

SULLA PROJECT

AN INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR DEVELOPMENT.

1972-73

BRAC

BANGLADESH REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

3, NEW CIRCULAR ROAD, DACCA, BANGLADESH.

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BRAC

October 31, 1972

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON BRAC PERFORMANCE DURING
PHASE I (FEBRUARY 1 TO OCTOBER 31, 1972)

With the completion of the housing programme on October 19, 1972 Phase I can be said to have come to an end. The delay in completing the programme was due mainly to the extremely difficult post-war transportation condition in the country making movement of programme materials slow and uncertain. Under the circumstances, we feel that a large physical programme, involving movement of thousands of tons of materials for housing and other programmes to one of the remoter regions of Bangladesh completed at a minimum of cost, was no mean achievement.

Housing

This was the biggest in BRAC's Phase I programmes. The target was 5,500 housing units providing shelter for 30,000 homeless in our project area. The achievement exceeded the target handsomely. Materials - C.I. sheets, bamboo, corner post and roofing ridges - were provided for construction of 10,200 housing units on a self-help basis. In addition, some, 3,900 families were given bamboos and C.I. sheets in varying quantities according to need, for repair of their existing dwellings. Thus, 14,100 families have benefited from BRAC housing programme. Two factors contributed to the expansion of an already sizeable programme:

- (a) Government donation of 200 tons of corrugated iron sheets supplementing our own supplies of 800 tons, and
- (b) procurement of superior quality bamboo and corner posts from India at a fraction of the local cost reducing the cost per housing unit to a half.

October 31, 1972

Housing units of two sizes have been allocated according to family size: the larger 12' x 17' to families having more than 3 members and the smaller 12' x 12' to families with 3 or less. The homeless were classified into four categories according to property holdings and income potentials. Whilst no repayment was required from the landless and the destitute constituting Category 'D', token payments of varying amounts were collected from Categories 'A', 'B' and 'C' totalling an amount in excess of Tk. 200,000.

Co-operatives

52 Primary Co-operative Societies have been organised in the project area by BRAC workers. In addition to the agricultural inputs channelled through the primary co-operative societies, BRAC has provided clerical and advisory services to the existing and the newly formed societies. Fishermen's societies have been provided with nylon twines and have been helped with matched cash grants to finance royalty payments on fishing rights.

Training has been given to BRAC workers, and managers and members of co-operative societies in our field camp at Dirai and at Zonal Co-operative College, Moulavibazar on various aspects of co-operative formation and management.

Agriculture

Assistance has been given in the cultivation of approximately 1,000 acres of Aman land in the project area. 600 maunds of Aman seeds have been distributed to the farmer's co-operatives. Where shortages of bullocks were acute, BRAC-hired power tillers cultivated the land which would otherwise have remained fallow. Cash assistance has also been given to the farmers for the purchase of bamboo to protect the Aman fields from water hyacinth.

Fisheries

BRAC has distributed 4,500 lbs of nylon twines to the fishermen's co-operatives, 4,000 lbs of which were imported from Japan. 6,900 cubic ft. of boat building timber has been procured in Assam at less than a third of the local cost and floated down the river Kushiya to the project area. 100 fishing boats of 18' length, 50 boats of 27' length and 50 boats of 39' length are now under construction at four boat building sites adjoining the BRAC field camps. Contracts have been given to local boat builders co-operatives. The boats will be completed for distribution to Fishermen's Co-operatives by December 31, 1972, for hire to groups of members. Co-operative Society funds thus created by the incomes from the hire charges are to be used only to acquire more boats or other fishing implements, again to be made available to members at reasonable rates.

Tools and Implements

BRAC has provided 200 sets of tools to the carpenters and boat builders and 125 handlooms to the weavers so that they in their turn could help in rehabilitating others in the community.

Medical Care

Four Medical teams are operating in the project area from BRAC field camps providing medical services to approximately 200 patients daily. This service, provided free of charge up to June 30, 1972, has since been made subject to a token fee of Tk. 0.30.

BRAC paramedical personnel have imparted training on laymen's cholera cure techniques to a group in each of the 187 villages in the project area.

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Child Feeding

BRAC has undertaken in co-operation with UNICEF, a feeding programme now covering 15,000 children in the project area. A child feeding committee has been formed in 80% of the villages in the project area to collect the monthly requirement of C.S.M. (Corn Soya Milk) for their villages from BRAC storehouses and to supervise daily feeding. UNICEF provided finance for six storehouses built by BRAC at selected points in the project area.

Acknowledgements

BRAC's Phase I programme was financed mainly by Oxfam-Oxford jointly with Oxfam-Canada, Community Aid Abroad-Australia, Aide aux Volontaires d'Emaus-France. Initial funding was provided by Emergency Relief Fund, Student's World Concern, and numerous friends of Bangladesh in Europe and USA contributing to Save East Bengal-London, and Famine Relief Committee-Calcutta.

The Government of Bangladesh, particularly the Prime Minister's Secretariat for Co-ordination of External Relief and the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation have maintained unstinted support and co-operation throughout. Voluntary agencies operating in Dacca, especially CORR, and the UN agencies provided critical transportation and other support without which completion of Phase I programme would have been difficult.

The acknowledgements would not be complete without a mention of those of BRAC's own young workers who had made inordinately slow and perilous journeys in bamboo and timber rafts down the river Kushiara, exposed to the ravages of the monsoon and the mosquitoes, in order to ensure safety of our supplies from India.

BANGLADESH REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE (BRAC)

SULLA PROJECT

PHASE II (November 1, 1972 to June 30, 1974)

October 31, 1972

INTRODUCTION

The end of Phase I marks the transition from programmes for relief and rehabilitation to those of reconstruction and development. Phase I programme undertaken immediately following the devastations of 1971 necessitated inclusion of relief orientated non productive programmes such as housing, medical care etc. Although relief needs are thought to be only partially met BRAC considers that it is time to shift the priorities in favour of development orientated programmes. The objectives of Phase II is to create and develop the human and institutional infrastructure in our project area to make development activity self-generating and self-sustaining, for BRAC feels that the key to success of any development activity is the awareness and participation of its beneficiaries. Education and training programmes, and promotion and support of co-operatives form the twin pillars of BRAC Phase II Plan.

Rural Bangladesh with slight regional variation remains wedded to her primitive ways. But the struggle for liberation has brought about a new climate, a new awareness and desire for change. The corrupt and exploitative rural leadership is being constantly challenged and a new and forward looking potential leadership awaits in the side lines to be trained and inducted to their future roles. The people so long groping in ignorance and mistrust are now receptive to new ideas and institutions which would help them to break away from centuries old subsistence economy.

BRAC's Phase II programme has been carefully developed over the past six months in close consultation with the field workers. Capital intensive programmes such as mechanisation of agriculture

mechanised rivercrafts for inland fishing and marketing of perishable goods which can bring quick return and immediate material benefits have been postponed to Phase III in favour of more difficult and challenging task of developing human resources to participate, guide and manage all economic and social development activities with little or no outside help. To plunge into capital intensive development programmes without creating and developing the human and institutional infrastructure, would lead to wastage, dependence on the existing corrupt leadership and would require prolonged BRAC presence in the project area.

Phase II spans a period of 20 months from November 1, 1972 to June 1974. Although, most of the Phase II programmes will continue through to Phase III, ground work will be completed at the end of Phase II for undertaking additional development programmes in Phase III.

PROJECT AREA

BRAC's Sula Project area covering 187 villages with 88,000 people has been expanded to include 33 more villages in the Daulatpur & Kagapasha Unions of Baniyachung Thana. The population in the project area is now just over 125,000 covering an area of approximately 160 square miles. It is hoped that the results of the concentrated attention being given to the area does not remain confined within its boundaries but would generate a rippling effect, gradually making itself felt all over Bangladesh.

ORGANISATION & PERSONNEL

BRAC is aware that a poor quality field personnel and organisation can deaden an otherwise excellent and potentially vibrant programme. It therefore, attaches paramount importance to the quality of recruitment, supervision, training, and motivation of its field workers and supervisors.

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BRAC already employs 20 young university graduates based in the field, eight of whom are masters degree holders. Five of these have been recruited from the project area and the rest from the other parts of Bangladesh. BRAC also employs 32 Field Assistants most of whom have at least a matriculation certificate. Field Assistants were recruited exclusively from the project area itself. For general programme implementation 5 villages are planned to form a unit to be supervised by 1 Field Assistant. 5 Field Assistants covering 25 villages to be supervised by 1 Senior Field Assistant who in turn will report to an Area Manager. The entire project area is divided into 4 sectors each having roughly 55 villages controlled from 4 Field Camps. An Area Manager heads a field camp and reports to the Field Manager who is in overall control of all Field Operations. In addition, specialists of various disciplines such as Agriculture, Fisheries, Family Planning, Co-operatives, etc. would be based in the field for advice, guidance and programme co-ordination.

I. GONOKENDRA (COMMUNITY CENTRE)

BRAC project area being part of the low areas which undergoes annual inundation, the village clusters are 15-20 ft. higher than the land mass which rises as the monsoon water recedes in the winter. The pressure on high land is tremendous & community facilities are non-existent in most villages. BRAC plans to provide a Gonokendra in at least 175 villages out of 220. A cyclostyled proposal document specifying terms of BRAC offer of a Gonokendra has already been delivered to all the villages having a population exceeding 200. To induce village participation, the villagers have been asked to provide land and labour for construction and approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ of the material cost.

Two sizes of gonokendra are planned, the larger one 24' x 40' for villages having more than 1,000 inhabitants and smaller 24' x 30' for villages having less than 1,000. Judging from the economic condition obtaining in the project area it is expected that only ~~about~~ 50% of the villages thus approached will be able to meet BRAC's cost sharing proposals. Those failing must at least provide the land & labour for construction to obtain BRAC sanction of building materials provided that the failure is found to be due to genuine economic hardship rather than the lack of interest on the part of the village community.

All 175 Gonokendra are planned to be completed by February 1973. These structures are intended to serve a variety of purposes - adult education centres for male and female, meeting place for the village council and co-operative societies and for any other use the villagers thought fit. Gonokendra Committees are now being formed in each village initially to mobilise village participation in Gonokendra construction and subsequently/ to ensure its use for community activities.

Basic furniture such as benches, chairs and a table will need to be provided for each gonokendra. In normal times the villagers would have been left to provide these from their own contribution but is thought to be over-burdening this year. However, they would be encouraged to improve on the basic minimum provided by BRAC to ensure their immediate functioning.

COST OF GONOKENDRA PROGRAMME

25 Gonokendra Size 24' x 40'

	<u>*Taka</u>	<u>Taka</u>
C.I. Sheets 9 bundles	3,600	
Ridges	150	
Timber 110 cu.ft.	2,500	
Bamboos	300	
Sundries	50	
Cost of materials	<u>6,600</u>	
+ Proposed BRAC contribution	5,400	
+ Expected BRAC contribution	<u>6,000</u>	
Cost of 25 Gonokendra 6,000 x 25		150,000

150 Gonokendra Size 24' x 30'

C.I. Sheets 6 bundles	2,400	
Ridges	120	
Timber 76 cu.ft.	1,700	
Bamboos	200	
Sundries	30	
Cost of materials	<u>4,450</u>	
Proposed BRAC contribution	<u>3,650</u>	
Expected BRAC contribution	4,050	
Cost of 150 Gonokendra 4,050 x 150		607,500

Furniture

Large Gonokendra 400 x 25	10,000
Small Gonokendra 270 x 150	<u>40,500</u>
Total Cost of Programme	<u>808,000</u>

* 1 US \$ = 7.8 Taka

+ The difference between the proposed and the expected BRAC contribution is the short fall due to the villagers expected inability to meet BRAC offer in full as has been explained in the text.

II FUNCTIONAL LITERACY PROGRAMME

According to 1961 census 9 million persons were literate in Bangladesh which means that 17.61% of the population could read with some understanding. Over 80% of the present population of Bangladesh is illiterate. An illiterate man can neither be aware of his rights nor conscious of his duties.

The strategy for rural development in Bangladesh in all its multidimensional aspects shows that an important element is always lacking. As a consequence, the results consistently show poor performance and fail to achieve what is supposed to be the major purpose of development - higher income. The important element is education. It is no wonder, therefore, that the sum total of achievement in all rural development programmes so far launched by successive administrations in Bangladesh is insignificant.

We believe that an adult literacy programme is critical to the success of all development efforts and that it must be functionally related to the improvement of the occupational skill of the people so that literacy can directly contribute to higher productivity. A functional literacy programme has therefore been launched in the Sulla project area to cover the entire illiterate population, male and female, of the 15-50 age group in three years. Some 200 functional literacy centres are planned to be functioning by July 1973 with an average attendance in two shifts per centre of 70 persons. Six courses of six months duration in each of the 200 centres will cover 84,000 people - roughly the number of illiterates of the specified age group in the project area - in three years.

The problems of illiteracy can never be solved without ensuring 100% coverage of 5-11 age group through the primary school

system. In 1967/68 only 53.02% of the children of 5-11 age group were enrolled in Primary Schools in Bangladesh. Out of the enrolled population drop-out rate is extremely high as a result of which, a significant portion of the enrolled children revert back to illiteracy. BRAC proposes to launch a campaign to get all the children in 5-11 age group admitted to primary schools and, where facilities are lacking, to co-operate with the Government in providing them.

The Gonokendra (Community Centres) which are planned to be constructed as joint ventures with the villagers would provide excellent facilities for Functional Literacy Centres. The afternoon shift of 3 hours from 2 pm to 5 pm could be reserved for the women and the evening shift 7 pm to 10 pm for the men. General conservatism in rural Bangladesh would make a set of ^{male & female teacher mandatory, rather than one full-time} part-time ^{recruit} teacher covering both shifts. It would therefore be necessary to ~~recruit~~ 200 male and 200 female part-time teachers for the Functional Literacy Centres.

The teachers will be recruited as far as possible from the villages they will serve. The minimum educational qualification is matriculation. Teachers' training, especially for the female teachers, poses a difficult but not insurmountable problem. The handful of expert trainers now available in Bangladesh are difficult to assemble together in one place to conduct a functional literacy teachers' training course of 3-4 week duration. BRAC has with difficulty been able to arrange for 4 such experts to conduct a 3 week teachers' training course in our field camp starting December 18, 1972. The target is to recruit 100 teachers, maintaining the 50:50 sex ratio as far as possible, by December 1, 1972. They will after a training of 3 week duration starting 18th December be ready for work on 10th January 1973.

Similar number of teachers will be recruited every two months by February 1, April 1 and June 1 and training for all 400 of them will be completed by June 30, 1973.

The initial 3-4 week training will need to be supplemented with refresher courses, seminars etc. to increase & maintain the effectiveness and motivation of functional literacy teachers. Adequate provision will have to be made for a continuous education and training of these teachers, the quality of whose leadership will determine, to a significant extent, the future of the project area.

The programme envisages 6 months functional literacy course to cover first three primers (Part I, II and III) and one accounts book. The daily routine will cover 3 hours of work five days in a week. Two thirds of the time will be spent in actual teaching and one third allocated to informal discussions on various subjects pertaining to village economy and other important subjects such as family planning, health, hygiene, co-operatives, nutrition, sanitation etc. The first three primers and the accounts book will enable an individual to acquire a working knowledge of his mother tongue and rudimentary knowledge of accounts keeping.

A set of three primers and an accounts book have been published by Bangladesh Co-operative Union and will be supplied to the adult literacy centres for distribution at cost. It was felt, however, that functional education literature suitable for the neo-literates was not available in the country. BRAC therefore set up a one-man 'Functional Education Unit' in its Head Quarters at Dacca, charged with the responsibility of collecting all literatures available on the following subjects and to evaluate their suitability :

1. Soil and use of Fertilizers
2. IRRI Cultivation
3. Vegetable Gardening
4. Animal Husbandry & Poultry
5. Fisheries and Pisciculture
6. Co-operatives
7. Nutrition
8. Hygiene and Public Health
9. Family Planning - Male Orientation
10. Family Planning - Female Orientation
11. Child Care
12. Cottage Industries

Preliminary report of the 'Functional Education Unit' now available reveals that, of the 12 subjects under scrutiny, suitable literature did exist on 7 subjects. On two others, literatures was available but was found wanting, and no suitable literature existed at all on 3 subjects. BRAC would like to undertake, in co-operation with the Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development and other agencies, publication of suitable literature on the 5 topics in which the need remains unsatisfied.

A suitable publication on each of the subjects mentioned in a preceding paragraph would be used as support for informal discussions. These would be sold at half the cost and would constitute the neo-literates' home library. As an additional measure, to prevent the neo-literates from lapsing back into illiteracy due to the lack of continuous flow of reading materials, BRAC plans to publish a monthly journal - a four page tabloid - called "GONOKENDRA" to be distributed through the adult literacy centres.

The "GONOKENDRA" will contain in simple clear vernacular:

1. News of local interest
2. Report on local Co-operative Societies and Functional Literacy Centres
3. Advice to local farmers on what and how to grow, when and how to ensure supply of seeds, fertilizers, power pumps, etc.
4. Child care and family planning
5. Women's topics

Programme supervision will be the responsibility of BRAC Field Assistants based in their 5 village constituencies. Each functional literacy centre will be visited at least once in a week and a weekly report made to BRAC Field Camp.

COST OF FUNCTIONAL LITERACY PROGRAMME

		<u>Taka</u>	<u>Taka</u>
Teachers' Training	400 x 150	60,000	
Supervision	20 x 200 x 20	80,000	
"	4 x 400 x 20	<u>32,000</u>	<u>112,000</u>
FUNCTIONAL EDUCATION PRIMERS			
and follow-up literature	52,000 x 5		<u>260,000</u>
			432,000
THE "GONOKENDRA"	Tk.1,000 x 18 months		18,000
Equipment maps, black board, hurricane			
slates, etc. Tk. 200 x 200			<u>40,000</u>
Total Cost of Programme			<u>490,000</u>

Minor supplies like chalk, kerosine for hurricane etc. will be provided by the villagers.

III CO-OPERATIVES

The tradition-bound and custom-ridden people of Bangladesh have one of the lowest per capita incomes in the world and the fragmented extremely small land holdings have one of the poorest production performances. We believe that individual initiative and enterprise coupled with widespread co-operative approach is the only way which can lead to the emergence of rural Bangladesh from her grim present. BRAC therefore plans to launch a movement to organise co-operative societies with a view to generating concerted group action towards development.

Some progress has already been made during Phase I in the formation of Primary Co-operative Societies in the Project Area. BRAC will continue this with redoubled efforts, the target is to organise 220 primary societies in various fields of endeavour such as agriculture, fishing, etc; at least one in each village. The number of co-operative societies however is by no means indicative of success in this field. The ultimate measure of success can only be the extent to which the societies are able to generate group actions to solve their problems and increase the productivity of their resources.

The membership must be moved to greater participation through regular weekly meetings; thrift must be encouraged, ^{leadership must be} ~~to~~ developed and trained in the management skills; services and supplies of modern input must be assured.

Each Field Assistant will be made responsible for 5 Primary Societies. They will be attending the weekly society meetings, provide clerical and advisory service and help in the grassroots planning, BRAC experts and other staff will be available for backup support. Society managers and leading members will be trained in agricultural extension, credit management and other

matters pertaining to rural development BRAC's functional literacy programme will contribute significantly in generating support and enthusiasm for group action.

By June 1973 two Thana Central Co-operative Associations (T.C.C.A) for Sulla and Dirai Thanas will be formed to provide central services to the primary societies. A third T.C.C.A. representing primary societies in Baniyachong Thana is planned for inauguration by June 1974. The T.C.C.A.'s will need to be supported in the initial stages with technical and management services. Fisherman's societies of the project area will need their own central association to provide the necessary services. A central fishermen's association for the region is planned to be set up by December 1973. BRAC will depute one of its high calibre co-operative staff to each of the Thana Central Co-operative Associations and the Fishermen's Central Association.

The formation of the central associations is an important step, since these bodies can directly deal with the national co-operative institutions such as co-operative bank and can requisition services and supplies from Thana and district-level government officials as they need. BRAC plans to channel all development assistance initially through primary societies and subsequently, through the central associations. Large scale development projects must therefore await the emergence of viable and efficient central associations in our project area. BRAC field camps now under construction are designed to serve the needs of a central co-operative association. Initially, the central associations will be allowed the use of part of the facilities. As the BRAC function gradually devolves on the central societies they would be allowed more of the facilities ultimately taking over the field camps entirely for their use.

COST OF CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAMME

Construction cost of Co-operative
central offices/field camps

Taka

Taka

Markuli

40,000

Dirai

20,000

Doudpur

20,000

Ghungiaigaon

20,000

100,000

100,000

Training of Co-operative managers
and leading members 200 x 150

30,000

Grants to TCCA's and Fishermen's
Central Association 10,000 x 4

40,000

Field Assets

(Advisory and managerial services
to primary Societies)

200 x 25 x 20

100,000

Programme Supervision and
Co-ordination

60,000

Total cost of Programme

330,000

IV AGRICULTURE

Over 70% of the people in the Sulla Project area depends on agriculture for their livelihood. The primary concern of any development programme for this area must, therefore, be the increase in yield of available land. Natural resources - such as water must be controlled and harnessed, human skill must be developed and appropriate technology introduced, modern agricultural inputs such as hybrid seeds, chemical fertilizers etc. must be made available in a concerted bid to multiply production per acre of land. We believe that the annual output of approximately 50,000 tons of rice in our project area could be trebled within 5 years. If the other BRAC programmes - Co-operatives and functional literacy make their due contribution the target of three times the pitifully meagre present yield should not be too difficult to achieve.

Phase II period will cover 2 full seasons of the main crop of Boro in our project area. In 72/73 season starting in November '72 BRAC plans to assist 30 Co-operative blocks each covering roughly 100 acres in the cultivation of IRRI-8, a hybrid variety giving at least 3 times the normal yield. The blocks have already been formed and the societies registered with the Co-operative departments.

BRAC is now engaged in the procurement of seeds and fertilizers for these societies. 10 power tillers arriving in November from Japan will cultivate 1,000 - 1,500 acres of the block land to supplement tilling by draught animals. Application has been made to the Irrigation Department for supply of power pumps to the block co-operatives. BRAC has been promised only 50% of the power pumps required, since the demand exceed supply by more than 2:1. Since a 2 cu/sec capacity power pump can irrigate 50 acres of land for IRRI-8 cultivation some 60

power pumps will be required. The Govt. is importing 6000 power pumps scheduled for arrival in Chittagong in November. If they can find their way quickly to the areas in need the position will improve significantly. As a supplementary measure, BRAC plans to purchase 30- $\frac{1}{2}$ cu/sec power pumps available locally. If the power pumps imported by the Government do not find their way to the project area supplementary manual irrigation will be resorted to.

BRAC believes that any economic assistance - money or materials which directly leads to production or increase thereof, should not be written off as free gift to the beneficiaries but should be made payable on delivery or at best, after the benefits have accrued. Any contrary policy would lead to the damaging psychological dependence of the beneficiaries. Relief approach must not apply in the field of economic activity - credit management must be brought to realm of everyone, work ethic must be inculcated, otherwise development would elude us.

BRAC plans to distribute seeds and fertilizers to the block societies at a cost payable 50% on delivery and the rest after harvesting. The charge for ploughing by power tillers has been agreed at Tk. 30 per acre, Tk. 15 of which will be payable to BRAC by individual farmers whose land is tilled to cover cost of oil, wages of drivers and maintenance cost. The balance payable to the society after harvesting is to constitute BRAC donation towards a fund to be created for the express purpose of financing agricultural inputs following a crop failure. Power pumps will be rented out at rates charged by the Irrigation Department.

For the Boro Season of 1973 - 4, most of BRAC assistance will be channelled through Sulla Thana Central Co-operative Association (STCCA), and Dirai Thana Central Co-operative Association (DTCCA). The Societies in the project area belonging to

Banilachong Thana will continue to receive BRAC assistance directly. The STOCA and the DTOCA will be expected to provide similar service as those provided by BRAC in the earlier cropping season. BRAC plans to donate 10 power tillers 20 2 cu/sec Pumps to each of these Central Association. The terms of their hire to member Societies and use of the fund generated thereby will be subject to an arrangement between BRAC and the TOCAs.

BRAC plans to set up a work shop for repair and maintenance of agricultural machinery in use in the area. The general anti-pathology to mechanisation can be traced back partly to the lack of maintenance facilities in the rural areas. One power tiller going out of work at a crucial moment and missing out the season altogether awaiting repair for want of a spare part at the nearest large town, can spell disaster for the farmer relying on it entirely. The work shop will receive a batch of spare parts for power tillers on order. Initially, the work shop proposed to be set up at Markuli will provide facilities for maintenance and repair of power tillers and power pumps gradually expanding its scope to other agricultural machinery as the need arises.

Services of agricultural extension workers and experts will be made available to the block Co-operatives or anybody seeking their help. They would be making rounds of the paddy fields advising farmers on requirement of fertilizers, insecticides, etc.

COST OF AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME

1972/73 Boro Season:	Taka	Taka
30 Power Pumps ($\frac{1}{2}$ cu/sec capacity)		75,000
30 Power tillers - running expenses for the season	12,000	
Expected recovery	<u>12,000</u>	
IRRI - 8 Seeds	30,000	
Recovery during plan period	<u>30,000</u>	

	Taka	Taka B.F. 75,000
Fertilizers	180,000	
Recovery during plan period	<u>180,000</u>	
1973/74 Boro Season:		
20 Power Tillers	180,000	
60 Power Pumps (2 cu/sec capacity)	<u>300,000</u>	
	<u>480,000</u>	480,000
(The Power Tillar and pumps are for donation to STOCA, DTCCA & BTCCA).		
<u>WORK SHOP</u>		
Building & Equipment	40,000	
Stocks of Spares	<u>10,000</u>	50,000
4 Agriculture extension workers 300 x 4 x 20	24,000	
Supervision and back up service	<u>20,000</u>	
	44,000	<u>44,000</u>
Total Cost of Programme		<u><u>649,000</u></u>

V FISHERIES

Fishing is the livelihood of over 20% of the people of the project area and is the second most important activity after agriculture. The area abound with open and closed fisheries in Hoars, (Broads) lakes and rivers and is one of the great fishing areas of Bangladesh.

Fishing methods are primitive and pisciculture is non existant, The fishermen as a class is one of the most exploited community in the country. The new government of Bangladesh has given a boost to the Co-operativisation of fishing by reserving certain fishing rights for Fishermen's Co-operatives. This is a policy towards the right direction and would help the community in gradually extricating themselves from the clutches of their exploiters.

Royalties have to be paid for the fishing rights but individual or society funds are lacking. Boats are in short supplies, nets and other implements are inadequate to make full use of natural and human resources available. BRAC has distributed 4500 lbs of nylon twines and 200 fishing boats programmed for Phase I are now under construction. More boats & nets are required to make full use of underemployed resources for productive activity. BRAC plans to provide 10,000 lbs. of nylon twines for fishing nets and to build 200 boats of 27 ft length during Phase II. The boats and nets will be donated to the Fishermen's Co-operative Societies for hire to member fishing groups. The society funds thus generated are for use only for investment on fishing boats and implements for members use at a reasonable rate of hire.

Fishery constitutes the main protein intake of Bangladesh people - rich and poor alike. But protein deficiency effects growing children and is responsible for lowering physical and mental efficiency, resistance to disease, & the work capacity

of almost half the population of Bangladesh. High priority must therefore, be attached to fisheries development and to the processing, preservation and efficient marketing of this highly perishable product. An ice making plant to enable marketing of the daily catch to a wider market is a crying need of our project area, but such a facility would require the development of marketing co-operatives for full benefits to accrue to the Fishermen Community. It has therefore been decided to await the emergence of Fishermen Central Co-operative Association before undertaking this project in Phase III. BRAC plans to employ a fisheries expert based in the field to advise and guide the fishermen on fisheries development, fishing techniques and to work on comprehensive development plans for execution in Phase III.

COST OF PROGRAMME

Nylon twines --- 10,000 lbs Tk. 7.00 per lb (imported from Japan)		Tk. 70,000
	Tk.	
200 - 27 ft fishing boats		
Timber 11000 cu ft @ Tk. 9 cuft (imported from India)	99,000	
Other materials	26,000	
Labour	85,000	
	<u>210,000</u>	210,000
<u>Fibreglass skinning of 10 boats</u>		
Fibreglass mats and other chemicals (imported)	4,000	
Labour	2,000	
	<u>6,000</u>	6,000
Total cost of Programme		<u>286,000</u>

VI WOMENS PROGRAMME

No development programme excluding the women from its purview could claim to have explored the fullest potentials. The women (16 years & over) constitute roughly one quarter of the population of Bangladesh. Given the prevalent practice of 'purdah' (keeping women confined in the house or its immediate vicinity), only a minute fraction of the total can join in the economic activity of any significance at all. In a disaster-prone country with a barely subsistence economy, a high potential resource is being almost completely ignored.

This situation cannot be corrected overnight. The foremost measure to bring about a change in the present state of affairs is obviously to educate the women. BRAC functional literacy programme for women will, hopefully, have its due effect in activating their role in the economy and in their social life. But acute problems exist with regard to a certain category of women for which the action towards a solution must be initiated - the rehabilitation of the destitute women must be taken in hand now.

Having played no active economic role, the death of the breadwinner - the husband or a son, spells disaster for most women reducing a substantial number of them to destitution. BRAC plans to take up the following programme for their rehabilitation.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES FOR WOMEN

Four vocational training centres are planned to be set up to impart a number of skills to the destitute women with a view to generating at least subsistence income for themselves and their dependents. The V.T.C.'s are planned initially, to cater for the needs of the destitute women gradually expanding their scope to include a wider cross-section.

The trainees will be divided in two categories - over 40 and under 40, without too rigid application of the dividing line. The training for skills requiring more physical or mental exertion in their application will be given to the younger group. Selection of skills for training will of course be subject to personal aptitude, educational level and other social factors. Four different skills suitable for application in a domestic environment has been selected for the training programme with due regard to the marketability of the product. The programme includes training in the following skills:

1. Domestic spinning wheel operation for handloom yarn.
2. Cane & bamboo work - making household furniture, baskets, etc.
3. Handloom weaving and dyeing of cotton yarn.
4. Tailoring and machining.

Whilst 1. and 2. will require no literacy to acquire the skill 3. and 4. will require a rudimentary form of it. The investment required for tools of trade in respect of 1. and 2. will be negligible whilst 3. and 4. will require substantial investments. The practice of 3. and 4. will be more strenuous than 1. and 2.

The training centres will have one or two fulltime instructors imparting on-the-job training. The period of training will vary according to trade as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| 1. Spinning | - 2 weeks |
| 2. Cane & bamboo work | - 2 months |
| 3. Handloom | - 3 months |
| 4. Tailoring | - 2 months |

Selection of women for training will be in groups of twos in order that they could form working groups after training. Ten to sixteen women will undergo training in each of the centres. After a full year's functioning of the V.T.C.'s starting July 1973, there will be at least 300 women trained in spinning;

70 in cane and bamboo work; 50 in weaving and 70 in tailoring, totalling 500 skilled women.

The women passing out of the V.T.C.'s will need to be assisted in terms of finance and organisation to start work and earn an income. An investment will be required on tools of trade as follows :

	<u>Taka</u>
1. Spinning wheels	100
2. Cutting & bending tools	150
3. Handlooms	800 (for two weavers)
4. Sewing machines, scissors, tapes, etc	600 (for two tailors)

It will be difficult for the women to arrange finance for their tools of trade. Borrowing from local moneylenders at exorbitant rates of interest sometimes as high as 200% will land them into greater financial problems instead of solving them. BRAC plans to provide the tools of trade to the women on hire purchase basis, the purchase effected after two full years of payment of the hire charges.

The women will have to be organised in trade co-operatives. Male full-time secretaries paid by the women's co-operatives will procure raw materials and arrange for marketing of the products at regular intervals. BRAC field staff will initially provide guidance and help.

The trainees will have to be paid an allowance of Tk.3 per day while undergoing training. Excluding the daily allowance for the trainees, the V.T.C.'s are expected to be self-financing. They will function for two years turning out approximately 1,000 skilled women, a large enough number to attract and encourage others to take up independent economic activities. Thereafter, the V.T.C.'s will be turned into co-operative production centres operating at a profit.

COST OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

Cost of Construction

Training Centres	Tk. 10,000 x 4	40,000	
Trainees' Hostel	Tk. 6,000 x 4	<u>24,000</u>	64,000

Furniture and Fixtures

Training Centres	Tk. 3,000 x 4	12,000	
Hostel	Tk. 2,000 x 4	<u>8,000</u>	20,000

Equipment

Handlooms	Tk. 800 x 8	6,400	
Sewing Machines	Tk. 600 x 8	4,800	
Spinning wheel	Tk. 100 x 12	1,200	
Cutting & bending tools	Tk. 160 x 10	<u>1,600</u>	14,000

<u>Raw Material Stocks</u>	Tk 2,000 x 4		<u>8,000</u>
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Total non-recurring
Expenditure 106,000 .

Training allowance	50 x 2 x 350		52,000
Cost of tools of trade out on hire purchase		80,000	

Less hire recoveries during plan period 17,000

Recoverable amount 63,000 63,000

Total outgoings on Programme 221,000

VII MEDICAL CARE & PUBLIC HEALTH

Four BRAC medical centres have been operating during Phase I providing medical care free of charge initially & subsequently for a taken fee of Tk.0.30. BRAC plans to continue this service only up to June 30, 1973. Medical care was taken up as a relief programme of short term duration to be discontinued after the next normal harvest. From July 1973 the centres are planned to function as family planning clinics.

Medical care is out of the reach of the vast majority of the masses in rural Bangladesh. The Government provides one clinic for each Thana of approximately 125,000 people. The medical team in each clinic comprises of 1 doctor and a compounder. Health programmes of successive administrations in Bangladesh have suffered from lop-sided priorities. Whilst no attempt was made to widen the scope of rural health services, considerable sums were spent on providing additional hospital beds and on long and expensive medical education for a few. A complete revision of priorities is called for. The new government of Bangladesh is developing fresh programmes on rural health.

Primary killer diseases in Bangladesh such as cholera, small pox, typhoid, etc. are all preventable diseases and their prevention neither requires doctors nor their cure hospitalisation. What is required most urgently is the provision of drinking water in the villages and a large number of trained paramedical personnel to conduct vaccination drives and to treat half a dozen common ailments endemic in Bangladesh.

BRAC plans to train 20 paramedics to serve the project area when the medical centres discontinue on July 1, 1973. Eight paramedics have already been trained in the Cholera Research Laboratories, Dacca on cholera and diarrhoeal diseases.

Each paramedical personnel will cover 12 villages visiting each village at least once a fortnight servicing approximately six thousand people.

Their function will be:

1. To conduct inoculation and vaccination drive in the villages.
2. To treat half a dozen or so common ailments and to refer cases of ailments beyond their competence to the Thana Medical Officers. All medicines dispensed by them will be sold at cost.
3. To advise and motivate villagers for improvement of sanitation facilities and eradication of unhealthy conditions in the villages.
4. To liase with functional literacy teachers on public health education.

Salaries of paramedics will be bourne by BRAC for the first one year up to the end of Phase II. Thereafter, village co-operative societies will be expected to contribute to the full cost of paramedics serving their members.

The medical centres will continue to treat patients during the period of their operation up to June 1973. In addition, the doctors will be given the responsibility for training the paramedical staff and hold weekly one-day courses for the functional literacy teachers on public health, hygeine, nutrition, child care, etc. Each teacher will be expected to have attended at least five one-day courses by June 1973.

Tube wells, the cheapest source of drinking water, are not uncommon in large villages in the project area but do not exist in the numbers required to service the population. Moreover, maintenance of tube walls is almost non-existent. A survey of tube wells in our Project Area revealed that 60% of existing

tube wells were out of order. Siting of tube wells in the villages has again been a matter of some selfishness during the past. The more persuasive of the village leaders obtaining a government allocation of a tube well for his village has invariably had it sunk in his own house without looking to the convenience of the villagers as a whole. In some cases, villagers have not been allowed to use the tube well at all.

BRAC plans to undertake during Phase II a tube wells programme which will include:

1. Repair and re-sinking of existing tube wells which are for general use of the villagers.
2. Sinking new tube wells in villages where none exist and in those where existing numbers cannot service the population.

COST OF MEDICAL CARE & PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMME

<u>MEDICAL CENTRES:</u> (Nov 72 to June 73)		<u>Taka</u>	<u>Taka</u>
Personnel cost	1,000 x 8 x 4	32,000	
Medicines		96,000	
		<u>128,000</u>	
Less: Expected donation of medicines		60,000	
Income from token fees		<u>12,000</u>	
		72,000	56,000
Paramedics training	500 x 20	10,000	
Salaries	200 x 20 x 12	<u>48,000</u>	
			58,000
<u>TUBE WELLS</u>			
Repair and re-sinking			
100 tube wells	100 x 300	30,000	
Sinking new tube wells	200 x 700	<u>140,000</u>	
			<u>170,000</u>
Total cost of Programme			<u><u>284,000</u></u>

VIII FAMILY PLANNING

Bangladesh with over 75 million people crammed in its 55,000 sq.miles is one of the most densely populated areas of the world. The pressure on land and resources is already great. The average density is almost 3 persons per acre of cultivated land and the population is rising at a staggering rate. The crude birth rate in Bangladesh is estimated to be about 53 per 1,000 and death rate, declining due to improved public health measures, at about 20 per 1,000, resulting in a population growth of 3.3% per annum. The implications are ominous. Urgent determined steps must be taken to reduced fertility by family planning.

The family planning programme in the past had suffered from defects in the methodology of its approach. Effective promotion effort was lacking on the need for reducing family size and the benefits to be derived from birth control practices. The emphasis was placed on distributing contraceptive devices. As a result, less than 5% of the population in the reproductive age range actually used birth control methods. The new government of Bangladesh is aware of the need for widening the scope of the national family planning effort and are now developing programmes for implementation.

BRAC attaches highest importance to family planning in its integrated rural development programme. It is aware that a family planning programme must take into account the socio-economic conditions of a country. Experience shows that families accustomed to social and economic changes are more receptive to family planning techniques. A study on family planning in Bangladesh concludes that the future programmes should focus on segments of the population and areas of the country where other economic development programmes are successful. A small scale farmer living in a densely populated

area where new technologies are being introduced should be the prime target. BRAC project area therefore provides ideal conditions for a full-blooded programme in family planning.

Family planning does not happen in a vacuum. Appropriate climate created by multiplicity of programmes would induce family planning. BRAC believes that its functional literacy programme for males and females aiming at total eradication of illiteracy within three years and its stress on family planning education is of pivotal importance in its family planning efforts. Apart from the direct promotional value, the literacy drive will enhance the effectiveness of motivational literature and audio visual aids on family planning.

BRAC co-operative programme envisages individual and group planning in substantial measure supervised by the primary and central societies. Promotion of individual and group savings through the co-operatives would help in providing security for the future in an environment characterised by high natural and economic risks (resulting from floods, cyclones and droughts) where traditionally several children provide parents with social and economic security.

BRAC believes that a child-care programme will greatly help in widening the scope of its family planning efforts. Health service for mother and children will be provided from BRAC Family planning Clinics planned for Sulla project area. Four fully equipped clinics will be set up with qualified male and female staff providing all family planning services including vasectomy and tubectomy operations, free of charge.

A women organiser is being recruited in each of the 220 villages in the project area initially to organise and motivate the

village women to attend functional literacy centres and subsequently after training to take on the role of family planning adviser and motivator maintaining direct contact with the women of child bearing age.

Preliminary discussions are in progress with the Bangladesh Family Planning Board for training programmes of varying length for BRAC family planning paramedical personnel. Whilst part-time women organisers will be given a one month training, more educated among them would be selected for six months training course on theory and practice of family planning. Some 40 such full-time family planning workers would be equipped with training and facilities to provide similar services as those provided by the Family Planning Clinics though more limited in scope.

Promotional efforts will be conducted through all available forums - functional literacy centres, co-operative society meetings, ~~Heats~~ and Bazars, by means of lectures, posters, films, news papers and circulars. Adult literacy teachers, BRAC field workers, the part-time women organisers, would all be contributing to promotional efforts. Apart from the individual financial incentive provided within national family planning programme, group incentives will be developed for implementation through co-operative societies.

Contraceptives of all suitable forms will be made as widely available as possible. Supplies would be channelled through the functional literacy teachers and women organisers. Data collection will be continuous and periodic surveys will be conducted for programme evaluation and conclusions made available to government and other agencies engaged in family planning programme.

COST OF FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMME

Taka

4 Clinics (July 72 to June 74)

Staff Salaries	$1500 \times 12 = 1800 \times 4$	72,000
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Equipment	15000 x 4	60,000
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Supplies	60000 x 4	240,000
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372,000

Women organisers	200 x Tk.40 = 800 x 15	
	months	122,000

Training of family planning personnel	50,000
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Direct publicity campaign - posters, film shows, publications, etc.	25,000
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569,000

Abstract

PHASE II COST SUMMARY

	<u>Taka</u>	<u>Taka</u>
I GONOKENDRA	808,000	
II FUNCTIONAL LITERACY	490,000	
III AGRICULTURE	649,000	
IV CO-OPERATIVES	330,000	
V FISHERIES	286,000	
VI WOMEN'S PROGRAMME	221,000	
VII FAMILY PLANNING	569,000	
VIII MEDICAL CARE & PUBLIC HEALTH	<u>284,000</u>	3,637,000
 <u>PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT</u>		
IX H.Q. DACCA	160,000	
X FIELD CAMPS	<u>221,000</u>	381,000
XI ORGANISATION REQUIREMENTS		
FOR DACCA OFFICE:		
LAND ROVER	30,000	
FOR FIELD CAMPS:		
4 OUTBOARD ENGINES & SPARES	25,000	
DUPLICATING MACHINE	3,000	
1 BENGAL TYPEWRITER	<u>3,000</u>	61,000
		<u>4,079,000</u>

SCHEDULE OF IMPORTS (No foreign exchange remittance
from Bangladesh is involved).

GONOKENDRA PROGRAMME	: Timber 20,000 Cft.
FUNCTIONAL LITERACY	: School Equipment and supplies such as books, maps, black board, chalk, slates, pencils etc.
AGRICULTURE	: 30 power tiller & spares 60 power pumps and spares work shop machinery and equipment soil testing kits, etc.
FISHERIES	: Nylon Twines 10,000 lbs. Timber 11,000 cft. Fibre glass mats & chemicals.
WOMENS PROGRAMME	: Spinning wheels, sets of cutting and binding tools, sewing machines, scissor, tapes, etc.
MEDICAL CARE & PUBLIC HEALTH:	Medicines & medical equipment, kerosine Refregerators, Tube wells supplies.
FAMILY PLANNING	: Clinic Equipment & Supplies, Promotional materials and equipt such as Films, Projector & gene- rator, posters, etc.
ORGANISATION REQUIREMENT	: 1 Motor vehicle 20 bicycles. 4 outboard Engines & spares Duplicating machines Typewriter Petromax