles, and family responsibilities. This is true for their daughters also. For example, at the last Health Education Assembly in Nere, almost one third of the participants were girls between the ages of 12 and 17.

In the early years of the project, cluster Mahila Mandals were registered and an Ambar Charka industry was started in Chikhale Village. By 1985, the Mahila Mandal owned their own machines and paid themselves daily wages on a per piece basis. Their daily wage averaged about 6 rupees a day. However the women could earn 12 to 15 rupees a day through farm wages and work outside the village, so eventually they closed the Ambar Charka industry.

Women's Expositions and Women's Institutes have been another way that women from the Chikhale Cluster and Panvel Block have learned about skills training and small industry possibilities. It has also been a time when women have shared from their lives-their hopes, their struggles, what they



Villagers at the Ajivali Health Fair.



Women's Institute at Chikhale.

see for themselves and their families. Last February, over 150 women came from 19 villages to a 3-day Women's Institute at the Western India HRD Centre. Many walked long distances in groups, village by village. Gov't representatives came from Khadi Industries, the District Industries Centre, Deputy Director of Industries, and the Panvel Co-operative Society. They discussed home and small industries schemes, and loan marketing assistance. The women also visited Women's India Trust and Shantiwan Leprosy Foundation. There they learned about further skills training possibilities, as well as biogas, kitchen gardens, agricultural techniques and leprosy.

Sewing classes have also provided additional skills and income. Thus far, 29 women have participated in 3 different classes. They have learned basic as well as advanced methods. Some have taken up piece work, where others sew for their own families for supplement income. Four women have bought their own machines and others hope to purchase theirs in the coming year. These sewing classes have also gone on educational and cultural trips together, and thus have developed a support network for each other.



Chikhale Sewing Class.

“These classes have created a network of aware women who help each other in other matters. We are willing to work together.”

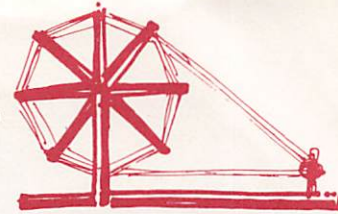
Mrs. Sunanda Gaikar, Ajivali

Preschool Education

When the 3H programme was launched in April, there were 9 preschools under the Anganwadi scheme. One of the project objectives was to develop the educational potential of young people through early training, nutritious food and health care. This has been done through a partnership between the government, the business community, Rotarians and ICA. Now, 11 preschools are covered under the Central Government Anganwadi scheme. The remaining school in Wangni has had a grant from Herdellia Chemical Company to cover the teachers salary. Classroom supplies, educational materials and equipment have been covered out of 3H. Six of the villages now

also have playground equipment from the 3H grant.

In 1985, a major campaign was launched to secure funds and materials to repair and build new preschools. Lonivali village built a new school with funds from the Consulate of the Federal Republic of Germany. Bricks were inkinded by ICA village workers from local brick factories for a preschool in Borla. Local Lions Clubs supplied materials and funds to replace the Wangni preschool roof. In all of these projects, the villagers provided all or at least most of the labor. Educational supplies, materials and equipment for the 12 schools was supplied through the 3H grant until the start of the Anganwadi programme.



Preschools have played a critical role in overall village development. Regular monthly training sessions were held with the preschool teachers. ICA also made regular visits for motivation and follow-up. The Ajivali Anganwadi teacher has noticed that the attendance rate of higher standards is going up and the drop out rate is going down. She states that this is because preschools have developed children's interest in school and learning at a very early age. Parents have also realised the importance of education.

// This is the first year that we didn't have to go and ask parents to enroll their children. In the past we had to force people regularly to enroll. Now they come themselves. Yet educational awareness is still a challenge. //

Ms. Sudha Patankar, Chikhale
Primary School Teacher



Kon preschool playground.

Leadership Training Through The Local Development Practitioners School

The primary programme for training local leaders is the Local Development Practitioners School (LDPS). It is designed for village leaders and field workers interested in a participatory approach to rural development. The 2 week programme includes: participatory planning processes, effective communication, implementation methods, and leadership qualities.

The first LDPS was held in Chikhale in May, 1986 with 16 participants. This group was made up of village leaders from the cluster, field officers from Canara Bank, and development workers from other projects. The participants not only learned implementation methods and approaches, but

they also organised two major events in Chikhale. The first was a cultural event by Air India artistes which drew 3,000 people. The second event was a Technology Fair where villagers learned about appropriate technology from other development projects.

The LDPS is now also offered in four 3-day modules. The first and second modules were conducted with 24 staff of Kushnag Niwaram Samiti in January and July, 1987 at Shantivan. During the first module, the Shantivan staff created a 3 month action calendar for village development and leprosy care in Panvel Taluka. During the second module, they learned effective and imaginal communication techniques. They applied these to teaching leprosy patients about rehabilitation and economic skills training. They are also now applying these techniques when talking with villagers about the real nature of leprosy, so that they can overcome the stigma and fear associated with the disease.

Another LDPS module was held in January with Yusuf Meherally Centre. Their field workers are involved in economic and social development for the 12 villages around Tara. One participant commented on the planning methods, "We didn't have such a detailed plan for our work before, now it has become much



Local Development Practitioners School at Chikhale.

The Rotary Teams

The International Rotary Volunteers have had a significant impact on the overall development of the project. There have been three teams thus far.

The first team, often referred to as the Water Team, focused on village water systems, irrigation and water resource management.

clearer." In March, a 1-day leadership methods seminar was held for 17 Agricultural Extension Officers from Raigad and Thane Districts. They learned ways to increase the participation of local farmers in their districts.

15 youth from Cluster villages came to Chikhale in April for a Youth LDPS. The majority were school drop-outs looking for skills to become economically self-sufficient. In May a 2-day Health LDPS was also conducted in Chikhale for 15 health workers of the Ajivali PHC. One health worker reflected, "This provided us with methods to solve problems easily with families and communities where we are working."

The most recent LDPS was a full 2-week programme in September at Anand Niketan near Lonavala. There were 27 field workers and village leaders from the project sponsored by the India Sponsorship Committee. The participants created 5 year strategic directions and a 1 year action plan for their cluster of 7 villages. The LDPS also included on-the-ground training through village forums to include village participation in the 5 year and 1 year strategies.

This team designed a water system plan for the Chikhale Cluster and introduced the concept of drip and sprinkle irrigation. They also reconstructed borewell catchment basins and designed a retaining barrier between the Chikhale pond and well.

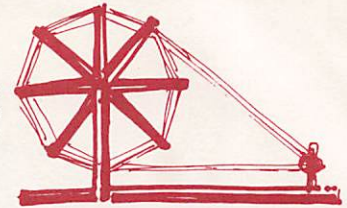
“We clearly saw that solving the water problems of Chikhale Cluster held the key to future development. If farmers could get one vegetable crop per year, in addition to rice, they could increase their income threefold.”

Fred Zihare, Hermitage, Oregon USA

The second team focused on 3 areas: small business & financial management, the Chikhale pond & well, and follow-up on water systems. This team was responsible for the significant decrease in Naru Worm infection through introducing Gambussi fish into the Chikhale well. A plan was also created to turn the pond into a fish farm. Last year over Rs. 10,000 worth of fish was harvested and the pond was restocked again this year.



International Rotarian, Dr. Ken Watson explaining how to make water filters.



The third team consisted of health professionals. They worked closely with the Ajivali PHC staff in the 37 village area. They jointly focused on water testing & purification, sanitation, health education, and "microworld" demonstrations. The team tested 110 wells in 28 villages. They gave over 12 health education sessions to the PHC, ICDS Anganwadi teachers, CHV's and the ICA staff. Demonstration filters were placed in 5 subcentres and a demonstration toilet was built for the Wangni preschool.

Rotary Grant Completion

The following is a projection of 3H programmes from November 1987 through April 1988:

- A community library & resource centre will open in the WIHRD Centre.
- The sewing class will continue in advanced methods & pattern design.
- Two Women's Institutes are projected, one in Nere this December and another in March.
- 30 to 45 more Village Health Forums will be held, followed by Health Education Assemblies, covering the Panvel Block.
- Monthly LDPS modules are scheduled for village leaders & local development workers.
- Special Feature Programmes will continue: such as Animal Camps, budget workshops for small scale farms & businesses, low-cost housing, vocational workshops for youth etc.
- One additional Rotary International Team is projected with a focus on a housing project.

Follow-up will continue on projects initiated by the previous Rotary International teams, in addition to health and nutrition, women's skills training, agriculture, irrigation, biogas etc.

The Western India Human Resource Development Centre

The Western India Human Resource Development Centre (WIHRDC) is projected to be completed by January 1988. This new facility will expand its training programmes to include industrial skills development. This is in response to the rapid urban-industrialisation of Raigad District. The ICA is in ongoing dialogue with industries and Industrial Associations in Taloja, Panvel and Rasayni. These dialogues will help determine the focus and curriculum of the industrial skills training programme. An emphasis of the programme will include orienting rural villagers and youth to work requirements and skills that are needed for working in an industrial environment.

The HRD Centre will continue to provide the means for accelerating village development through cross-sector collaboration and training. For example, the present health and women's advancement collaboration in 37 villages has the potential for expansion to the entire Block and neighbouring areas. There are a number of national priorities which can be promoted by collaborating at the area and Block level, such as Social Forestry, Environmental Improvement Programmes, Sanitation, Housing, poverty eradication through Vocational Training, etc. The HRD Centre can be a catalyst for such collaborations.

This Centre will be the permanent structure that will continue the training and human development activities initiated in this 3-H Project.

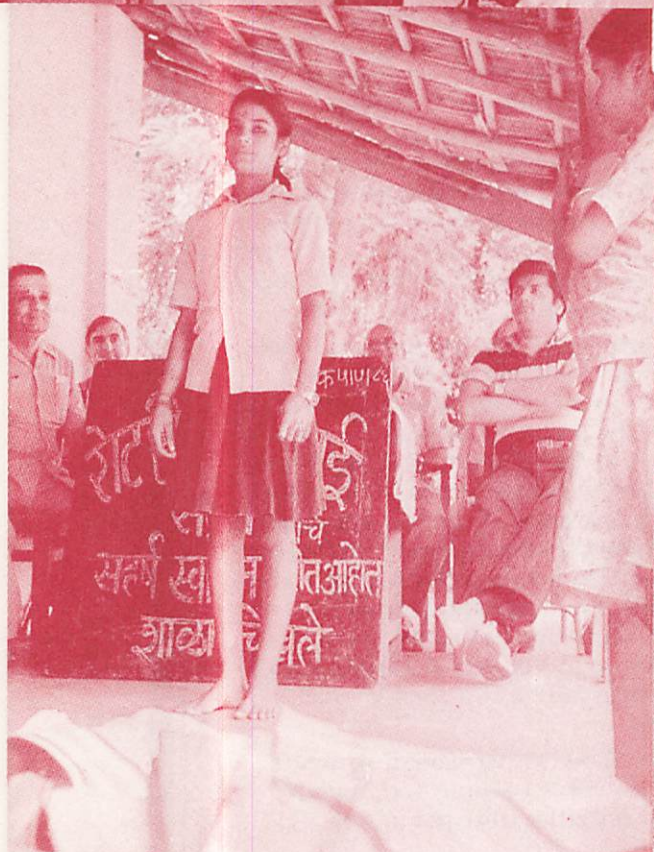
“OUR AIM IS TO RESTORE
TO THE VILLAGES THE POWER
TO MEET THEIR OWN
REQUIREMENTS”

TAGORE

FREE EYE CAMP
on 13 th & 14 th December, 1986
At
Village **CHICKHLE** (Panvel)
ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY CENTRAL
Dist. 314




Television donated to Chikhale by Rotary Club of Bombay Central.



Vote of Thanks at the cotton mats presentation function to all children by Rotary Club.



Rotary Club of Bombay Central visiting Chikhale.



**"THERE WILL BE NOTHING IN
LIFE WORTH HAVING WHICH
WILL NOT BE HAD IN THE
VILLAGES"**
MAHATMA GANDHI