

The Research and Evaluation Division

ANNUAL REPORT 1992



**BANGLADESH RURAL ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE
DHAKA, BANGLADESH**

THE
RESEARCH AND EVALUATION DIVISION

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FEBRUARY 1993

BANGLADESH RURAL ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE
66, Mohakhali Commercial Area
DHAKA, BANGLADESH

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Research and Evaluation Division (RED) is an independent unit within BRAC. Started in 1976 with only one staff compiling statistical information, the unit soon evolved into a fullfledged division. RED provides necessary research support in the design, implementation and evaluation of BRAC's developmental intervention projects. The division also undertakes studies on request from other organizations.

II. TYPES OF RESEARCH

RED conducts various types of research such as surveys, anthropological studies, action and policy research, and evaluation among others. Most of the studies conducted so far have been ad hoc or short term in nature though in recent years RED has engaged itself in some longitudinal and long term studies. The longitudinal studies are intended to capture the changes that have been taking place in the socio-economic situation of the villages over time. The Vital Events Registration started in 1987, and the Village Study Project (VSP) initiated in 1990 are two such long term projects. Nine field stations have been set up to collect information on a continuous basis for the two studies.

III. HIGHLIGHTS OF 1992 ACTIVITIES

RED attained considerable growth both in scope and dimension during 1992. There were higher research output and the research also covered new areas. Several collaborative studies were planned and initiated. New methodologies and instruments were used in conducting some of the studies. RED also worked out a project to assist the small NGOs in developing their MIS capacity.

Research Output : In 1992 RED researchers produced 57 research reports and research articles/papers. Some of the articles/papers were published or accepted for publication in journals or as chapter of a book. Another 58 studies initiated in 1992 were at various stages of progress. The total number of research reports published so far stood at around 290.

Subject Areas of Research : RED planned and initiated studies on 102 topics during the year. Most of the studies were on BRAC's developmental interventions and covered a wide range of issues : institution building, employment and income generation, credit and savings, women in development, paralegal, non-formal primary education, irrigation, sericulture, fishery, health, nutrition, etc. Another set of topics, as suggested by external review teams and top BRAC management, has been included in the research plan for 1993.

Study on Government Programmes : RED conducted studies on two important public sector programmes. The first one was a study on primary education in Bangladesh based on intensive observation of three government primary schools. The second one was two large-scale surveys on residual land and the persons who have been affected for construction of the Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge, the largest ongoing public sector project in Bangladesh. The surveys covered over 17,000 affected persons in some 6500 households of Sirajganj and Tangail district. The study aims to generate information and recommendation to be used for preparation of a resettlement action plan for the affected persons.

Repeat Study on Basic Education Competencies : To assess and measure the basic education competencies of children aged 11-12 years in Bangladesh, RED conducted a nationwide study in collaboration with UNICEF last year. This was the first study of its kind in Bangladesh, and perhaps in other parts of the world. Experts from university and national and international

organizations were consulted in developing the tools and methodology of the study. The findings produced considerable interest among the scholars, policy planners and development agencies involved in education. RED decided to initiate a repeat study on basic education competencies this year with larger samples and more refined instruments. For that a survey was conducted to know the opinions of the parents on what "life skills" their children should possess/learn. The study was completed in early 1993.

Research Collaboration : RED has the tradition of conducting studies jointly with many national and international organisations. The organisations involved were UNICEF, World Bank, PRIP, Helen Keller International (HKI), Overseas Development Institute (UK), London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), etc. During 1992 RED initiated joint study projects with two international organisations; Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex, and the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B). The ongoing collaborative studies with the HKI and LSHTM continued as per plan.

Joint BRAC - ICDDR,B Study : Of all the joint studies initiated in 1992, the BRAC-ICDDR,B project was most significant. The study stipulates long term involvement of RED in Matlab area where ICDDR,B has been maintaining a Demographic Surveillance System in 104 villages for the last 30 years. ICDDR,B has also been operating a MCH-FP programme there. BRAC, in the course of its normal expansion, started its rural development programme (RDP) in Matlab in 1992. The RDP focuses on alleviation of poverty and empowerment of the poor, particularly women. ICDDR,B's Matlab project provides a solid data-base on health and demographic situation for research. This gave a good opportunity for BRAC to assess the impact of social and economic development on population and health in rural Bangladesh. The project started with a baseline survey covering some 12,000 households. Report of the baseline survey is nearing

completion. A multidisciplinary study team drawn from the two participating organisations is now engaged in designing the future course of the study.

BRAC - IDS Collaboration : The project was initiated in an informal way in 1992 when one expert from the IDS, Sussex came to BRAC to explore the need and scope of possible collaboration. A tentative programme was drawn which focused on building BRAC's capacity in areas of research, monitoring and management development. Pending finalisation of the project proposal, some activities were initiated in 1992. These included accomplishment of two training workshops on RRA methodology in BRAC, participation of two BRAC staff in a monitoring development course in UK, and undertaking a study on BRAC's sericulture programme jointly with one expert from the IDS. Future activities are being planned.

Monitoring of WHDP : RED added a new dimension to its work by taking up the monitoring of BRAC's Women's Health and Development Programme (WHDP). BRAC has developed an independent Monitoring Department that is currently monitoring the Rural Development Programme (RDP) and Non-Formal Primary Education (NFPE) Programme of BRAC. A separate cell attached to RED was established in 1992 for conducting monitoring, operations research and evaluation of WHDP. A team of RED researchers was entrusted with the task. They identified 22 strategic assumptions for monitoring and evaluation and developed the indicators. Findings of the monitoring were shared with the programme people at regular intervals. Ten monitoring reports were published in 1992, each on one specific issue such as accuracy of benchmark household registration, selection of adolescent girls for NFPE enrolment, performance of trained TBAs, operation of EPI centres, growth monitoring, pre- and ante-natal care, family planning service delivery through satellite centres, etc. Each report was translated into Bangla for effective dissemination and use of the results at the field level.

Research Facilitation : RED facilitates research undertaken by university students, researchers, and national/international organisations. The facilitation includes various kinds of support and assistance : counselling on research, collection of field data, logistical support, etc. During 1992, support was extended to five foreign students, three on doctoral programme and two on Master's programme for their dissertation research. The students were from the University of Syracuse, USA; University of California, L.A., U.S.A; University of Manitoba, Canada; University of Copenhagen, Denmark; and University of Bristol, UK.

RED provided support to one study sponsored by World Bank, coordinated and conducted by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, Dhaka. The study entitled "Credit Programs for the Poor : Household and Intra-Household Impact and Program Sustainability" is designed to analyse the poverty alleviation programmes of BRAC, Grameen Bank, and BRDB.

Support was also extended to another large-scale inter-country study, initiated by two experts of University of Manchester, covering five low-income countries in Asia and Africa. The study entitled "Conditions for Effectiveness of Credit to Small Enterprises in Less Developed Countries" included the case of BRAC in Bangladesh.

Review of Village Study Project : Following a multi-disciplinary approach, RED started a Village Study Project (VSP) in 1990 to capture and analyse the changes that are taking place in the socio-cultural and economic aspects of rural life. An expert consultation on VSP was held in December, 1992 to review the work done and determine future course of the study. Dr. S.P. Senaratne, consultant sociologist, facilitated the review. Following the review, conclusions were made to continue the project, and expand it to cover some new villages.

Review of Vital Registration System : Registration of vital events such as births, deaths, marriages and migration is important for planning, development and designing development strategies. Unfortunately there is absence of a universal registration system in Bangladesh. To bring about some innovations, RED introduced a vital registration system in three unions of Manikganj and another three unions of Joypurhat district in 1986-87. To carry out the operation six field teams were engaged for collecting information from each household of the six locations on a regular basis as per design. The data collected are computerised at BRAC head office. Three reports have already been published. A review of the system was made in mid-1992 with the help of one expatriate Bangladeshi expert, Dr. Bashir Ahmed, presently working with the U.S Bureau of Census, Washington, D.C. The reviewer felt that BRAC's vital registration system is essential for the evaluation of its intervention projects in health and development sector. Some specific suggestions were made for further improving the formats used for information collection, record keeping and total quality management.

Assistance to Small NGOs on MIS : BRAC intends to extend technical assistance to small NGOs in developing their monitoring and evaluation capacity. RED initiated a project this year to materialise this objective. RED will train one to two staff in several local NGOs on monitoring and MIS. Through this project efforts will be made to link this network of NGOs with others such as the "Health and Development Watch" being developed by BRAC, the consortium of organisations working on reproductive health, Ministry of Health, etc.

Dissemination of Research : Findings of BRAC research are published and disseminated in various ways. Most of the research work relates to BRAC's development interventions. It was being increasingly felt that the findings should also reach the BRAC staff at the field operation level. A system was introduced in 1992 to meet this need.

RED researchers started attending meetings of the regional managers of RDP held at BRAC headquarters every month and shared the findings of the current research directly with them. Researchers also attended some of the meetings at the region level and exchanged views with the field staff on various research findings and research issues. The system made the research dissemination more effective.

IV. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AT RED

RED grew substantially during the year. The strength of the core researchers increased from 28 in 1991 to 38 in 1992 : two with Ph.D., one with MBBS, and five with master's degrees from different universities. The total strength of the division rose to 114 with some 60 staff working at the field level. BRAC encourages its researchers to enhance their professional competence through participation in training, seminar and workshops. A good number of researchers participated in these programmes in 1992. Details of new recruitment, promotions and staff training can be seen at Appendix I.

V. LIBRARY FACILITY

BRAC has developed a specialised library, named the Ayesha Abed Library, to cater to the needs of its researchers and programme personnel. The operation and management of the library was entrusted to RED in 1991. The library contains over 4865 titles including 445 books / reports acquired this year. The library also subscribes for several professional journals and keeps a variety of periodicals, news papers, and specialised information materials. BRAC publications and research reports are also sold through this outlet.

VI. COMPLETED STUDIES 1992

During the year 46 research reports were completed. Abstracts of these reports are provided at the end of this report (Appendix-V). Titles of the reports completed are as follows :

Title	Researcher
1. Social constraints for working women : Notes from a rural area of Jamalpur	Rita Sen
2. Managing women's income generating activities : A case of Mirzapur	Mahmuda R. Khan Shams Mustafa
3. The NFPE teachers : Competencies in English and Mathematics and their personal background	Kaisar A. Khan
4. Assessment of Basic Education of children in Bangladesh	Samir R. Nath Md. Mohsin AMR Chowdhury
5. Dependency relationship and development : Case of two villages	Qamrul Islam
6. Marriage : Through the eyes of adolescent girls	Aleeze Sattar Mahmuda R. Khan Nasreen Huq
7. Suggested Approach of Village Study Project (A manual)	Karimul Haque Qumrul Islam Rita Sen Ishrat Ara
8. Assessment of the impact of poultry and chick-rearing (Report on a RRA training exercise)	Karimul Hoq Kaisar A. Khan Rita Sen Dilruba Banu Nurul Amin
9. Women in poverty alleviation : Six case studies	Dilruba Banu
10. The BRAC Samity : Collective participation or control by a few? case studies from four villages	Aleeze Sattar Shah Asad Ahmed
11. Rural Credit Project of BRAC : A Review of the performance of Nabagram Union	Iftekhar U. Ahmed

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| 12. | Resources and Employment : Preliminary report on census instrument experiment | Shams Mustafa
Dilruba Banu
Azmal Kabir |
| 13 | DTW irrigation technology in rice agriculture in Bangladesh : Its impact on output and input combination | Karimul Huq |
| 14. | Assessment of basic education of NFPE and PEOC graduates | Samir R. Nath
Md. Mohsin
AMR. Chowdhury |
| 15. | Literacy in rural Bangladesh : Enrolment and dropout in selected NFPE villages | Md. Mohsin |
| 16. | The neglected outpost : A closer look at rural schools in Bangladesh | Jahur A. Chowdury
AMR Chowdhury
Abdullahel Hadi |
| 17. | Sericulture programme : A summary of its problems and prospects in Bangladesh | Mahmuda R. Khan |
| 18. | Women behind the net: A profile of inland fishing community | Dilruba Banu
Shams Mustafa |
| 19. | Post-training utilization: The Approach to rural development training of BRAC | Sarwar Jahan |
| 20. | Struggle for survival : An attempt to investigate the problems and strategies of the people of two villages in Bangladesh | Qamrul Islam |
| 21. | Demographic registration system : A report on vital events 1989-90 | Rezaul Karim |
| 22. | Land distribution pattern : Case of a Southern village in Bangladesh | Sadhana Biswas
Karimul Huq |
| 23. | Breastfeeding in Bangladesh | Nasreen Huq |
| 24. | Growth monitoring at BRAC : A closer look at the programme data | Nasreen Huq
Ziauddin Hyder |
| 25. | Self-monitoring of growth and health status by adolescent girls at the NFPE schools | Nasreen Huq
Ziauddin Hyder |
| 26. | Food Aid : An entry point to development? The case of the income generation for vulnerable group development programme of BRAC (A background paper). | Nasreen Huq
Ziauddin Hyder
Rita Das Roy |

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| 27. | Nutritional impact of the VGD and IGVDG project beneficiaries | Ziauddin Hyder |
| 28. | Impact of BRAC intervention on mortality (1988-1990) : Findings from a longitudinal database | F. Kamal |
| 29. | Health impact of a non-health intervention | AMR. Chowdhury
Ahmed Ali |
| 30. | Does health education change knowledge and practice? | Fazlul Karim |
| 31. | Effects of mother's club in improving health practice behaviour and child health care service utilization | Fazlul Karim |
| 32. | High awareness versus low usage of oral rehydration solution/oral rehydration therapy | Fazlul Karim
Jalal U. Ahmed |
| 33. | Maternal morbidity related to delivery and pueperium | Rukhsana Gazi
Liz Goodburn |
| 34. | Vaccination coverage survey of Dhaka District | Ali Ahmed
Fazlul Karim |
| 35. | Vaccination coverage survey of Faridpur district | Ali Ahmed
Fazlul Karim |
| 36. | Vaccination coverage of Netrokona district | Ahmed Ali
Fazlul Karim |
| 37. | Violence against women in marriage | Rita Das Roy |
| 38. | Benchmark Household Registration | A. H. Chowdhury |
| 39. | An Assessment of selection criteria for enrolment of adolescent girls in non-formal primary education schools | Fazlul Karim
A. H. Chowdhury |
| 40. | Assessment on baseline survey on different health service coverage | Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud
Ahmed Ali |
| 41. | Performance assessment of the Trained Traditional Birth Attendants | Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 42. | Assessment of Gram (Village) Committee meetings | Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud
Ahmed Ali |
| 43. | Ante-natal care and family planning service delivery through Satellite Clinics | Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud |

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| 44. Monitoring on EPI centre in 3 regions of WHDP | Fazlul Karim
Kaosar Afsana
Ahmed Ali
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 45. Early assessment on Growth Monitoring | Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud
Ahmed Ali
Kaosar Afsana |
| 46. A close look at the extent of antenatal care service coverage through village based centres | Fazlul Karim
Ahmed Ali
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 47. Assessment of Mohila Shava Meetings | Kaosar Afsana
Fazlul Karim
Ahmed Ali
Shah Noor Mahmud |

VII. ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

At the time of producing this report 64 studies initiated in 1992 were at different stages of progress. Titles of the studies are as follows :

Title / Topic	Researcher(s)
1. Evaluation of IGVD	Rita Sen Shams Mustafa
2. Analysis of Rural Wages and Food Prices	Abu Yusuf Shams Mustafa
3. Women in Fishery Community : Case Study of one Village	Dilruba Banu Shams Mustafa
4. Problems relating to Non-targets in Jhanpa Baor beneficiary list.	Shams Mustafa
5. Fish Trading in South-West Bangladesh	Shams Mustafa Abu Yousuf
6. Re-opening BRAC Schools : Baseline Survey on Old NFPE Villages	Kaisar A. Khan Md. Mohsin
7. JMBA Resettlement Study : Survey of Residual land and PAPS	T. K. Barua Samir R. Nath

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| 8. | Study on Sericulture Using RRA Techniques : A BRAC-IDS collaborative study | Karimul Huq
Mahmuda R. Khan
Dilruba Banu
Abul Kalam
A. H. Mallick
Abu Yusuf,
et al. |
| 9. | Savings Default by the VO Members : An exploratory study | Iftexhar U. Ahmed
Rita Das Roy
Shahnaz Akhter |
| 10. | Fishery (pond culture) : Income and Employment Generation | Shams Mustafa
et al |
| 11. | Hard Core Poor : Analysis of RDP Generated Data Identification | Dilruba Banu
et al. |
| 12. | Legal knowledge of VO members : Findings of a baseline survey | S. Asad Ahmed
Qamrul Islam
Shams Mustafa |
| 13. | Baseline Survey of Resources and Employment in Baor Communities | Shams Mustafa
Dilruba Banu
Azmal Kabir |
| 14. | Impact of BRAC's Functional Education Programme (in VSP Villages) | A. H. Mallick |
| 15. | Institution Building : A comparative study of female and male leadership of Vos | Rita Sen
Shams Mustafa |
| 16. | PCRDP Baseline Survey 1992 (Economic aspects) | Karimul Haque
Nurul Amin |
| 17. | Uses and mis-uses of loans : An analysis of loan utilisation by new loanees | Zafar Ahmed |
| 18. | Impact of DTW Irrigation Technology in Rice Agriculture in VSP Villages | Karimul Haque |
| 19. | The water charging procedures and performance evaluation of DTW programmes under different organisations | Kaisar A. Khan |
| 20. | Assessment of Basic Education of Children in Bangladesh : What 'Life Skills' the children should learn | Md. Mohsin
Samir R. Nath
AMR Chowdhury |
| 21. | Why NFPE graduates dropout from formal schools | Kaisar A. Khan |
| 22. | Mohila Shabha : Does it make a difference? | Abdullahel Hadi |

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| 23. | Role of Gram (village) Committees in basic health care service delivery | F. Karim
Ahmed Ali
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 24. | Targeting the bottom 50%: is it an effective way to provide them the health care services | Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 25. | Health behaviour of rural women : Evidence from WHDP baseline survey | Ahmed Ali
Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 26. | Benchmark study on maternal mortality in WHDP | Ahmed Ali
Fazlul Karim
Rukhsana Gazi |
| 27. | Post-training knowledge of the Shasthaya Sebikas in WHDP | Nazrul Islam
Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 28. | Post-training knowledge of the Shasthaya Karmis in WHDP | Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud
Ahmed Ali |
| 29. | A pilot study on poverty in Matlab Thana | Shams Mustafa
et al |
| 30. | Impact of Home Gardening Project on dietary practices | Nasreen Huq
A. Wadud Khan
Rahima Khatun |
| 31. | The role of superstition in primary health care | A. H. Mallick |
| 32. | The Home Gardening Project | Nasreen Huq
et. al. |
| 33. | Maternal morbidity related to delivery and the puerperium : Indepth study | Nasreen Huq
Rukhsana Gazi
Mahmuda Khan
Naveeda Khan |
| 34. | Can a Health Information System make a difference ? Prospects of the Health and Development Watch | Abdullahel Hadi |
| 35. | Changing health belief and practices as consequence of program intervention in Kutubdia | Abdullahel Hadi
Firoz Kamal |
| 36. | Environment, Disease Pattern and Mortality : A Multi-Level Analysis of Individual and Community Factors on the Health Status of Population Living in Kutubdia and Manikganj | Abdullahel Hadi
Firoz Kamal |

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| 37. Non-formal Primary Education and Health : Role of NFPE and KK schools on health seeking behaviour in an island community | Abdullahel Hadi
Firoz Kamal |
| 38. Health and sanitation situation : Baseline survey in VSP villages | Karimul Huq |
| 39. An investigation into the nature and determinants of maternal morbidity related to delivery and the puerperium in Bangladesh | AMR Chowdhury
Liz Good Burn
Wendy Graham
Rukhsana Gazi |
| 40. Health research done in Bangladesh during 1986-'90; what were the priorities | AMR Chowdhury
Rukhsana Gazi |
| 41. Causes of maternal mortality and factors of maternal morbidity in WHDP | Fazlul Karim
Rukhsana Gazi |
| 42. PCRDP Baseline Survey 1992 (health and education aspects) | Abdullahel Hadi
F. Kamal |
| 43. A Study on medical pluralism in a rural area of Bangladesh | S. Masud Ahmed |
| 44. Study of factors associated with death clustering of children in a rural area of Bangladesh | S. Masud Ahmed |
| 45. Effect of integrated approach on community involvement in PHC | Fazlul Karim
Ahmed Ali
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 46. A study on pilot experiment on maternal health | Kaosar Afsana
Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud
Nazrul Islam |
| 47. A study on ARI control programme | Ahmed Ali
Fazlul Karim
Nazrul Islam |
| 48. Evaluation of pregnancy methods identification in WHDP | Kaosar Afsana
Rukhsana Gazi |
| 49. Consequences of low birth weight babies in rural areas | Rukhsana Gazi
Fazlul Karim
Ahmed Ali |
| 50. Growth Monitoring | Nasreen Huq
Ziauddin Hyder |
| 51. Breastfeeding in Bangladesh | Nasreen Huq |
| 52. First evaluation report on the Home Gardening project | Nasreen Huq |

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| 53. | Baseline nutritional survey for the IGVD programme | Ziauddin Hyder
Nasreen Huq |
| 54. | Baseline survey under BRAC - ICDDR,B collaborative research project at Matlab (Evaluation of the impact of RDP and MCH & FP activities on health and development) | AMR Chowdhury
Abbas Bhuiyan
S. Masud Ahmed
Md. Mohsin |
| 55. | Evaluation of BRAC's family planning experimental project | Fazlul Karim
Jalal U. Ahmed |
| 56. | Evaluation of TB laboratory operation in Womens Health and Development Programme | Nazrul Islam
Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 57. | Evaluation of trained TBA performance | Nazrul Islam
Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud
Ahmed Ali |
| 58. | Study on the status of ante-natal care to mothers facing stillbirth hazards | Fazlul Karim
Nazrul Islam
Ahmed Ali
Kaosar Afsana
Rukhsana Gazi |
| 59. | Regularity in Iron Folic Acid Tablet intake. | Ahmed Ali
Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 60. | Accuracy in Birth and Death Recording | Ahmed Ali
Kaosar A. Khan
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 61. | Frequency of visit to ANCC by pregnant women. | Fazlul Karim
Nazrul Islam
Shah Noor Mahmud |
| 62. | Assessment on TB control Programme. | Nazrul Islam
Fazlul Karim
Shah Noor Mahmud |

VIII. JOURNAL ARTICLE / CHAPTER IN BOOK

The following articles/research papers produced by RED researchers were either published or accepted for publication in various journals, periodicals and books during 1992.

- a. Tuberculosis Control in Bangladesh - by AMR Chowdhury, A. Alam, J. Ahmed and S. A Chowdhury in Lancet, May 9, 1992.
- b. Controlling a Forgotten Disease. Using Voluntary Health Women for Tuberculosis Center in Rural Bangladesh. - by AMR Chowdhury, N. Ishikawa, A. Alam, M. S. Islam, S. Hossain, R. A. Cash and F. H. Abed in the IUATLD News letter, December, 1991.
- c. "Calcium Metabolism During Pregnancy and Lactation" in Mechanisms Regularity Lactation and Infect Nutrient Utilization" (pp. 129-146) Wiley-Ziss Inc. 1992, with JC King, BP Halloran, N. Huq, T Diamond and PE Buckendahl.
- d. Comparison of cost compliance with nutrition education messages to improve the diets of Bangladeshi breast feeding mothers and weaning age children" LV Brown, BL Rogers, N Huq, MF Zeitlin KE Peterson, SN Gershoff. Ecology of Food and Nutrition (in press).
- e. Book review written by Nasreen Huq of Women and Health (Zed Books Ltd.), to be published by Health Policy and Planning (in press).
- f. "Horticulture as a Component of BRAC's Nutrition Programme, N Huq and M R B Khan. Proceedings of the Sixth National Horticulture Symposium (in press).
- g. "Bigger And Better? Scaling-up strategies pursued by BRAC 1972-1991 : An Assessment", published in the proceedings on Scaling-up NGO Activities, University of Manchester, U.K., 1992.
- h. "Evaluation of Impact of Messages to Improve the diets of lactating rural Bangladeshi women on their dietary practice and growth of their breastfed infants". Laurine Brown Nasreen Huq et al submitted to American Journal of Clinical Nutrition.

- i. Mustafa, S. Rahman, S. and Sattar, G. "Technology Development and Diffusion : a case study of collaboration between BRAC and the government of Bangladesh", in The Bangladesh Journal of Agricultural Extension, special issue, 1992.

Master's Thesis

Two of the researchers who completed their master's programme in UK in 1992 produced the following thesis :

Dr. Nazrul Islam, submitted a dissertation on "An Evaluation of Community Health Workers of BRAC" at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine as a part of his M. Sc course.

Ms. Ishrat Ara, submitted a thesis on "Meeting Women's Interests? NGOs and Development in Bangladesh : The Case of BRAC" a part of fulfilment of the Master's course on "Gender Analysis in Development" at the University of East Anglia, UK.

IX. PARTICIPATION IN SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

RED researchers took part in more than 55 seminars, workshops and conferences, at home and abroad, during the year. These were on various aspects of health, nutrition, education, women's development, environmental issues, government and non-government collaboration, and many other topics (Appendix II provides details).

X. RED SEMINAR WORKSHOP, OPEN FORUM

RED organises seminars and workshops to facilitate mutual exchange of knowledge and ideas among its researchers. Every research proposal developed by a RED researcher is presented in a workshop. Similarly, every research report produced by a researcher is presented in a RED seminar. In 1992, a total of 48 workshops and

seminars were organized. Particulars of the seminars / workshops can be seen at the end of this report (Appendix III).

RED researchers initiated a fortnightly seminar series called "Open Forum". This forum is primarily for discussion on works in progress, proposals and other topics of interest. Some particulars of the open forum are attached in Appendix-IV.

XI. CONSULTANCY

Two RED staff provided consultancies to other organisations :

Ms. Nasreen Huq, Senior Research Nutritionist, worked as a consultant in the Review of the OXFAM programme along with Marion Glaser, Sarah Westcott and Ahmed Kamal from January 21 to February 28, 1992.

Ms. Mahmuda Rahman Khan, Staff-Economist worked as a consultant in "Lotus Final Evaluation : The Social Impact of DTWs on landless owners" with CARE, in June, 1992.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AT RED

Recruitment :

The following researchers were recruited and joined RED in 1992.

1. Dr. Teen Kari Barua with Ph. D. in Urban and Regional Planning (with Economics) from the University of Wisconsin - Madison, USA, joined RED in August, 1992.
2. Dr. Iftekhar Uddin Ahmed with Ph. D. in Management (major in Financial Economics) from the University of Dhaka joined RED in August, 1992.
3. Dr. Kaosar Afsana with an MBBS degree from Dhaka University joined RED in June, 1992.
4. Dr. Syed Masud Ahmed with an MBBS from Dhaka University and a DCM degree from NIPSOM joined RED in June, 1992.
5. Dr. S. M. Ziauddin Hyder with an MBBS degree from Dhaka University and DAND, and MPS -FNP degree from the University of Philippines at Los Banos joined RED in July, 1992.
6. Md. Sarwar Jahan with an M. S. S. degree in Economics from Rajshahi University joined RED in August, 1992.
7. Md. Abu Yusuf Miah with an M.S.S. degree in Economics from the University of Dhaka joined RED in August, 1992.
8. Ms. Naveeda Khan with a BA degree in History, field work / training in Anthropology from Vassar College, U.S.A, joined RED in October, 1992.
9. Md. Azmal Kabir with a B. Com. degree from Dhaka University joined RED in September, 1992.
10. Md. Abdur Razzaque with a B.A. degree from Dhaka University joined RED as a Dual Entry Technician in August, 1992.

Promotion :

The following core researchers were elevated to higher level during 1992.

A. M. R. Chowdhury, Ph. D., was made Director Research, Mr. Shah Noor Mahmud, Senior Area Manager, WHDP.

Staff Development :

The following RED researchers went abroad for higher study :

Mr. Sanzidur Rahman, pursuing a Masters course in agro-system forestry at Chiang Mai University, Thailand.

Ms. Monira Hassan pursuing a Masters course in Education at the Queens University, Canada.

Ms. Mahmuda Rahman Khan completed a three-month course on "Rural Research and Rural Policy" at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK.

RED organised a training workshop on Rapid Rural Appraisal Methodology facilitated by Dr. Mick Howes of IDS, Sussex. The workshop, held at TARC Faridpur on 7-12 December 1992, was participated by a mixed group of 13 workers from several BRAC programmes. The participants :

1. Mr. Tapan Kumar Das, AFM, TARC
2. Mr. Mansur Ahmed, AFM, TARC
3. Mr. Kamal Chakravorty, Area Manager, RDP
4. Mr. Shawkat Hossain Chowdhury, Area Manager, RDP
5. Mr. Abu Bakar Siddique, UPO, RDP
6. Mr. Majibul Huq, P.O. RDP
7. Mr. Pabitra Kumar, TARC
8. Mr. Ramapada Dey, P.O. Monitoring
9. Ms. Dilruba Banu, RED
10. Mr. Abu Yousuf, RED
11. Mr. Abul Kalam, VSP, RED
12. Mr. Aktar Hossain, Mallik, VSP, RED
13. Dr. Rukhsana Gazi, RED,

APPENDIX II

Participation of RED Researchers in Seminars and Workshops

1. AMR Chowdhury, Ph. D., Director Research, participated in the following seminars/workshops :
 - i. "Africa Conference : ENHR" at Kampala, Uganda in April 1992.
 - ii. "Assessment of Basic Education of Children : An Exploratory Study", Paper presented in " Conference on Primary Education in Bangladesh" at Bellagio, Italy on 5-6 November 1992, organized by the Rockefeller Foundation.

- iii. "Assessment of Basic Education of Children : A Concept Paper Presentation" at UNICEF, Dhaka in January 1992.
 - iv. "Assessment of Basic Education of Children in Bangladesh", Presentation of research findings, at UNICEF Dhaka, on May 31, 1992.
 - v. "The 1991 Cyclone : Why so many people died?" the Research findings presented at the Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, Cambridge, USA on December 09, 1992.
2. M. G. Sattar, participated in the following seminar:
- i) Workshop on "Scaling-up NGO Activities" held at the Institute of Development and Policy Management, University of Manchester, UK., 8-10 January, 1992.
 - ii) Seminar on "The Role of NGOs in National Development Strategy" organized by the International Institute of Administrative Sciences, held at the Asia Pacific Development Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malayasia, 22-25 April, 1992.
3. Mr. Fazlul Karim, Research Epidemiologist participated in the following workshops :
- i) Workshop on the "Identifications of Basic Strategic Assumptions of the BRAC Women's Health and Development Program for Monitoring and Evaluation" held at Hotel Abokash, Dhaka during 17-20 May, 1992, sponsored by Swiss Development Cooperation.
 - ii) Follow-up workshop on the "Identifications of Basic Strategic Assumptions of the BRAC Women's Health and Development Program" held at BRAC Management Development Center, Uttara, Dhaka on June 06, 1992.
 - iii) Workshop on the "Educational Course on Development for Bangladeshi NGOs" held at center for Development Management of BRAC during 19-22 August, 1992, organized jointly by BRAC and El Taller.
4. Mr. Shams Mustafa, Research Economist participated in the following seminars and presented papers :
- i. Paper entitled "Self-employment for Women : Role of BRAC", in the seminar on Self-employment for Women : The Role of Banks" Organized by Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM), Dhaka, September 26-27, 1992.

- ii. Paper prepared jointly with A.Q. Siddiqui entitled "Role of NGOs in Rural Development : An overview of Experiences", presented in the Seminar on "Role of NGOs in Rural Development", organized by Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM), Dhaka, December 23, 1992.
5. Dr. Nazrul Islam, Medical Officer, Research participated in the workshop on "Integration of Tuberculosis Control Program into General Health Services" organized by Tuberculosis Control Project, Dhaka, December 15, 1992.
 6. Ms. Nasreen Huq, Senior Research Nutritionist, participated in the following workshops :
 - i. "Identification of Basic Strategic Assumptions of the BRAC's Women's Health and Developed Program for monitoring and Evaluation" held in Dhaka, 17-20 May 1992.
 - ii. " Adolescent Family life Education" at Manikganj, June 03-04, 1992.
 - iii. Follow-up workshop on the "Identifications of Basic Strategic Assumption of the BRAC's Women's Health and Development Programme" Dhaka, June 6, 1992
 - iv. "Global Women's Leadership Institute", organized by Global Women's Leadership Center, Douglass College, University of Rutgers, New Jersey, USA, June 13-22, 1992.
 - v. Sixth Workshop on "Research Methodology in Family Planning, Sexual Behaviour and Reproductive Health", organized by Institute of Population Studies, University of Exeter, UK and Institute for Population Social and Research, Mahidol University, Thailand, Nov. 05-25, 1992.
 - vi. Presented a paper on Horticulture as a component of BRAC's Nutrition Programme, jointly with Md. Rakibul Bari Khan at the Sixth National Horticulture Symposium of the Bangladesh Society for Horticultural Science, April 16-17, 1992 at Mymensingh.
 - vii. Presented a paper on Women's Perspective on Women's Reproductive Health and Fertility Regulation Technologies. Asian Regional Meeting on Women's Perspectives in the Introduction of Fertility Regulation Technologies, WHO, Manila 4-8 October 1992.
 - viii. Presented a paper "Population Planning and Gender Bias" at the 'Workshop for Women Journalists on Environment and Development' by the Press Institute of Bangladesh in association with the Panos Institute. London U.K., July 26, 1992.

She was a discussant/resource person in the following workshops/forum :

- a. Dissemination workshop on "The Quality of Norplant Services in Bangladesh", October 27, 1992, Dhaka.
 - b. Chaired the curriculum sub-committee for the Adolescent Family Life Education Forum.
 - c. Family Planning : Increasing Quality of Services and Sustainability, September 20, 1992, Dhaka.
 - d. Member of the technical committee which produced a booklet "Buker Dudh (Breastmilk)", a training booklet for GOB family planning extension works.
7. Ms. Mahmuda Rahman Khan, Staff Economist, participated in the "Sixth Workshop on Research Methodology in Family Planning, Sexual Behaviour and Reproductive Health" at Mahidol University, Thailand November 05-25, 1992, organized by the Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University in collaboration with the Institute of Population Studies, University of Exeter, UK.
8. Dr. Iftekhar Uddin Ahmed, Senior Research Economist, participated in a workshop on "Village Credit and the Reproduction of Poverty" at BIDS on October 05, 1992.
9. Mr. Ahmed Ali, Senior Staff-Nutritionist, participated in the following workshops :
- i. Workshop on "Analysis of Data on Health and Women and Children using SPSS PC+" at ICDDR,B from January 26 to February 06, 1992, organized jointly by the Population Council and ICDDR,B.
 - ii. Workshop on "EPI Mid-term Workshop" on July 19, 1992 at CDM, Rajendrapur.
 - iii. Workshop on "Dhaka District Coverage" on October 08, 1992 at EPI Head Quarter, Dhaka.
 - iv. Workshop on " EPI Annual Workplan of 1993" December 06 to 09, 1992 at Cox's Bazar.
10. Dr. Rukhsana Gazi, Medical Officer (Research) participated in an the Workshop on "Tuberculosis" in September, 1992 organized by NATAB. She also presented a paper in the Seminar at the 12th National Conference on "Reproductive Health", September 12-13, 1992, organized by BIRPERHT at Dhaka. The paper entitled "Maternal Morbidity Related to Delivery and Puerperium".

11. Dr. Rita Sen, Senior Research Sociologist, and Mr. Karimul Haque, Staff Economist participated in Workshop on Participatory Rural Research on November 24, 1992 at Ford Foundation, Dhaka.
12. Syeda Nasima Begum, Librarian, participated in a Training Workshop on "Computerized Documentation System/Integrated set of Information System" from August 29 to September 09, 1992 organized by CIRDAP at Dhaka.

APPENDIX III

RED Seminar and Workshops Held in 1992

Date	Topic / Title	Speaker
January, 19	Nutritional impact of the VGD Program : A proposal	Ziauddin Hyder
January, 19	A Study of the NFPE Teachers	Md. Kaisar A. Khan
February, 03	Assessment of Basic Knowledge of Children in Bangladesh	AMR Chowdhury
February, 17	The Landless Women's Cooperative and Gender Differentiation in Rural Bangladesh	Anne Marie Van Swinderen
March, 27	Post-Training Utilizations: The ARD Training of BRAC	Sarwar Jahan
March, 29	Women Forum : The Nucleus of change	Abdullahel Hadi
March, 29	Constraints, Realities and visions of income generating activities of Women	Rita Sen
April, 30	Preliminary Evaluation of the Home Gardening project	Nasreen Huq
April, 30	A Socio-economic Portrait of Male Loan Repayment Ability	Shahin Yaqub
May, 14	Landless Irrigation and Social Relations : A study on the social impact of a BRAC program	Munirul Islam Khan

May, 21	Non-Government Organization's ability to promote poverty alleviating development in Bangladesh (Research proposal)	Jerry Buckland
May, 11	Discussion on a study report	S. M. Hashemi
June, 07	Research Findings : Study of Modhupur Village in Monirampur	Michael B. Bowler
June, 07	Child Mortality in Modhupur : A Case Study	Ruth Charles
July, 02	Who Benefits from BRAC Program	Aleeze Sattar
July, 26	BRAC/ICDDR,B Collaborative Study in Matlab (proposal on baseline survey)	Syed Masud Ahmed
July, 28	Dependency Relationship and Development : Case of Two Villages	Qamrul Islam
July, 27	Women and Technology	Marilyn Carr
July, 27	Household Strategy and Coping	Marty Chen
July, 30	Post-Cyclone Rehabilitation and Development Project at Kutubdia	Zafar Ahmed Abdullahel Hadi Karimul Huq
August, 03	Water Charging and Performance Evaluation of DTWs	Zafar Ahmad Kaiser A. Khan Alauddin
August, 06	Socio-economic Background of BRAC's Non-Formal Students and the Level of Performance	Zafar Ahmad Nurul Amin
August, 04	Assessment of Basic Education for Children in Bangladesh	Md. Mohsin Samir R. Nath AMR Chowdhury
August, 10	Institutions Building and Development in Three Women's Village Organizations : Participation, Ownership, Autonomy	Naveeda Khan Eileen Stewart
August, 17	Impact of DTW Irrigation Technology in Rice Agriculture in Bangladesh	Karimul Huq
August, 23	Review of BRAC's Vital Registration System	Bashiruddin Ahmed

August, 23	Mortality in Rural Bangladesh	Firoz Kamal
August, 30	Baor Development Project : A Brief on Research Projects	Shams Mustafa
September, 01	Rural Employment in Bangladesh : Structure, Variation and Seasonality	Abul Kalam
October, 07	Savings Default by the VO members : An Exploratory Study	Iftexhar U. Ahmed Rita Das Roy
October, 13	Concluding Session of the RRA Training Workshop	Mick Howes
October, 14	Legal Empowerment : A Proposal for Base line Survey of Legal Knowledge among the VO members	Shah Asad Ahmed Qamrul Islam Shams Mustafa
October, 27	Impact of BRAC intervention on Mortality : Findings from a Longitudinal data base	Firoz Kamal
October, 29	Reports on Sericulture Study	Karimul Hug Mahamuda R. Khan Dilruba Banu Abu Yousuf Khan Akter Hossain Khan
December, 30	Manikganj Silk Reeling Center : A Financial Analysis	Salma Omar Chowdury

APPENDIX IV

Topics Presented in Open Forum

Date	Topic/Title	Speaker(s)
June 08, 1992	Marriage through the Eyes of Adolescents	Aleeze Sattar
June 25, 1992	Income Generating Activities A Case of Mirzapur	Mahmuda R. Khan
July 09, 1992	Study on Socio-economic Differentials in Utilization of PHC Services - Preliminary Summary Results	Fazlul Karim
August 06, 1992	Research Ideas to be pursued during the Sabbatical Leave	AMR Chowdhury

July 23, 1992	Nutritional Impact Study of IGVGD and VGD Project Beneficiaries (Pilot Study)	Ziauddin Hyder
August 13, 1992	A Briefing on Field Work : An Ecological Approach to Development Research	Karen Casper Shahnaz Akhter
September 03, 1992	Survey of Fishery Community : Outcome of an instrument testing exercise	Shams Mustafa Dilruba Banu Azmal Kabir
September 17, 1992	Data Management, Editing and Coding	Shoaib Ahmed
November 04, 1992	Baseline Nutritional Survey of the Income Generation for Vulnerable Group Development Program	Ziauddin Hyder

APPENDIX - V

ABSTRACTS OF COMPLETED STUDIES

1. Social Constraints for Working Women : Notes from a rural area of Jamalpur. (pp.22)

This study brings out certain hindrances which create problems for working women in the rural area. For this study eight villages were selected in Jamalpur area, four from BRAC area and another four from non-BRAC area, involving 81 respondents. Data were collected through focus group discussion. Five major "Social Issues" were explored : (i) role of intermediaries, (ii) women's mobility, (iii) household chores and productive activities, (iv) attitude of neighbours towards working women and (v) attitude of neighbours towards female education.

The study reveals that due to presence of various programs in BRAC area, the women are in a better situation than the women in non-BRAC area. In BRAC area, the women were gradually overcoming their problems, and their attitudes have begun to change. It is expected that through this process one day they would be able to break the existing barriers. But in our rigid male dominated society the women are unable to utilize their talents and potentials. So, it is imperative to change the attitude of males towards the females in the society.

2. The NFPE Teachers : Competence in English and their Personal Backgrounds. (pp.34)

The study was an attempt to document the backgrounds of the NFPE teachers, to know their job related problems and measure their competencies in English and Mathematics for teaching students of

class four level. Among the 197 (15.3% male and 84.7% female) teachers interviewed majority (39.6%) are of 20-24 age group, 87.1% male and 72.9% females are married, 96% teachers have nine or more years of schooling and 87.8% teachers are Muslims. Majority of male teachers are from farming households and the females are from service holder households, 25.4% of the teachers came households having less than 0.50 acres of land of which 17.8% have no land. Teachers from Manikganj and Mymensingh area were found to have higher job related experience. Some 32% teachers pointed out some job related problems such as inadequate leave, lack of skills in handling extra curricular activities, etc. Results the test examination showed that 40.1% teachers in English and 38.1% in Mathematics obtained 60% or more scores. The male teachers performed better than females.

3. Assessment of Basic Education of Children in Bangladesh. (pp.106)

This study presents results from a benchmark survey of basic learning of children between the age of 11 and 12, that is, those past the primary school age. This study is the first of its kind in Bangladesh and has drawn the attention of many scholars, experts, policy planners and development organisations. The study aimed at establishing a threshold for measuring basic education by setting a standard for it for children in Bangladesh that would help identify the needs and areas in planning national level education programmes. The methodology and tools for the measurement of basic education were developed with the help of experts from several national and international organisations.

The findings showed that on average 28.8% children have basic education, defined as competencies in the three R's and knowledge of life skills. Performance of boys was somewhat better than that of girls. Among urban children the difference between boys and girls was much more prominent. It was also revealed that the level of literacy among mothers and fathers as well as family assets have a very positive impact upon the learning of children.

4. Manual : Suggested Approach of Village Study Project. (pp.45)

The village study project (VSP) introduced in 1990 by the Research and Evaluation Division of BRAC undergoes a change followed by a review done by one reputed consultant in December 1992. Following the review, a new approach was suggested in pursuing the study. This document, which incorporates the suggested approach and methods, is intended to be used as a manual for the VSP researchers. The manual will be further expanded through deliberation of the researchers.

5. An assessment of the poultry and chick-rearing (Report on RRA Training exercise). (pp.11)

The report is the outcome of a field exercise undertaken to upgrade the skill of BRAC researchers in RRA methodology. The study was mainly a part of their training exercise. It comes up with a number of tentative findings which include : Egg production is high during harvesting season (June - July) and low in November - December. The variation in egg production is due to variation in the availability of feed supply. A positive correlation is found to exist between egg production and income. The rearers have strong preference for certain variety of birds such as Fiom, Sonali and White leghorn because these varieties have higher productivity and income potentiality compared to the local varieties which are less susceptible to disease and require less care and time. The difficult months for the rearers are April and May because during this time the incidence of Ranikhet disease is higher compared to other months of the year. According to one owner of a chick rearing unit, chick rearing directly contributes to the accrual of a number of benefits. The important among these are : access to BRAC loan, self employment opportunity, knowledge and skill in better rearing practice, improved dietary status, increase in expenses for children education and capital accumulation for investment in other income and employment generating activities.

6. Women in poverty alleviation : Six case studies. (pp.50)

This is an indepth study on six rural women who have proved that, given the opportunity, the powerless and oppressed rural women are very capable to earn for their families and to participate in socio-economic development work. The broad objective of the study is to describe the process of involvement of rural women in a poverty alleviation programme. For this, the study has attempted to explore the women's rationale for participation in BRAC's programmes. The six poor women who are involved in six different income generating activities introduced by BRAC, have been purposively selected from Monirampur RDP area, Jessore. The case study approach has been followed to collect detailed information of each case on the background of their involvement with BRAC group, training, credit, scheme specific work, household life and social status.

The study shows that, initially the six cases have faced opposition from rural society as the attributed social custom was broken by their involvement in outdoor activities with an organizational support. With perseverance they have overcome the opposition. From BRAC, all of them have received training on social consciousness and on specific skills. As an economic support, they have received different periodic loans for self-employment generating activities. The main activities of the six women are chick rearing, para-veterinary, cow rearing, small trading, silk yarn reeling and fish cultivation. The secondary activities include poultry health care,

mulberry plantation, kantha stitching etc. The rationale of their participation is to improve the economic condition of their families. Their objective is to ensure income sources for their households. The women evaluate their participation in income earning to have improved their position at home and society at large.

7. The BRAC Samity : Collective Participation or Control by a Few? Case Studies from Four Village. (pp.33)

This study looked at the four villages from four districts : Manikganj, Jamalpur, Narshingdi and Jessore to explore the nature of participation in the samity, whether it is collective or controlled by a few (kin group/cliue/faction). Earlier Michael Bowler, a Ph.D. student from USA, showed that both male and female samities in a village in Jessore were controlled by a kin group and cliue formed by the chairman of that respective male samity. So this study was carried to testify the findings of Bowler. Out of the four villages, findings from one village were similar to the findings of Bowler. In this village one kin group was predominantly represented in the male and female samities. In all other villages the groups which benefitted most were not based on kinship or factional ties. In that same village it was also found that 52.2% and 41.4% group members owned more than 50 decimal land in the male and female samities respectively (VSP 1990). All of these members did not necessarily possess land but belonged to landowning households with more than 50 decimal land. The poorest within the Vos participate least in the group process and are consequently least empowered. However, it transpired that the RDP field staff were aware of this situation and planning to initiate some corrective measures.

8. DTW Irrigation Technology in Rice Agriculture in Bangladesh : Its Impact on Output and Input Combination. (pp.22)

This study focuses on two DTWs in VSP study areas - one from Jamalpur area and another from Jessore area, covering 101 farming households aimed at looking into the effects of DTW irrigation technology in a number of areas. These are; output increase and growth, output and input combination, input output ratio, output and income change, labour and capital productivity, and employment growth. The findings and conclusions drawn from study are as follows :

- The per acre yield in the pre-intervention period was 30.0 maund compared to 41.3 maund in the post - intervention period - indicating a 37.6% increase of output growth over the preceding year when irrigation was not introduced. The cropping pattern and output combination undergoes a change in the post-intervention period followed by shifting of cropped land from traditional variety to modern variety. This is due to the effects of irrigation. The efficient farm had a lower

per acre cost (Tk. 5931) compared to the least efficient farm (Tk. 6728). The bottom land category alone (<0.50 acre) shared 41.0% of the increased output resulting from the effects of DTW. The DTW irrigation had a positive impact in terms of per acre employment in the post intervention period, showing a positive effective of DTW on per acre employment creation. The productivity of labour (4.6) and capital (0.4) in the post intervention period was higher than the productivity of labour (3.7) and capital (0.2) in the pre-intervention period. The average per capita income of the irrigation also underwent a visible changes, indicating a positive impact of irrigation on per capita income.

9. Assessment of basic Education of NFPE and PEOC graduates. (pp.25)

The study assesses the existing level of achievement of basic education of the graduates of BRAC's NFPE and PEOC. A total of 200 graduates were interviewed from the schools completed in 1990. The respondents are for both the schools and gender. On average 55.5 percent of the graduates have basic education. PEOC graduates are much behind their NFPE counterparts. In gender wise data, NFPE girls show better than boys but in KK, boys are better.

10. Literacy in Rural Bangladesh : Enrolment and Dropout in Selected NFPE Villages. (pp.30)

This study was conducted to know the overall literacy situation of the children aged between 6 and 16 years in the villages where third cycle of BRAC schools (NFPE and KK) were operating. Nineteen schools, located in 18 villages at five areas of Manikganj, Betila, Balirtek, Mirzapur and Dhanshail were purposively selected for the study. The study found that 68.4% of the children were enroled, 22.9% were never enroled and 8.7% were droppedout of any kind of schools. The study also found that the enrolment rate is higher among girls (69.5%) than boys (67.4%).

A large number of parents do not send their children to school at their childhood. This is more true if the children are girls.

As expected, the parental level of education, household ownership of landholding, occupational status of parents are found to have important influence on both the enrolment and dropout of children from school in the study villages.

The findings of this study further indicate that the enrolment rate is much lower among the children of BRAC group members children than non-group members, in ages between 6 and 7 years. This is due to the fact that NFPE starts with children of age between 8 and 16 years.

The role of BRAC in raising literacy in the study villages, particularly among the girl children of poorer households, is encouraging.

11. Sericulture : Problems and Prospects (pp.45)

This paper is a summary of literature review on sericulture. The paper was written by reviewing three research reports and two project proposal and related document. This paper enables to gives in short a national picture of sericulture programme in Bangladesh. This background paper for is intended to be used as reference the sericulture study to be undertaken by RED in late 1992 using RRA as a part of BRAC/IDS collaboration.

12. Women Behind the Net : A Profile of an Inland Fishing Community. (pp.45)

There is very little information available on the inland fishing community in general, and on women in particular. Studies of rural women have concentrated solely on those from agricultural and landless households. Nearly 15 percent of the rural households depend on fishery activities for a main part of their livelihood or as subsistence activity. From the point of programmed intervention the sector is receiving increased attention from BRAC as well as the government. The present study aims to generate data for future research as well for programming work.

The study attempts to describe the socio-economic situation of women from households whose male members earn their livelihood from fishery. They are selected from a village of Monirampur thana in Jessore district. Methodologically it follows a broadly case study approach and the data is generated by open ended questionnaire, which is supplemented by a census of the entire village. The women are studied in a broad sociological framework including family type and structure, kinship, marriage, participation of income-earning activities particularly in fishery related areas etc. There appears to be very little difference between the study women and other rural women. The study women play a major role in managing household subsistence through activities of cost saving, borrowing and saving in kind. The share of fishery-related activities is low in their daily chores. There is a need to diversify their scope of employment through intervention, for poverty alleviation and greater role in household financial decision making for empowerment.

13. Post-training utilization : The Approach to Rural Development Training Course of BRAC. (pp.23)

This is an attempt to evaluate the approach to rural development training (ARD) course of BRAC. The training is designed for the development of its core rural development workers, the program organizers (POs). The objectives were to know the educational

background and selection criteria of the participants. The issue of post training utilization by the participants were also a part of the objectives. For the purpose, 14 trained respondents were interviewed through a structured questionnaire and two checklists. The opinion of the respondents and their supervisors (Area/Branch Managers) were also collected.

The study found that in some cases the criteria of selecting the participants were not strictly followed. The course contents, and training facilities during the conduction of course were evaluated as satisfactory by the participants. In respect of utilization of the contents, an absolute majority of them confirmed that they had utilized those in their job situation. However, the respondents mentioned certain constraints which stood in the way of the utilization of learned lessons through training which could be overcome by an enhanced field level coordination.

14. Demographic Registration System : A report on vital events 1989-'90. (pp.75)

Demographic database is essential for development planning of a country. The government and various national and international organisations have now been collecting information on vital events but such attempts proved to be very expensive. BRAC has developed a system of continuous registration of vital events which is reliable and cost-effective. Three unions in Manikganj and another three in Joypurhat district are covered in this study project. The main objective of this report is to determine the changes in age-sex composition, fertility, mortality and migration that occurred over the time. The report also presents the analysis of data for the year 1989 and 1990. An upward trend in fertility for the year 1990 in both the areas has been observed. Crude death rate has persistently been decreasing in both the areas. Infant mortality rate and under 5 mortality rate have been decreasing in both the areas from the year 1989 to 1990. In 1989, in and out-migration rates both were higher in Manikganj than in Joypurhat, but in 1990 the rates were almost similar.

15. Impact of BRAC Intervention on Mortality. (pp.68)

The mortality pattern of a community is as an important indicator of its health status. To explore the pattern in its real perspective Research and Evaluation Division (RED) of BRAC has adopted a Verbal Autopsy (VA) technique since 1987. It is an epidemiological tool to determine the causes of death by interviewing the relatives of the deceases. The study aims at determining the impact of BRAC intervention on mortality, using three years' data (1988 to 1990) from a longitudinal database. The study area covers 11,943 households, 87 villages, 3 unions and a population of 57,489 in Manikganj; and 9,201 households, 63 villages, 3 unions and a population of 38,259 in Joypurhat (per midyear population, 1990). The study finds that the crude death

rate has decreased more or less equally in both the males and females in Manikganj, but in Joypurhat, the decrease is mostly in males. In Manikganj, in all three years mortality was lower in the month of February and June, and higher in April and July. In Joypurhat, it was lowest in February in all three years, but in other months it didn't follow a definite pattern. The infant mortality rate was always lower in Manikganj than that in Joypurhat; in 1990 it was 80 and 104.9 in Manikganj and Joypurhat respectively. The under 7 days old infants are exposed to more deaths in Joypurhat (45.7 per 1000 live births in 1990) than in Manikganj (30 per 1000 live births). The mortality in under 7 days infants, in fact, didn't show any decline in either area, but the post-neonatal death decreased in both the areas. In 1990, in Manikganj, about 71% infant deaths were due to causes like birth related diseases, diarrhoea, tetanus, pneumonia and malnutrition, and in Joypurhat these diseases were responsible for 72% of infant deaths. Birth associated causes are the major infant killer in both the areas, 28% in Joypurhat and 38% in Manikganj. The number of dying infants receiving treatment, whatsoever be it, increased in both the areas. In Manikganj in 1988, 48.5% of dying infants received treatment, and in 1990 their number increased to 63.3%. In Joypurhat it increased from 59.6% in 1988 to 65.5% in 1990. The decrease in child mortality (1-4 years) is greater in Joypurhat than in Manikganj. In Joypurhat in 1989 it was 8.6, and in 1990 it came down to 4.2. In Manikganj, it was 8.2 in 1989, and in 1990 came down to 5.0. The decrease in child mortality is more marked in males in Manikganj; and in Joypurhat it is in females. Diarrhoeal death has decreased persistently in both the areas, but more in Manikganj. Diarrhoeal deaths occur more in April and less in February in both the areas. For treating diarrhoeal deaths, exclusive use of ORS is found more in Manikganj than Joypurhat. Deaths due to tetanus, after a marked fall in 1989, have increased in 1990 in both the intervention and the comparison areas. However, such deaths were always low in Manikganj. In both the areas, infants (<1 year) are the most victims of tetanus, and in Manikganj in 1990, there was no such death in above 1 year population. The decrease in deaths due to pneumonia is higher in Manikganj than Joypurhat. In 1989, in both the areas an increase in pneumonic death was noticed and it showed a marked preponderance in females. In both the areas, deaths due to pneumonia mostly occurred in under 1 year infants. In Manikganj, pneumonic death in above 1 year population has decreased more markedly; in 1990 it was reduced to none. In both Joypurhat and Manikganj, allopathic system of medicine is found to be the most accepted way of treatment for dying people. In Joypurhat, homeopathy and kabiraji systems are on a clear decline, but in Manikganj no definite trend is noticed. In both the areas, people's faith on more than one system of treatment for same illness has increased over years.

16. Does Health Education Change Knowledge and Practice? (pp.22)

BRAC has taken an innovative approach to implement its PHC programme in rural Bangladesh. This approach aimed to spread PHC on a community based self help basis at the grass roots level without providing any material support. By initiating PHC according to this approaches, BRAC attempted to empower people through health education. This would enable people to take preventive and promotive health measures. In turn, people who have been educated on health measures would use the government's health facilities more and more and create a greater demand for health facilities. This study was undertaken to measure the mid course effects of this health education strategy on awareness and practice. The overall results unveiled significantly higher improvements in most of the indicators covered by the study, among the programme population compared to the non-programme population.

17. Effects of Mother's Club in improving health practice behaviour and child health care services utilization (PP. 25)

In BRAC's community-based PHC, mother's clubs were formed involving the reproductive age groups of rural women in the villages. They were empowered through monthly routine health education about better health practices and existing services available around them. It was hypothesised that more positive health knowledge and change in health practice behaviour and higher utilization of child health care services could be marked among the mothers associated with MCS than those of the non-associated. RED conducted a study in 1989 to check this hypothesis. Data were collected from 3048 households of 5 programme upazilas through household survey.

The results depicted that 67% of the mothers know about the existence of MCS in their villages but less than 50% of them actually participated in MCS. About 71% of the involved mothers attended the last MC meetings held within one month of interview. Significantly higher results were found in many indicators such as safe place for children's stool disposal, correct knowledge on the age of pregnancy for TT vaccine, annual and annual vitamin A capsule (VAC) distribution cycles as well as VAC coverage.

On the contrary, the proportion of households using tubewell water for drinking purpose was observed to be significantly higher among the non-associated households than those of the associated. No significant difference was found between the two groups with respect to safe place for defecation, solid waste disposal, child immunization, use of lobaon-gur saline in diarrhoeal episodes and contraceptive practice. The overall results gave a mixed feeling about the effectiveness of Mcs meeting further improvement of the strategy.

18. High awareness versus low usage of Oral Rehydration Solution/oral rehydration therapy. (PP.27)

Until 1980, interventions on the home management of diarrhoeal diseases in Bangladesh heavily relied on the promotion, production and distribution of ORS packets. In fact, these interventions faced at least two major problems. These included : inadequate production and supply of ORS packets; and a lack of attention to the information, education, communication and motivation (IECM) on diarrhoeal hazards. However, BRAC's nationwide house to house teaching programme on a simple, cheap and effective indigenous method of ORT known as lobon (common table salt), gur (unrefined sugar) saline or LGS for home level management of diarrhoea circumvents all of those problems. But in spite of a high awareness (>90%) retained by the rural mothers on the correct preparation and administration of ORS, it was found to be infrequently used in diarrhoeal episodes. But why? This paper was aimed at to analyse the causation of low usage of ORS by using information mainly from the secondary sources.

The analysis revealed several tangible factors responsible for low usage of BRAC ORS. Among them, the major factors were : a substantial gap between the people's perceptions and folk beliefs on diarrhoea and the contents of education, misperception on the function of ORS, inherent socio-cultural barriers, in availability of needed ingredients, negative attitudes of the health professionals, illness behaviour, pervasive poverty, etc. Programmatic implications of these factors were discussed and possible ways for accelerating the usage of ORT by overcoming those problems were recommended.

19. Maternal Morbidity Related to Delivery. (pp.15)

Maternal mortality is an important problem in Bangladesh. Maternal morbidity is certainly a much larger problem. Most maternal deaths occur after delivery, and probably most morbidities also occur at this time. During the initial phase of a prospective study of post-partum morbidity, a number of focus group discussions were held with TBAs, mothers and health workers. The findings from these discussions show that although TBAs report performing safe motherhood practices such as antenatal care and hygienic delivery, the mothers report that they rarely do these things. Many deliveries are conducted by relatives, not by TBAs. Harmful delivery practices, such as pulling on the placenta are reported but beneficial ones such as squatting were also reported. The main post-partum morbidities reported are bleeding, perineal tears, prolapse, breast problems, and shutika (diarrhoea). Serious problems such as tetanus, eclampsia and fistula are also recognized. The most common treatments for post-partum problems are traditional remedies, some beneficial, others potentially harmful. Food avoidance is commonly reported but it is not clear whether it has significance for nutrition in the puerperium. Seclusion of

newly delivered mothers has significance for nutrition in the puerperium. Seclusion of newly delivered mothers is widely practised but varies according to religion and socio-economic status. The significance of delivery practices in the development of post-partum morbidity and the relevance of TBA training to prevention is discussed as the importance of common post-partum problems and their treatment, and the possible implications of the LSHTM/BRAC studies for programs of post-partum care.

20. Violence Against Women in Marriage. (pp.24)

The study aims to explore the violence experienced by the women in marriage from their husband and husband's family. Out of 200 households of Purba Sonakata village of Jamalpur, women from 50 households were selected on the basis of landownership through stratified random sampling. Focus group discussions were arranged to know husband's attitudes on violence. Age of the respondent women ranges from 15 to 65 years. Mean age at first marriage is 12.5 years. About half of the women were married before menstruation. Of the respondents, 72 percent have no formal education, 26 percent are BRAC group members. Most of the women (92%) are housewives. Inequality was observed in respect of food distribution and also in participation in major decision making. Only 22 percent women said they had never experienced physical violence from their husbands but most of them were subject to various forms of mental torture. The main reason cited for being beaten are : a) late to serving food to husband, b) slight mistakes in work, c) bad mood of the husband. The most common forms of mental torture are : a) threatening divorce, b) not allowing her to talk to other men, c) demanding explanation for every work, d) taunting about her father's house. Men felt that it is necessary to beat their wives a little to keep them in order. The study also shows that proportion of torture is higher to those women who have less education, whose husband is less educated and who were married at an early age.

21. Landownership Pattern and Farming Practice : Case of a Village in Bangladesh. (pp.40)

This study was conducted to investigate into the pattern of land distribution and farming practice of a village in Bangladesh with a view to see whether this village is a typical one in Bangladeshi in terms of landownership pattern and farming practice or not. The major results from the study are as follows :

A skewed pattern of land distribution is observed in the village. It is evident from the data that 26.65% of total land in the villages is owned by 16.81% of the total households in the village showing a noticeable inequality in land distribution. The comparable national figures available from land occupancy survey of 1977 are respectively 58.0% and 10.0% of total land and households in Bangladesh. The worth noting aspect of the study is that 16.38%

of the households in the village are landless, A significant number of households in the village don't have any homestead land while 10.8% of total homestead land in the village is owned by 1.29% of the households, 46% of the total arable land is owned by 16.38% of households. Number of households without arable land is 79 or 34.0% of total households in the village.

The incidence of sharing out practice is observed to be higher among the higher land owning households while the practice of sharing in practice is higher among the households without land. the tendency of mortgaging out land is higher among the households in land ownership category between 215-500 decimals while the practice of land mortgaging in is found to be higher among the households having no cultivable land of their own.

22. Coping with Everyday Life : A Study on Household Problems and Option in Two Villages of Bangladesh. (pp.30)

This study seeks answer how the people of different strata in a poverty ridden society cope with problems in their daily life and what options they have. Researchers of the BRAC initiated village study who project lived in the study area collected data in 1992 with structured questionnaires. Two villages were selected for this study which are located in Jessore and Jamalpur district. The village Taherpur in Jessore is close to a marketplace whereas Jaliarpar is a typical remote village, about 25 km. from Jamalpur town.

People in both areas face problems that range from indebtedness, dowry, familial, illness to starvation / destitution, unemployment, litigation and law and order situation. Most of the villagers are poor and powerless which have resulted in limited options, even some have no option in coping with problems. The better-off people however manage resources all the time including in crisis period. The problems are more or less similar in both villages but there are differences in degree. Most people choose labour sale and crop sale for subsistence. Further sale of labour is chosen by most of the respondents but it is not be affordable by them due to their low. The study found dowry and borrowing from money-lender with exorbitant rate of interest is still working as an important institution in the villages. None of the respondents mentioned about the social movement of family planning in order to check the population boom. Even nobody perceived natural calamities as barriers. Two big countrywide problems, viz., illiteracy and unemployment were also not perceived as major problems. Most of the households were concerned with their present circumstances.

23. Institution Building and Development in Three Women's Village Organization Participation, Ownership and Autonomy. (pp.45)

This study was undertaken to examine the participation and empowerment of members of three women's village organizations (VO),

in the development process organized by BRAC in Jamalpur area. The process of institutionalization is taking place in all the three Vos studied. In the area of critical thinking, it was found that the members of the youngest VO were uncritically supportive of BRAC, whereas members of older Vos could articulate expectations and criticism, and demand accountability from BRAC. Women in all three Vos were aware of their legal and social rights. However, it remains unclear to what extent the women have accepted the new social norms promoted by BRAC. The establishment of formal systems, including knowledge of meeting procedures, election of leadership, and credit management, show clear progress over time, yet all three Vos lacked a sense of BRAC's vision/direction for the future.

The women do have their own plans for the future, indicating a sense of ownership over the VO. Women in the oldest VO made collective plans, whereas women in the newer Vos viewed their futures separately, along lines of security and insurance for their children. The development of local leadership, an element of autonomy, did not show positive progression over time in the sample. In the oldest VO, leadership was monopolized by a small group, leaving the other women little room to think or act for themselves. In this respect, the leader of a younger VO was more open to criticism. The main finding was that spontaneous participation, necessary for full institutionalization of the VO, is not the predominant form, even in older village organizations. This leads us to emphasise the process nature of institutionalization. A second conclusion identifies the importance of dialogue in development. Information should be shared with participants, and should move in both directions. These are critical issues for BRAC during its present phase of rapid expansion.

24. Food aid : An entry point to development? The case of the Income Generation for Vulnerable Group Development Programme (IGVGDP) of BRAC. (pp.24)

This paper is based on readings of relevant documents, field observation, and discussion with different groups related to BRAC's IGVGD programme. Food aid is generally viewed as a humanitarian response to natural calamities and civil strife. This concept of food aid has been changed both to the donors and policy planners of the recipient countries. Development specialists have recognized food aid as resource transfer to promote economic growth and enhance food security of the recipients. Income Generation for Vulnerable Group Development Programme (IGVGDP) of BRAC is one of the most unique examples of how a simple dole-out programme can be transformed into a long term development programme. This report provides a background to the programme, and the agencies involved in this collaborative effort, namely government agencies, UN body and non-governmental organisation. In the report, the authors have tried to set out some concepts and opportunities for the programme which can be explored and re-examined in a greater depth in the

future. It provides certain recommendations that might be useful to the policy planners and implementers of the programme.

25. Nutritional Impact Study of VGD and IGVD project Beneficiaries. (pp. 30)

This report is based on a pilot study which was designed to see the possibilities of assessing the impact of the VGD and IGVD programme on nutritional status of the VGD card holders and their children aged 0-10 years. A total of 150 households (50 from each group : i.e. VGD, IGVD, control) from Faridpur and Charvadrasan thana were included in the study sample. Sampling was based on multistage random sampling technique. Anthropometric measurements were analyzed for five indices, i.e. weight for age, weight for height, height for age, MUAC, and BMI. It seems from the pilot study that nutritional status of the VGD card holders and their children aged 0-10 years within the VGD, IGVD, and control sample were not significantly different ($p > .05$) from each other. However, the study shows better situation of the IGVD sample households over both the VGD and control households with respect to some socio-economic indices. It was recommended to undertake such an impact study with a statistically significant larger sample size where data on household calorie intake would be included.

26. Self monitoring of Growth and Health Status by Adolescent Girls. (pp.21)

Adolescence is the period of highest growth and development of the secondary sexual characters of an individual. It is very much important to have adequate information about the growth pattern and health status of both the adolescent girls and boys from the public health point of view. Unfortunately a little information is available on growth pattern and health status of the adolescents in Bangladesh. In most of the countries, it is gathered through regular weighing in their schools. This paper is based on a pilot study that was performed with 458 girls in twenty NFPE schools of BRAC in Manikganj district. The goal was to explore the possibility of the school students whether and how far they are able to record information on their own growth and health status. All of the study girls were given health cards where they recorded their each bout of perceived illness and treatment sought for that. In addition, once a month, girls worked in pairs to measure their own weight and height and recorded on the health card. The anthropometric measurements suggest that the girls are capable of recording their own height and weight without creating any hazards to their regular academic activities. Furthermore, this type of self monitoring of growth and health status created additional awareness to their health problems. It was suggested that this self-monitoring of growth and health status should be included as a regular feature for BRAC's schools for the adolescents.

27. Breastfeeding in Bangladesh. (pp. 22)

This report contains literature review on the practice of breastfeeding in Bangladesh. Practice of breastfeeding is widespread. However, initiation of breastfeeding is delayed (1-3 days after birth). The data on exclusive breastfeeding is scant.

In recent years there has been a trend towards bottle feeding, particularly by the urban, educated middle class families. With increasing numbers of women working outside the home, this has become an issue for working class women as well. The government policies favouring import of powder milk add to the problem. Under these circumstance a role can be envisaged for the campaign for protection and promotion of breastfeeding (CPPBF). However, the campaign is criticised for its teleological focus on breastfeeding as cure-all, the media campaign in Bangla which focuses on mother's milk rather than breast milk, and the use of religion.

28. Growth Monitoring at BRAC : A closer look at the programme data. (pp.25)

From 1987-1991, BRAC carried out a large growth monitoring programme on approximately 20,000 children under 2 years of age. This programme has provided a massive data set on the growth of young children in rural Bangladesh. A data analysis was underfed on a sainthica sample from upazilas -- char, Rangpur District sea- and regional variations were observed. In addition it was found that growth faltering begins around the third month. The proportion of severely ma-- remain fairly constant through out the year. Most of the children suffer from mild to moderate malnutrition.

29. Rural credit Project of BRAC : A Review of the Performance of Nabagram Union. (pp.45)

This exploratory study makes an attempt to review the performance of Rural Credit Project of BRAC with special reference to Nabagram Union under Manikganj district. Although it is a micro study yet focus of attention has been made on almost all the aspects of BRAC's rural credit project. Based on a survey on 100 randomly selected loanees, the study finds BRAC as a successful institutional venture to redress rural poverty. Chapter II deals with the results of the study based on secondary data and information like a critical review of credit policy, analysis of sectoral distribution of BRAC's overall credit operation form granting and disbursement to recovery.

Chapter III is an evaluation of the borrowers' perception and survey findings covering issues like reaching the target group, coverage of different occupational groups among the poor, size, and adequacy of loan, pattern of loan utilisation and the repayment performance of loanees. This chapter also deals with the socio-

economic impact of credit delivery of BRAC. The study, however, emphasizes direct contribution of BRAC to the socio-economic welfare to the target group.

30. Benchmark Household Registration. (pp. 25)

Prior to launching the BRAC's current health interventions, the Women's Health and Development Programme (WHDP) itself carried out a survey to enumerate the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of each household in 10 programme thanas. A monitoring of the benchmark was conducted by the WHDP monitoring cell to verify the quality of household registration tracking certain vital indicators. A total of 1,883 or roughly 0.56% of the total WHDP households were randomly selected for monitoring. The data were collected during September - November, 1991.

The findings depicted that the number of household members was accurately enumerated in 93.3% households with a minor regional variation. The change that happened to individual levels due to birth, death, migration, etc., in roughly 4 months' gap between the program registration & monitoring was found to be very high (5.9%) in WHDP. It was highest (6.3%) in Mymensingh region. The landholding size was accurately enumerated in only 52% of the households. Even when a variation of +10 decimals from the actual size was accepted, the performance improved to only 62.4% (lowest in Mymensingh : 61.5%). Manual labour sale status was accurately recorded for 91.6% of the households (lowest in Dinajpur region : 89%). Marital status was recorded by 98.8%. Target / non-target status was found to be accurate in 91.5% of the cases (lowest in Bogra region : 90%). The enumeration of age was found to be accurate for less than a quarter of the children < 6 year - old. It jumped to 82.7% when +4 months' deviation from the actual age was considered (lowest in Dinajpur region : 76%). The quality of age data of other members of the households was even poor than those of the children.

31. An Assessment of Selection Criteria for Enrolment of Adolescent Girls in Non-formal Primary Schools. (pp. 22)

BRAC's Women's Health and Development Programme (WHDP) has prescribe a set of precise criteria to be used in selecting the adolescent girls for enrolment in the NFPE. A total of 1195 students from 240 randomly selected schools were interviewed during December 1992 to assess the extent of fulfilment of selection criteria for enrolment. This report presents the findings of the survey.

The results revealed that six percent of the enroled girls was found to be less than 10 years of age. Only 23.6% of the enroled girls were in the preferential age groups (14-18 years). Thirty one percent of the girls was enroled from non-TG population. One fifth of the enroled girls were found to be studying in the formal

schools at different classes. The overall results unfolded a modest picture with respect to the fulfilment of the specific selection criteria for enrolment of the adolescent girls entailing a need of further attention in the future course of action.

32. Assessment of Baseline Survey on Different Health Services Coverage. (pp. 25)

The Women's Health and Development Programme (WHDP) conducted a household survey to assess the benchmark status of different health services coverage based on which programme targets were expected to be determined precisely. The WHDP monitoring cell conducted a monitoring on 1594 randomly selected households in December, 1991 to look at the quality of the baseline.

It was found that DPT was under recorded by 19%, 17% and 14% for the first, second and third doses respectively. The variation of the under recording of the 3rd dose of DPT ranged from 7 to 28% among the three regions. Measles coverage was under recorded by 14% which ranged from 11 to 21% among the regions, (highest in Bogra). TT coverage was under recorded by 6% for both the first and second doses. The variation in under recording of the TT second dose ranged from 5 to 7% among the regions, (highest in Mymensingh). VAC coverage was under recorded by 12%. The highest (22%) under recording was found in Dinajpur region. FP acceptors were under recorded by 5%. It was highest (6%) in Mymensingh region. The report concludes that the baseline survey on different health services coverage was reasonably good except EPI and VAC coverage data.

33. Performance Assessment of the Trained Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) (pp. 45)

BRAC trained a total of 2308 TBAs in 1500 villages under the Women's Health and Development Programme to ensure safe delivery services as well as pre-and post natal care. Nine percent of the trained TBAs were randomly selected from WHDP areas to assess the extent of their performance and interviewed during March-April 1992.

The results showed that only 60 (5.7%) out of 1058 deliveries attended by the TBAs resulted in still births. The proportion of still birth was found to be highest (6.2%) in Mymensingh region. The TBAs (210) stated that 96% of the reported deliveries was attended by them whilst the rest was referred to. Ninety nine percent of the umbilical cords of the new born were cut by blade with no substantial variation between the regions.

Only 75% of the pregnant women received the required doses of TT during their pregnancies. It was highest (82%) in Dinajpur and lowest (70%) in Mymensingh region. The analysis revealed an encouraging results in most aspects of trained TBAs performance. BRAC has ample scope to improve the quality of the TBA activities

and institutionalise TBAs in order to reduce maternal and child health hazards. Possible recommendations in this regard were also discussed.

34. Assessment of Gram (village) Committee meetings. (pp. 30)

Gram committees (GCs) have been established in each village of WHDP to institutionalise the programme activities. Monthly routine meeting has been one of the multifarious techniques and approaches to develop Gcs as an institution. Through monthly meetings GC's consciousness is expected to be raised on health issues and need for hygiene. Further, these meetings lead to decisions which are expected to be implemented to combat poor health and hygienic conditions. Since these meetings compose the main constituent of health education and implementation, WHDP monitoring cell monitored them to ascertain if they were being organised regularly and effectively.

The results showed that on an average 3.3 monthly meetings were held in the observed Gcs instead of 5.2 expected between the time span of formation and monitoring. The average attendance of the GC members in meetings was found to be encouraging (9 members). The lowest (7) was in Trishal. Only 86% of the meetings were attended by the presidents or secretaries of the Gcs with a wide variation between the thanas which ranged from 60-100% (lowest in Bogra sadar).

Rare agenda on organizational and capacity development were discussed in the meetings observed. GC meetings conclude with some decisions on certain issues to implement. Construction of pit latrine was one of the common decisions taken by the Gcs. But verified achievement on pit latrine construction revealed a wide variation between the thanas (0-100%) (none in Parbatipur).

The overall results revealed that the process of GC's capacity development through monthly routine meetings remains to be crystallised. The issues of discussion rather should be institution oriented to make headway towards institutionalisation. Issues for further improvement were discussed in the report.

35. Ante-natal Care and Family Planning Service Delivery Through Satellite Clinics. (pp. 25)

The primary task of satellite clinics (SC) run by the government is to provide maternal and child health care and family planning service with a special focus on ante-natal care. BRAC has been assisting concerned workers of the government in organising and conducting SCs in its WHDP areas by social mobilisation. This monitoring was attempted to assess the performance of SCs with particular emphasis on ante-natal care and FP services. A total of 98 SCs were monitored.

It was found that the FWVs were observed to be unaware of the actual target women to be serviced in the Scs. For this, the actual attendance exceeded the reported target (100%) to 142-148% both in Mymensingh and Dinajpur regions. Urine of the pregnant women was not examined anywhere except in Mymensingh region. But coverage was found to be very low (7% only). Injectable were found to be popularly used (63%) by the family planning users mainly in Mymensingh and Bogra regions. The scenario of the performance of Scs, especially regarding ante-natal care, did not appear to be much effective towards reduction of maternal and infant mortality.

36. Monitoring on EPI Centre in Regions of WHDP. (pp. 25)

The target of EPI is to immunise upto 85% of the children under one year of age and women (15-49 years) through outreach centres. BRAC has been assisting the government's EPI through social mobilisation. To evaluate the effectiveness of EPI in different regions of WHDP, a survey was carried out in six purposively selected EPI centres.

The results depicted that in Balia area of Fulpur thana, according to one Health Assistant, EPI target children was 23 but the actual attendance was 63 (273.9%), and 57 (90.5%) of them received vaccines. Similarly, in Bogra region, target women for TT was reported to be 229, but actual attendance was 289 (126.2%), and 288 (99.7%) of them received TT. Most of the Health Assistants did not sterilise EPI equipments in Field Centres although they are supposed to do so. Only in 30.6 and 14.8% of the cases Dinajpur and Bogra regions respectively, the equipments were sterilised in Field Centres. The pictures in different regions revealed that since the target assessment was not accurate, several children and women did not receive immunization even though they attended the centres. Moreover, the equipments of immunization were not sterilised in the centres. This indicates that the centres were not properly managed.

37. Early Assessment of Growth Monitoring. (pp. 40)

Growth monitoring (GM) has been a tool in WHDP of BRAC to examine the growth status of the target children (0-23 months). Attending mothers are given health and nutrition education during GM sessions to ensure proper care to their children. To examine the quality of GM session conduct, a monitoring was carried out during January - February 1992. Data were collected from 64 purposively selected GM centres through observation, interview of the mothers and programme records.

The findings revealed that average target children (0-23 months) per GM centre was found to be 18.5 which ranged from 13.2 to 23.5 between the regions (highest in Mymensingh and lowest in Bogra). The range of average attendance varied from 11.5 to 17.6 between the regions. Wide variation was found between the average target and actual attendance (23.5 vs. 17.6). The child was out of home,

GM centre was far away, parents were not interested, child was sick, fear and unawareness of the mothers about GM etc. were the commonly stated reasons of non-participation in GM. Only 27% of the mothers interviewed had ability to correctly interpret the meaning of growth charts (they knew the implications of growth curve's movement towards upward or downward direction or static). The result was very poor (12%) in Bogra region. A large number of weighing machines were found to be faulty and difficult to operationalize. This monitoring, conducted at the very primary stage of GM implementation, was aimed to look at the simple issues of operations. Although the attendance of the target children seemed to be encouraging, ability of the mothers to understand the meaning of growth chart appeared to be poor, needing appropriate input to improve the situation.

38. A close look at the extent of Ante-natal care service coverage through Village Based Centre. (pp. 30)

To reduce maternal mortality to a significant level, BRAC has been providing basic ante-natal care services to the rural pregnant women through village-based ante-natal care centres (ANC's) in the WHDP villages where government has no provision of holding satellite clinics. A monitoring was conducted during April-June 1992 to assess certain salient process variables. 125 ANCCs were covered from 10 thanas of WHDP operation.

The findings showed that only 76% of the pregnant women from the target population attended these centres. The attendance was lowest (72%) in Dinajpur region and highest (80%) in Mymensingh. TBAs participated in only 75% of the ANCCs with a wide regional variation (52-90%) (lowest in Dinajpur region). Only 68% of the pregnant women was brought by TBAs to ANCCs. The proportion varied from 44-86% between the regions (lowest in Dinajpur). Only 26% of the high-risk women was referred for appropriate care (lowest in Dinajpur by 20%). Most of the TG pregnant women (71%) tended to attend ANCCs during their 3rd trimester of the pregnancies needing special drive to ensure their higher attendance during the first and the second trimesters. Ninety nine percent of the pregnant women who were at the 3rd trimester of pregnancies was given folic tablets. On an average, 52 tablets were given per head. All the attending women were weighed. Only 55% of the pregnant women was given second or booster dose of TT with a minor variation between the regions. Education on diet of pregnant women was imparted to 97% of the attended women.

Urine was tested for only 58% of the target mothers (lowest in Bogra regions by 52%). The report concludes that to reduce maternal mortality accelerated coverage of the pregnant women by ANCCs and proper management of the risk factors need to be ensured.

39. Assessment of Mohila Sabha Meetings. (pp. 25)

The Mohila Sabha (MS) or Women's Forum (WF) serves as an education forum through which knowledge is being imparted on health, nutrition and family planning routines once in every two-month. To evaluate the process and performance of MSS in different regions of WHDP, a survey was carried out during December 1991 to February 1992. One area from each thana was purposively selected.

The results revealed that during the time span between formation of Mohila Sabha (MSS) and monitoring, on an average 2.9 monthly meetings were held instead of 5.1 expected. It was lowest (1.8) in Ranirhat area on an average 18 women attended a meeting which appeared to be reasonably encouraging. GC members participated in 92% of the meetings was lowest (62.5%) in Ranirhat area. Two-way discussion was not followed in 19% of the meetings and it was highest (40%) in Kashiganj area. On an average, 49 minutes were needed to conduct a meeting. The highest (72.5 minutes) was in Mohimaganj and the lowest (35.9 minutes) in Kashiganj area. Common agenda of the meetings included : EPI, common diseases, child and maternal care, FP, personal hygiene, safe water and sanitation, GM, TB, VAC, nutrition etc. As the concept of MS is new among the poor women, it will take time to have positive impact on their health behaviour.

40. Health Impact of a Non-health Intervention. (pp. 45)

It is argued that development interventions encompassing credit and education have a direct impact on improved health status. A three cell comparative study was conducted to examine the changes that might have occurred in the health and nutrition status of the BRAC group members and their children due to interventions of Rural Development Programmes (RDP) (credit, FE and NFPE). The types of study areas included : a) RDP intervention without health since 1986 or before; b) RDP intervention with PHC; and c) new RDP areas where no credit was yet disbursed.

The findings showed that cell 'a' (RDP without health intervention) achieved improved changes with respect to LGS use in diarrhoeal episodes, safe water use for washing clothes and taking bath, installation of slab latrine, handwashing with ash/soap after defecation, solid waste disposal in a trench, VAC intake, correct knowledge on the annual VAC distribution cycles, nightblindness preventable foods (such as green vegetable), immunization card-holding, present status of family planning contraceptive practices, schooling of children (6-16 years), nutritional status by MUAC. But the differences were insignificant. Negative change or no difference was observed in the intervention area in some indicator values such as use of safe water for drinking purpose, installation of pit latrine, child and mother's immunization and nutritional status by wt/age. From this study it is difficult to conclude whether only RDP intervention is enough for considerable