ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION
CHAPTER IV
ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION.

It is evident from the reports of the Government and Voluntary organisations that the micro level planning models, that have been evolved for rural development have been experimented in selected areas to alleviate rural poverty. The results of the experiments showed positive nature of the models. Against this background the model evolved by Gandhigram Rural Institute has been put into practice for observation. The results of the experiments are explained in detail below.

Progress made in the areas of education, employment generation, agriculture, economic upliftment of the weaker sections, housing, health and sanitation, implementation of social welfare programmes and transport and communication have been analysed with the baseline data. Comparisons have also been made between groups and villages. Data collected in the year 1985 has been utilised as baseline data for meaningful comparisons. Data collected in the year 1988 serve as the terminal data. Comparisons between the Experimental group and the Controlled group helped to trace the impact of the micro level planning model.
Primary Education

Even after more than four decades of independence, our primary education in the villages has not been improved to the expectations of the planners of the country and the people. There are very many reasons attributed for the slow speed of educational development. Lack of constructive action and community support are said to be mainly responsible for this. In Tamilnadu, almost all the villages except a few hamlets have primary schools. In 1986 there were 27,109 primary schools (including pre-primary) in Tamilnadu. However, the physical condition, enrolment of the school age children, their retention and the standard of education in the schools are yet to be improved to a greater extent.

There are four primary schools in four of the study villages. There are two middle schools in the rest of the two study villages. Enrolment of the school age children in the schools of the study villages, physical condition of the schools and the efforts to improve the standard of


education in the village schools are discussed here.

In the Experimental Group of villages, the members of the planning committees were enlightened about the importance of primary education by the faculty members of the Gandhigram Rural Institute. In the Quadrangular meetings (Joint meetings of the members of the planning committees, staff of the Government's development departments, nationalised banks and the members of the faculties of the Rural Institute) the strategy for increasing the enrolment of the school age children and improving the standard of education has been discussed and action plans were drawn. The teachers concerned made door to door visits in the villages along with the members of the planning committees, youth clubs and women's clubs to ensure the cooperation of the parents to increase the enrolment of students and reduce the drop outs in the Experimental group of villages. The position of the enrolment of the school age children in the primary schools of the study villages during the period between 1985 and 1988 is given in Table No. 4.1.
## PRIMARY EDUCATION - SCHOOL ENROLMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>School age children</th>
<th>Enrolment</th>
<th>1985</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>% P1</th>
<th>% P2</th>
<th>P1-P2</th>
<th>Z</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N1</td>
<td>N2</td>
<td>X1</td>
<td>X2</td>
<td>P1</td>
<td>P2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Anumantharayankottai (E)</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>82.67</td>
<td>87.57</td>
<td>6.90</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>64.91</td>
<td>91.14</td>
<td>26.23</td>
<td>3.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Puliyarajakapatti</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>53.67</td>
<td>60.56</td>
<td>6.89</td>
<td>1.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>71.16</td>
<td>80.06</td>
<td>8.90</td>
<td>3.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Palakanuthu</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>87.18</td>
<td>87.38</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>0.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Palaniyur</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>51.86</td>
<td>72.31</td>
<td>20.45</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>37.25</td>
<td>2.25</td>
<td>0.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>64.24</td>
<td>71.23</td>
<td>6.99</td>
<td>1.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E - Experimental Group  
C - Controlled Group

Note: The value 1.96 at 5% level (Normal Distribution Table)  
Test of significance for difference of proportions.  
X = significant difference

Source: Computed from the family survey data.
Among the experimental group villages, Kondamanaickenpatti and Anumantharayankottai have recorded significant differences. Between the experimental and controlled groups, the difference of the experimental group is more significant. The initiative and efforts of the village planning committees must be attributed to the steady increase in the enrolment of school age children in the schools, located in the experimental group of villages.

The controlled group village, Palaniyur of Dharmathupatti panchayat has also recorded a significant improvement in enrolling more number of children in the primary schools as in the experimental group, because of an enlightened and traditional leadership. The leaders helped the teachers in their efforts to persuade the parents to send their wards to the school. In other two controlled group of villages, Palakanuthu and Ramagoundanpatti, enrolment of children in the school was very poor. There were several reasons attributed for this. The teachers of the schools stated that the parents were not cooperating with the leaders to increase the enrolment of children in the school and there was no popular organisation or committee to make a concerted effort to improve the village schools as it was achieved in the case of the experimental group of village.
Another important aspect of primary education is the standard of education. To improve the standard of education, steps have to be taken at a higher level. Periodically expert committees have been constituted by the government at the state level and conferences have been convened to discuss the related matters. Even in the villages, steps have been taken to improve the same. Respondents' reactions towards the steps taken by the villagers to improve the standard are discussed below. Villagers are not explicit in explaining the detailed steps to improve the standard of education. However, they were able to spell out the role of the teachers, parents, village organisations and voluntary agencies in improving the standard of education. Table No. 4.2 gives the breakup of the respondents' reactions.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>No. of Respondents</th>
<th>Efforts at the parents level</th>
<th>Efforts at the teachers level</th>
<th>Efforts at the V.P.C. and Panchayat level</th>
<th>Efforts at the voluntary agency level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>15 (14.6)</td>
<td>85.3 (95.1)</td>
<td>15 (85.3)</td>
<td>40 (97.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>10 (17.2)</td>
<td>86.2 (93.1)</td>
<td>25 (86.2)</td>
<td>25 (93.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliyarajakapatti</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>10 (27.0)</td>
<td>67.5 (94.5)</td>
<td>25 (67.5)</td>
<td>35 (94.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>8 (34.2)</td>
<td>85.7 (81.0)</td>
<td>30 (85.7)</td>
<td>30 (81.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>25 (93.5)</td>
<td>80.6 (80.6)</td>
<td>25 (80.6)</td>
<td>25 (80.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramaagoundanpatti</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>13.7 (10.3)</td>
<td>6.8 (10.3)</td>
<td>25 (13.7)</td>
<td>17.2 (6.8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Figures in the parenthesis indicates the row percentage)

Source: Computed from the interview schedule data.
V.P.C.: Village Planning Committee
The efforts of the parents to improve the standard of education in the primary schools of the two villages of the experimental group during the year 1988 were better, compared to the initial period of the study. 35.60 per cent of the respondents of Anumantharayandkottai stated that the parents were interested in improving the standard of education in 1988. In Kondamanaickenpatti, another experimental group village 34.40 percent of the respondents stated that the parents of that village were interested and taking efforts to improve the standard of education in the school during the same period. 97.10 percent of the respondents of Anumantharayankottai said that the teachers had taken efforts to improve the standard of education in 1988. All the respondents of the village stated that the voluntary agency the church had taken efforts to improve the standard of education. In another experimental group village, Kondamanaickenpatti also all the respondents stated that the voluntary agency, the Gandhigram Rural Institute had made efforts to improve the standard of education in the school during the period under study. In both the villages Anumantharayankottai and Kondamanaickenpatti, more than 93 percent of the respondents stated that the village planning committees had made efforts to improve the standard of education in the
village schools. In the experimental group village Puliara-jakapatti the village planning committee and the Gandhigram Rural Institute had taken keen interest and taken steps to improve the standard of education. This was stated by more than 94.50 percent of the respondents.

Among the villages of the Controlled group, only in the case of Palaniyur, the parents, the teachers and the panchayat members had taken efforts to improve the standard of education of the primary school. This was stated by 30.60 percent of the respondents. On the whole, compared to the controlled group villages, the experimental group villages were better in taking efforts to improve the standard of education in their primary schools.

In the experimental group village, Anumantharayankottai, it is reported that the school teachers, the church and the village planning committee had taken interest in improving the standard of education. Among the respondents 35.30 percent of them had endorsed this view. In the case of another experimental group of village Kondamanaickenpatti responses were the same about the efforts to improve the standard of primary education during the period under study. The members of the village planning committee, teachers of
the village school and the Gandhigram Rural Institute jointly arranged programmes such as conducting general knowledge classes and science experiments to the primary school students. The school arranged for cultural programmes and study tours to the students. In the case of the third experimental group village Puliyarajakapatti considerable progress has been recorded towards this effort. According to more than 25 of the respondents, the teachers, the planning committee and the Gandhigram Rural Institute had taken efforts in improving the standard of education in the village school.

Compared to the experimental group of villages, the controlled group of villages were far behind in their efforts to improve the standard of education in the village schools. Parental interest and efforts were very negligible to improve the standard of education in the village schools, of two of the study villages of the Gandhigram Rural Institute.

Here is a striking difference in the case of the controlled group village, Palaniyur. Since six of the parents of the school children of the controlled group village Palaniyur are teachers working in elementary schools and High schools in the nearby villages and town they showed
interest in improving the standard of education in their own village school. Other parents of their village might have also been influenced by them. So at the parents' level there was an effort to improve the standard of education in the elementary school of Palaniyur, the controlled group village.

Physical condition of the village schools

Physical condition of the school has been assessed over the following components: i) sufficiently strong building; (ii) space, (iii) environmental cleanliness, (iv) laboratory equipments, teaching aids, charts etc. and (v) general amenities.

Compared to the other villages the experimental group village Kondamanaikenpatti has recorded a relatively better progress in terms of providing facilities to the schools during the period under study. The initiative taken by the Village Planning Committee to upgrade the middle school run under the Kallar Reclamation Scheme to the level of a high school in the year 1986 has been a major achievement and it was mainly responsible for the improvement of the physical
conditions of the school. The members of the youth club and the N.S.S. volunteers of the Gandhigram Rural Institute constructed the school toilets and levelled the school ground. Fencing has also been done to prevent trespassing.

In another Experimental group village Anumantharayan-kottai, the church and the members of the planning committee collect money on a voluntary basis from the people and pooled it along with church funds to construct four urinals and latrines. They also purchased furnitures in 1988 for the school. As such the progress made in the above said two experimental group of villages is attributed to the village planning committee and the youth club. The experimental group village Puliyarjakapatti could not make such a progress as the other two experimental group villages but for a few benches and chairs were purchased for the school in 1988 with the funds collected by the Village Planning Committee.

For the progress made in the case of the controlled group village Palakanuthu in improving the physical condi-

tion of the school during the period under study, the man-
agement of the school was mainly responsible. The following
progress has been recorded:

1. A spacious new building was constructed
2. Class room furnitures were purchased.
3. Important teaching aids such as black boards and charts
   were purchased.

The two other controlled group villages Palaniyur and
Ramagoundanpatti have sufficiently strong buildings but the
other facilities were totally absent.

The environmental cleanliness of all the schools of the
study villages was however not up to the normal expectation.
Though the teachers, members of the village planning commit-
tee and the village youth club have been all along trying to
create a healthy environment in the experimental group
villages, they had not succeeded during the period under
study, except in the case of Kondamanaickenpatti.

Higher Education

Though numerically more number of youths had gone out
of the village for higher studies in the experimental .group
of villages compared to the controlled group of villages,
the difference has not been statistically significant. The state of higher education in the study villages is given in the following Table No.4.3.
TABLE NO. 4.3

STATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STUDY VILLAGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>1985 N1</th>
<th>1988 N2</th>
<th>1985 X1</th>
<th>1988 X2</th>
<th>% P1</th>
<th>% P2</th>
<th>P1-P2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayan Kottai (E)</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>45.00</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>27.78</td>
<td>33.33</td>
<td>5.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>33.33</td>
<td>37.50</td>
<td>4.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliyarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>16.67</td>
<td>6.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (E)</td>
<td>24.00</td>
<td>59.00</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>19.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>32.20</td>
<td>7.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>16.67</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur (C)</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>14.29</td>
<td>8.33</td>
<td>5.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (C)</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>37.00</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>13.51</td>
<td>2.49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: N1 & N2 = Higher secondary passed.
X1 & X2 = Gone for Higher studies
Table value 1.96 at 5% level

Source: Computed from the family survey data.
In the experimental group village Anumantharayankottai, out of the 45 students who had passed the higher secondary class only 15 had gone for higher studies. Three students who got good marks in the higher secondary examinations could not join the professional colleges due to financial constraints. In 1987, the chairman and secretaries of the village planning committees of Anumantharayankottai, Kondamanaickenpatti and Puliyarajakapatti took the initiative and helped four students to pursue higher studies.

Eradication of Illiteracy

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has responded to the call embodied in the National Adult Education Programme by urging the universities to devise ways and means for an effective participation. Adult Education programme was launched by the Government of India in 1978.

Even before the setting up of National Literacy Mission, in some of the service villages of Gandhigram Rural

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Institute a concerted effort has been made to eradicate illiteracy at least among those who are in the age group between 15 and 35. There were constraints in involving the students continuously in the adult education programme. Organising adult education centres was included as one of the schemes in the annual plans of some of the village planning committees.

Adult education centres were started with the help of the Centre for adult continuing education and extension of the Gandhigram Rural Institute in 1984. 89 centres were run by the above said centre of Gandhigram Rural Institute during 1985 in the Reddiarchatram block where the study villages are located*. There were no adult education centres either run by the Gandhigram Rural Institute or by the Department of adult education of the State Government in the Controlled group of villages during the period under observation. But in the experimental group of villages adult education centres were run by the Department of Adult,

Continuing Education and Extension of Gandhigram Rural institute. The literacy position of the persons in the age group 15-35 years in the villages is clearly indicated in the Table No. 4.4 and the Diagram No.4.1
## TABLE NO. 4.4

**ERADICATION OF ILLITERACY (BETWEEN 15-35 YEARS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>No.of persons</th>
<th>No.of Literates</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1985</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>1985</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>V.</td>
<td>V.</td>
<td>N1</td>
<td>N2</td>
<td>XI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai CE)</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>43.81</td>
<td>54.66</td>
<td>10.85</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti &lt;E)</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>56.96</td>
<td>71.29</td>
<td>14.33</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>&lt;:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliyarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>ISO</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>36.67</td>
<td>65.26</td>
<td>28.60</td>
<td>5.74</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (E)</td>
<td>(E)</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>763</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>43.45</td>
<td>59.50</td>
<td>16.06</td>
<td>6.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>51.54</td>
<td>52.56</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur (C)</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>44.21</td>
<td>46.12</td>
<td>2.51</td>
<td>0.37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31.88</td>
<td>32.26</td>
<td>0.37</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (C)</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>44.56</td>
<td>45.55</td>
<td>0.99</td>
<td>0.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: E - Experimental Group  
C - Controlled Group  
Test of significance for difference of proportions.  
Total value 1.967. at 57. level.

Source: Computed from the family survey data,
ER DICATION OF ILLITERACY
among the experimental group of villages Puliarajakapatti stood first in achieving the highest percentage of literacy in the age group of 15-35 during the study period. When it is compared with the other villages the difference is significant. In the case of the other two experimental group of villages also the difference is significant. As against this the mean difference between the two points of time in the controlled group of villages is found to be insignificant. Because of the intensive care and concerted efforts taken by the village planning committee and the animators of the adult education centres the literacy percentage of the age group 15-35 has gone up to 65.26 per cent from 36.67 per cent in two years in the experimental group village Puliarajakapatti followed by the other two villages.

Compared to the adult learners of the other blocks the learners of Reddiarchatram block where the study villages are located were better in reading and writing abilities.2

Due to the non-implementation of adult education programme and lack of interest among the leaders in adult education.
ducation and the low level of awareness the Controlled group villages could not make sufficient progress.

**Agricultural Development: Improved Method of Cultivation**

Improved methods of cultivation in both wet land and dry land have been introduced extensively all over India since the launching of Intensive Agricultural Area Programme (IAAP). Introducing High Yielding Varieties (HYV) of seeds and improved ploughing and other farming practices helped to increase the agricultural production. The Lab to Land programme of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has created an awareness among the farmers to adopt improved method of cultivation.

In the service villages of Gandhigram Rural Institute, its faculty of agriculture and animal husbandry and the Department of Extension have been involved in creating awareness among the farmers to adopt modernisation in agriculture by conducting demonstrations and organising exhibitions to show the advantages in adopting improved method of cultivation. The details regarding the adoption of improved

method of cultivation are given in the following Table No. 4.5 and in the Diagram No. 4.2.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>Number of farm families (1985)</th>
<th>No. of farm families adopting improved methods (1985)</th>
<th>Percentage Difference</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai (E)</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.21</td>
<td>19.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.13</td>
<td>15.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.04</td>
<td>24.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (E)</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2.32</td>
<td>14.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.63</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur (C)</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4.92</td>
<td>1.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.08</td>
<td>0.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (C)</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>0.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: E - Experimental Group  C - Controlled Group
Table value 1.96% at 5% level
x Significant difference.

Source: Data computed from the family survey data.
ADOPTING IMPROVED METHODS OF CULTIVATION

![Bar chart showing percentage of families adopting improved methods over years 1985 and 1988.]

- Experimental group villages
- Controlled group villages
Among the experimental group of villages, Puliarajakapatti has been ranked first in adopting the improved methods of cultivation. The other two experimental group of villages also had the significant difference in terms of adopting modern methods between the initial and terminal years. In the case of the Controlled group of villages, the differences were not statistically significant. When the two groups are compared, the difference of the experimental group is significant.

Contact of the members of the village planning committees of the experimental Group villages with the Extension department and the Faculty of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry of the Gandhigram Rural Institute and implementation of the Lab to Land programme by way of supplying improved seeds, manure and implements by the above said faculty were one of the contributing factors for the progress made by the Experimental group of villages in adopting improved methods of cultivation.

In the Controlled group of villages, except a few well-to-do and well informed farm families, other families had not adopted improved methods of cultivation. It requires sustained efforts and higher levels of motivation from agencies and the initiative of some leaders or organi-
sations from within the village to make the farmers adopt improved methods.

Whereas the experimental group of village have had the advantage of both the initiative of the leadership and the motivation from the external agencies, the said aspects were absent in the case of the controlled group of villages.

On the whole in all the six villages under study the percentage of the farm families adopting improved methods of cultivation was not very high because most of the irrigation wells could not provide sufficient water for cultivation. (at higher intensity levels). Partly they were resorting to dry farming practices. The agricultural departments and other agencies have not so far reached them and educated them successfully for adopting improved dry farming methods.

Since both the groups of villages are homogenous in character, the additional factor of backup facilities such as implementation of lab to land programme, efforts of the village planning committee and the department of Extension of the Gandhigram Rural Institute could be attributed to the increase in improved agricultural practices in the Experimental group of villages.
Receiving aids by the farm families

The assistance and support from the state and central governments are important to improve the farm families. The service of the voluntary agencies is also quite essential towards this end. In 1986 for the whole of Reddiarchatram block where the study villages are located a sum of Rs.1.73 lakhs were spent for increasing the irrigation facilities and for the development of land. The initiative taken by the village planning committee by way of repeated requests and contacts with the development officials helped 84 farm families of the experimental group of villages to get bank loans with government subsidy. They also received the support of the Lab to Land programme which was implemented by the Gandhigram Rural Institute for introducing improved method of cultivation and helping the agricultural labourers.

In the three controlled group of villages, only 17 farm families have been covered by the government schemes for the development of agriculture and allied activities. Govern-

ment schemes for raising of crops, purchase of milch animals and plough bullocks, deepening of irrigation wells and for other purposes were not properly utilised by the controlled group of villages. Lack of initiative on the part of the Controlled group of villages was mainly responsible for not getting more assistance from the government and other voluntary agencies.

Three factors are responsible for the progress made in the Experimental group of villages in getting loans from Government schemes. They are i) The initiative taken by the village Planning committees particularly by the secretaries of the planning committees; ii) Guidance and help given by the Gandhigram Rural Institute and iii) Steps taken by the development officials at the instance of the village planning committees and the Gandhigram Rural Institute.

The Table No 4.6 and the Diagram No.4.3 clearly indicate the details regarding help received by the farm families in the study villages for the development of agriculture.
### Table No. 4.6

**Details of Loans and Other Aids Received from the Government and Voluntary Agencies by the Farm Families**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>Number of families received assistance</th>
<th>Percentage Difference</th>
<th>( \text{Z} ) Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai (E)</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>EO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaiickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (E)</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur (C)</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (C)</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: E - Experimental Group  
C - Controlled Group  
Table value 1.967 at 5% level  
\(< \) Significant difference.

Source: Data computed from the family survey data,
BY FARM FAMILIES
LOANS AND AIDS RECEIVED

1988

1985
Among the experimental and controlled group of villages, in Puliyarajakapatti, a maximum number of families received loans for the development of agriculture. Compared to the other study villages the difference was significant in the case of Puliyarajakapatti. Inter group comparison indicates that in the case of experimental group alone the before and after loan receiving levels are significant. Whereas in the controlled group of villages the difference is not significant or there is no difference at all.

Improving the irrigation facilities

The ground water level has gone down and most of the wells are dry for several months in the year. Increasing the number of percolation ponds and desilting the existing tanks which could be used for storage and distribution through canals and more importantly for percolation are positive steps towards successful crop raising activities.

In the Experimental group of village, Anumantharayan-kottai, the secretary and the members of the village planning committee requested the development officials of the Reddiyarchatram union to take up the work of desilting the village irrigation tank under National Rural Employment
programme (NREP). After repeated requests that work was included in the list of NREP of the block in 1986 and carried out during the period under study. The members of the youth club and other villagers gave their free physical labour in desilting the irrigation tank.

In another experimental group village, Puliyarajakapatti, the members of youth club and the students of Gandhigram Rural Institute desilted the small percolation tank located at the entrance of the village and planted tree saplings along the bunds in 1987. Except Anumantharayankottai and Puliyarajakapatti all the other four study villages, did not record any such improvement during the period of study.

On the whole, the experimental group of villages are to be termed as better than the controlled group of villages in implementing schemes for the development of agriculture. However, majority of the farm families of all the six study villages have not been adopting improved methods of cultivation. Dry farming is being practiced mostly in a traditional way. The village planning committees in a small measure could initiate annual plans. But long term comprehensive plans for the development of agriculture and animal husbandry of the village could be taken up on the basis of success.
Economic upliftment of landless labourers

To bring development in all aspects of rural areas, schemes have been implemented under the "Integrated Rural Development. Programra" (IRDP). Under this programme in 1981, works had been initiated to cover the areas gradually from 2600 to 5011 blocks in the whole of India. However, the schemes undertaken for the economic upliftment of the agricultural and landless labourers have not made a significant impact on the rural poor. Under this scheme in 1987-88 for the whole of Reddiarchatram block, the government has spent Rs.42.39 lakhs for various schemes. Despite the fact money has flown into the villages, the life of the rural mass has not sufficiently been changed either materially or attitudinally. There may be very many reasons attributed for the failures of the programmes and the slow progress of the village communities. Generally it was felt that skill was not imparted to the labourers. Mostly they were unemployable during the off season. Moreover they were not aware of their own plight and they did not know the methodology to

solve their problems. It was also felt that they were not involved properly in the development activities of the villages. Awareness, participation and guidance are essential ingredients for the development of the agricultural labourers in the rural areas. It is sufficiently tested in this study.

Awareness among the landless, effective involvement of the people's organisations in development activities and a dynamic leadership were absent in the controlled group of villages under study. On the other hand, the experimental group of villages had recorded significant progress because of the efforts of the village planning committees and the Gandhigram Rural Institute.

The planning committees of the experimental group of villages used to convene meetings of the family heads in the villages and select deserving families as beneficiaries for receiving bank loans under IRDP. Among the families of the three experimental group of villages 21 families received bank loans for the purchase of milch animals and 29 families received loans for the purchase of plough bullocks and running petty trades. The extension department of the Gandhigram Rural Institute helped to organise a milk producers' cooperative society in the experimental group of vil-
village Kondamanickanpatti. During the first phase itself, 11 families below the poverty line were selected to get loans from the bank. The rest of the beneficiaries were selected from the nearby villages. In Puliyarajakapatti, a women's club was formed and registered with the help of the chairman and secretary of the village planning committee and the extension department of Gandhigram Rural Institute in 1987 and eight members of the club received loans for the purchase of milch animals from the state social welfare board. Only two families could get loans for the purchase of milch animals in Anumantharayankottai (experimental group village). The planning committee of that village initiated steps to revive the defunct milk producers' cooperative society during the period under study. It was revived after the study period.

Among the three Controlled group village, only 10 families below the poverty line get loans for the purchase of milch animals. Another 9 families got loans for the purchase of plough bullocks and bullock carts.

The data given in the Table No.4.7 reveal that the experimental group of villages were benefited more than the Controlled Group of villages through IRDP and other schemes.
of the government during the period under the study, even though the government schemes were implemented in all the villages equally.
# Table No. 4.7

**Beneficiaries of IRDP and other schemes among landless labourers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>Number of Landless Labourers 1985</th>
<th>Number of Landless Labourers 1988</th>
<th>Beneficiaries of IRDB and other schemes 1985</th>
<th>Beneficiaries of IRDB and other schemes 1988</th>
<th>Percentage 1985</th>
<th>Percentage 1988</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai (E)</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>17.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6.33</td>
<td>15.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong> (E)</td>
<td><strong>380</strong></td>
<td><strong>520</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>50</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.93</strong></td>
<td><strong>9.62</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.64</td>
<td>7.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur (C)</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>59</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9.52</td>
<td>10.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15.79</td>
<td>10.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong> (C)</td>
<td><strong>181</strong></td>
<td><strong>224</strong></td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td><strong>19</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.07</strong></td>
<td><strong>8.48</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** E - Experimental Group  C - Controlled Group  
Gross Average: (E) 5.67  (C) 2.41

**Source:** Computed from the family survey data.
During the period under study, all the three experimental group of villages had recorded progress in getting the assistance through the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and other government schemes. Among all the villages, Konda, manaickenpatti stood first in receiving the bank loans. In this village all the beneficiaries of the IRDP purchased milch animals and started repaying the loans at regular intervals. One beneficiary after undergoing training in handling power sprayer (with the help of the Extension Department of Gandhigram Rural Institute) purchased a power sprayer and started earning through spraying agricultural chemicals to control plant pests. He has also started paying back the loan at regular intervals. In another experimental group village, Puliyarajakapatti five beneficiaries received loans under IRDP and eighteen members of the Women's club received loans from the Central Social Welfare Board for the purchase of milchanimals and goats and started paying back the loans. In the case of the experimental group villages the frequent visit of the secretaries of the village planning committees and women's clubs to the block offices and the banks and the occasional reminders from the Extension Department of Gandhigram Rural Institute to the block officials and the Managers of the banks helped
more number of persons to get the loans on time. The Extension Department of Gandhigram Rural Institute had taken it as its moral responsibility to see that the loan amount had to be used for the purpose for which it was given and should be paid back as per the repayment schedule. The leaders and well-informed persons in the Controlled group of villages were not interested in helping the poor to get the loans under IRDP. Lack of awareness among the landless was also one of the major reasons for not utilising the government schemes for their development.

Employment through village industries

Government of India has been creating favourable conditions for the promotion of village and small scale industries during the plan periods. In 1980, a new industrial policy statement was issued. It was stated that handloom, handicrafts, khadi and other village industries would receive greater attention to achieve a faster rate of growth in villages.  

An Ambar charka spinning centre was started in Anumantharayankottai in 1987 employing twenty women. The church groups and the members of the village planning committee took interest and contacted the government khadi department and started the centre. In the experimental group village Kondamanaickenpatti eight persons were employed in brick making industry during the period under study. In the Controlled group village Palaniyr potters' cooperative society was organised in 1985. About 12 families have been working in a common workshed. Among the four categories Government, village organisations, voluntary agencies and individuals - no one had taken effective steps to organise village industries in the experimental group village Puliyarajakapatti and the controlled group villages Palakanuthu and Ramagoundanpatti. Table No. 4.8 gives an idea about the number of persons employed in village industries in the study villages during the period under study. (See also Diagram No. 4.4)
### TABLE NO. 4.8

**EMPLOYED IN VILLAGE INDUSTRIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>Number of landless agricultural labours</th>
<th>Employed in village Industries</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai (E)</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur (C)</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** E - Experimental Group  C - Controlled Group

**Source:** Computed from the family survey data.
RURAL EMPLOYMENT

![Bar Chart]

- **Experimental group villages**
- **Controlled group villages**

**Percentage of employed persons**

- 1985
- 1988

**YEAR**
In providing employment through village industries, Anumantharayankoilami Kondamanaickenpatti had made a significant progress because of the initiative taken by the members of the village planning committee and the guidance given by the department of Extension of Gandhigram Rural Institute. Comparing to the controlled group of villages the difference of the experimental group was significant.

Proper planning and organisational arrangements involving the well-informed loaders and the beneficiaries and imparting skills according to the liking of the individuals are quite essential to tackle the problems of landless and agricultural labourors.

Houses for the Harijan Families

The 20 point programme announced in 1982 and its revised programme in 1980 laid special emphasis on constructing houses for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. In the Reddiarchatram union where the study villages are located 130 houses were built for 130 Harijan families during

1986-87 and 1987-88 in different villages. Lands were
quired by the Tamilnadu State Government in the Reddiar-
chatram panchayat union of the Anna District. The houses
built by the Reddiarchatram union. In such new colo-
nies schools, balwadies, noon-meal centres and community
centres were constructed. Approach roads have been laid.

Table No. 4.9 gives the data connected with the con-
struction of houses to the Harijan families and allotment of
pattas for house sites to them in the study villages during
the period under study.

15. op.cit., Reddiarchatram, 1988, PP.1-14
### TABLE NO.4.9

**HOUSING FOR HARIJAN FAMILIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>Number of Harijan families 1985</th>
<th>Number of Harijan families 1988</th>
<th>Families benefited by Govt. Housing scheme 1985</th>
<th>Families benefited by Govt. Housing scheme 1988</th>
<th>No. of families received pattas 1985</th>
<th>No. of families received pattas 1988</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai (E)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>(80%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaiickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>(50%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>(44.44%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur (C)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**E** - Experimental Group  
**C** - Controlled Group

Source: Computed from the family survey data.
Among the six study villages, only in two villages in the experimental group and one village in the controlled group Harijan families are living. For a long time Anunamtharayankottai leaders and the Harijan families were requesting the panchayat union for the construction of houses for the harijan families. Twenty houses were built. Totally there were fifty five families. 36.66 percent of the families got new houses. Thirty families got the pattas for construction of houses.

The secretary of the village planning committee of this village often visited the offices of the block development officer and the Thasildar to get pattas for the house sites for these harijan families.

In Puliyarajakapatti, because of the efforts taken by the women Harijan members of the village planning committee and the Department of Extension of the Gandhigram Rural Institute pattas were issued to twenty houses by the Revenue authorities of the District. The evangelicon church which is running the primary school purchased land and provided house sites to the 50 percent of the Harijan families of Palakanuthu.
In the experimental group villages there was an awakening among the scheduled caste people. In Palakanuthu the controlled group of village the other caste groups were not interested in the welfare of the scheduled caste families. An outside agency, the Eevengelicon church had purchased land for the construction of houses for the scheduled caste families. Good housing condition and proper environment will help raise the social status of the scheduled caste communities in the village.

**Village sanitation**

Keeping the villages neat and clean is a problem even after four decades of independence. Even now, except a few most of the interior villages are looked like dung heaps. According to Gandhi it needs a heroic effort to eradicate age long insanitation in the villages. Village people are to be educated\(^1\).\(^5\) Improving the village sanitation depends upon both economic uplift and providing health education to the people. Training the children in good health practices and keeping their surroundings neat and tidy is also equally important. After all, the habit formation is ulti-

mately responsible for keeping oneself and one's surroundings neat and clean.

In the six Study villages, sanitation was not very bad compared to some other interior villages. But still people used either side of the village roads in the outskirts as latrines. There were no bathrooms or latrines in many of the houses.

The data given in Table. Ho. 4.10 . 4. 11 shows the slow progress in the area of sanitation.

17. Markandan, N., "Rural Sanitation , Social welfare, Vol.XXXII, NO.7, October, 1985,
TABLE NO. 4.10

SANITATION FACILITIES - LATRINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai (E)</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>3.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td>6.59</td>
<td>4.40</td>
<td>1.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>(E) 762</td>
<td>762</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>3.41</td>
<td>2.49</td>
<td>3.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>2.41</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>0.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur (C)</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>1.85</td>
<td>0.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>(C) 348</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.72</td>
<td>2.87</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>1.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: E - Experimental Group  C - Controlled Group
Table value 1.96% at 5% level
Source: computed from the family survey data.
### Table No. 4.11

**Sanitation Facilities - Bathrooms and Drainage**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>Number of houses</th>
<th>Having bathrooms and drainage</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Difference in %</th>
<th>Significant I value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumanthareyankottai (E)</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>11.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>15.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>8.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>762</strong></td>
<td><strong>762</strong></td>
<td><strong>83</strong></td>
<td><strong>157</strong></td>
<td><strong>10.89</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>25.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>348</strong></td>
<td><strong>348</strong></td>
<td><strong>64</strong></td>
<td><strong>69</strong></td>
<td><strong>15.83</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- E = Experimental Group
- C = Controlled Group

* Significant difference

Source: Computed from the family survey data.
Among the experimental group villages, Anumanthatayan-kottai has the significant difference in having latrines in individual houses. Between the experimental group and the controlled group, the difference of the experimental group of villages has been significant. In having bathrooms and drainage facilities of all the three experimental group of villages the difference has been significant. Among the families of the three experimental group of villages 19 families have constructed individual latrines in their houses and 74 families have constructed bathrooms and drainages in their houses during the period under study.

The members of the village planning committees and the youth club and women's club of the experimental group villages have been motivated and educated by the staff and students of the Gandhigram Rural Institute during the orientation camp periods on the campus of the Institute and in the service areas. In the case of the controlled group of villages there was no individual or organisation to educate the people.

Except the open air latrines on the roadside, the public places were kept neat and clean in all the study villages. Kondamanaickenpatti was better among the six
villages in general cleanliness. It is felt that educating the public and making Lic school children and youths involve in regular periodical cleaning of the public places in the village would help improve rural sanitation to a large extent.

In Puliyarajakapatti, the experimental group village the Reddiarchatrarn panchayat union had constructed a few public latrines. But arrangement for water supply had not been made. Neither the members of the village planning committee nor the panchayat members of the hamlet had taken the initiative to make arrangements to use the latrines. The same condition prevailed in other villages also.

Family Planning

A review of the six development plans of the country indicates that family planning as a measure of population control has been given a high priority in each one of the plans1: During 1985, in the beginning of the study period among the 316 eligible couples, 70 of them only adopted family planning in the six study villages. Among the 400 eligible couples 152 adopted family planning in all the six

study villager, during 1988. The panchayat extension officers, the multi purpose health workers and teachers of the village primary schools motivated the people and made them accept adoption of family planning. The village leaders, the members of the planning committee and other organisations also joined the extension workers in canvassing for family planning in Konciamaickenpatti and Puliyarajakapatti of the experimental Croup villages.

The following Table No. 4.12 and the Diagram No. 4.5 clearly depict the progress made by the study villages between 1985 and 1988 in adopting family planning.
### TABLE NO 4.12

**FAMILY PLANNING - NUMBER OF FAMILIES ACCEPTED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>Number of eligible couple</th>
<th>Family Planning couple</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Difference in %</th>
<th>&quot;X&quot;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai (E)</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>21.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>27.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (E)</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>18.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>25.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur (C)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>37.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (C)</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>29.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E = Experimental Group  
C = Controlled Group  
"X" = Significant difference.

Source: Data computed from the family survey data.
Percentage of families adopted family planning methods

YEAR

1985

1986

Controlled group villages

Experimental group villages

FAMILY PLANNING ADOPTERS
During the annual planning and review meetings, the family planning officers and the faculty members of the Gandhigram Rural Institute educated the members of the village planning committee and made them understand the importance of the programme.

Among the experimental group of villages, Kondamanaickenpati stood first in the adoption of family planning during the period under study. The other two villages of the experimental group also recorded good results in this respect when compared to the controlled group of villages. By comparison, the adoption level in the experimental group of villages has been found to be statistically significant.

The level of awareness in understanding the importance of family welfare programme among the people in the experimental group of villages Kondamanaickenpatti, Anumantharayankottai and Puliyarajakapatti was higher than the level of awareness in the controlled group of villages.

Social welfare programme

Noon meal programme, child care and women we programmes, programmes for the physically handicapped
oldage people are being carried out in the villages.

In three of the study villages, noon meal centres for pre-school age children are functioning. 137 school age children were being fed during 1988. A few other welfare activities with the help of the government and voluntary agencies were also being carried out. The particulars given in the Table No 4.13 gives an idea about the efforts taken by the planning committee for the successful implementation of a few social welfare programmes.
TABLE NO.4.13

IMPLEMENTATION OF NUTRITIOUS NOON MEAL SCHEME FOR
PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN AND OTHER SOCIAL
WELFARE PROGRAMMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>Number of pre-primary school age children fed</th>
<th>Number of youths got training in crafts for self employment</th>
<th>Number of meetings &amp; demonstrations held for child care &amp; Women's welfare</th>
<th>Number of times cultural programmes conducted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai (E)</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E - Experimental Group  C - Controlled group
** No noon meal centre for pre-primary school age children

Source: Data computed from the Village Survey data.
The village planning committee of Anumantharayankottai, Kondamaickenpatti and Puliyarajakapatti requested the Nehru Yuvak Kendra of Madurai through the Department of Extension of the Gandhigram Rural Institute for the supply of a few tailoring machines and provide training to the women of the above said villages. Two machines were provided to Anumantharayankottai and another two to Kondamaickenpatti. After six months Puliyarajakkapatti was also provided with two machines along with training facilities. Cultural and recreational programmes were held once in a month regularly in the experimental group villages during the period under study. The youth club and the Department of extension of Gandhigram Rural Institute were responsible for it.

Frequent visits of the students of the Home Science Department of Gandhigram Rural Institute and their interaction with the members of the women's club and the village planning committees paved the way for educating them through demonstrations on the preparation of nutritious food to children and pregnant mothers and group discussion on women and child care programmes.
Only in three of the study villages (Anumantharayankottai, Kondamanaickenpatti and Palakkanuthu) noon meal centres for the pre-school children were functioning during the period under study.

Imparting skills in some crafts to the youths and women and implementation of child development programmes and cultural and recreational programmes made an impact in the experimental group of villages.

Awareness Building Programmes

The adult education centres, reading rooms, youth clubs and women's clubs in the experimental group of villages had helped to create a positive awareness towards the developmental opportunities. This was achieved by the animators who were constantly fed with information package by the departments of extension and Adult Continuing Education and Ecitcrsion of the Gandhigram Rural Institute and by arranging special talks and discussions with officials and voluntary workers. The process of development education is to make the development process a participatory one. This was on the higher side in the case of the experimental group of villages when compared to the controlled group of villages. This was possible in the experimental group of villages due
to the actions of the village planning committees.

The experimental group of villages implemented more awareness building programmes than the controlled group of villages. The contact of Gandhigram Rural Institute and the activities of the village planning committees, youth club, women's club and the adult education centres of the experimental group of villages were mainly responsible for this.

In January 1987, just before the panchayat election the Department of Extension of Gandhigram Rural Institute and the Village Planning Committee of Kondamanickenpatti jointly organised the meeting of the village leaders of different political parties of the villages of Silvarpatti panchayat of the Reddiarchatram block to discuss the issue of selecting the members and the president of the panchayat by consensus. The qualifications required for the members and president were also discussed.

The follow-up meeting was held at Kannimanathu of the Silvarpatti panchayat. Since one political party did not agree for the consensus candidate for the panchayat presidency the attempt for consensus candidate could not succeed.
In all the experimental group villages once in a month the joint meeting of the women's club and youth club were held. In such meetings, apart from discussing the problems and the ways and means to implement programmes the Extension department of Gandhigram Rural Institute arranged for lecture and discussion classes for the youth. In those classes, topics of general interest and topics connected with health, sanitation, social, political and economic problems were discussed. A member of any one of the teaching faculty or the Extension Department of Gandhigram Rural Institute used to initiate the discussion in the above said meetings. Those meetings helped to create an awareness among the people of the experimental group of villages and thus it has become a contributing factor for the progress of those villages in the areas of health, sanitation adoption of family planning and improved method of cultivation, eradication of illiteracy and other aspects required for the total development.

In 1986-87 and 1988 during the annual religious festival of the experimental group village Anumantharayankottai the members of the village planning committee and the Department of Extension of Gandhigram Rural Institute jointly organised seminars on the social problems of alcoholism,
dowry and untouchability and the message of Jesus Christ and Mahatma Gandhi. Cultural programmes were arranged in the experimental group of villages by the Youth club and the Gandhigram Rural Institute. In two of the controlled group of villages cultural programmes were held only during the time of the religious festivals (once in a year).

The potentiality in the village community for arranging religious functions in a big way spending huge amount of money may be channelised towards carrying out other developmental programmes of the village. Further, the religious festivals should be made educative and useful by way of arranging cultural exhibitions and spiritual discourses to enlighten the people and make them understand the central ideas and philosophy of the message of the great religious teachers.

**Transport and communication**

Here, by transport and communication it is meant formation of link roads and the availability of bus or train services, post offices and telephone facilities in the study villages. It is said that the need of the villagers is a local transport network which is linked to a regional trans-
port network which is in turn tied into the national network. The study villages are connected with the main roads which lead to the District headquarters Dindigul town and the block headquarters. In 1988 all the study villages except Palaniyur, the Controlled group of village are connected with the town bus route. There were 265 town buses plying to different directions in and around Dindigul. The Corporation town buses and the town buses run by the private owners had covered 92,888 service kilometers per day through their trips made between the starting and terminal points. This includes the trips made by the town buses from Dindigul to Kannivadi via Puliyarajakapatti the Experimental group of villages. In 1985 in the experimental group village, Puliyarajakapatti the link road was available. But the town bus service started in 1987. Because of the efforts of the members of the village planning committee, the collector of the District ordered for a few trips of the town bus service via Puliyarajakapatti to Dindigul.


In 1985, except public telephone all other transport and communication facilities were available in Anumantharay-jankottai. In 1987, by the efforts of the Chairman and the secretary of the village planning committee and partly because of the policy of the Central Government a public phone has been attached to the local post office.

A link road was formed in the Controlled group of village Palaniyur in 1988. The village leaders and the president of the Dharmathupatti panchayat played a major role in acquiring lands to form the link road.

Village Institution and organisations

School, Cooperative societies, Village panchayat, Village planning committee, Gramsabha, Association for youths and women and Association of cultural and religious groups are the effective village institutions and organisations. These institutions are working for the progress of the community in the rural villages. When it is said about institution building, Salima Omer means the formation of mechanisms that provide a continuous and sustained forum for people to discuss issues and problems and plan activities
that reflect their needs and aspirations.

Gangrade claims that involving people in formation of plans and solving their needs by themselves is the main principle of community organisation.

In the experimental group village, Anumantharayankottai and Kondamanaickonpatti, all the village institutions and organisations were present in 1988. Those institutions and organisation:-; of, the above said villages were responsible for implementing many of the developmental programmes in those two village^; during the period under study. The third experimental group of village Puliyarajakapatti had only 60 per cent of the village institutions and organisations in 1988. As it has been stated earlier in this chapter, the village planning committee had contributed a great extent for implementing the developmental programmes in the experimental group of villages in 1988. Village youth clubs and cooperatives were extremely helpful for the social and economic development of the village community. The reli-


gious or the cultural groups in the villages helped to keep the village community in unity to some extent. They also created an awareness among the group members. The youth clubs and women’s clubs along with implementing their welfare programme helped the planning committee in the implementation of the programmes. In organising meetings, film-shows, cultural and shrauvian (manual work such as digging soak pits, cleaning the public places) programmes the above said youth and women’s club had played a major role.

Compared to the experimental group of villages, the Controlled group of villages had less number of institutions and organisation. Further, those less number of organisations too except in the case of Palaniyur had not contributed substantially to the development of the Controlled group villages.

The members of the village planning committees in the experimental group of villages Anumantharayankottai and Kondamanaickinpatti evinced keen interest in encouraging young men to organise youth clubs in the villages. Those youth clubs functioned like the implementation bodies of the plans formulated by the village planning committees.
The village planning committees of the experimental group of villages were mainly responsible for organising village associations and institutions. The secretary of the village planning committee of Kondamanaiickenpatti took the initiative in organising the Milk producers' Cooperative society and succeeded in it. In 1987, there were 43 members in that society. 43 milch animals were purchased with the help of the bank loans. Eighteen scheduled caste members of the other hamlets got loans with subsidy for the purchase of milch animals. Every day, 120 litres of milk was sent to the Dindigul Cooperative society. More than 60% of the earnings of the members was paid to the banks to clear the loans received for the purchase of milch animals.

people's participation

According to Chan Sarkar people's participation involves three things. They are (1) the provision of information (2) the creation of opportunities to take part in the determination of objectives and (3) the enlistment of cooperation in the implementation of objectives. Further he says that the above mentioned three must go together.

Discussing problems in the village assemblies and instituting committees for planning and implementing programmes, giving representations to all sections of the village community may help for the spontaneous involvement and participation of the people in the village development programme. 'Entrusting the construction work of public buildings, roads and bridges in villages in the hands of the local leaders of the people's committee is a method through which we can operationalise or practice people's participation in the development programmes"." Participation may be elicited for the development programmes from the leaders and office bearers of the village organisations, the school teachers and children and men and women of the village community in general. People are participating in the government programmes by way of making use of them for improving their economic condition and improving their agriculture. There must be a sympathy and a sense of responsibility on the part of the upper middle class and educated and advantaged groups towards the weaker sections of the community to improve their conditions. This kind of

attitude also is very much part of involvement of the people in development programmes in the village.

Participation of the village people, leaders, members of the village organisations, schools children, teachers and the voluntary agencies in development programmes in the study villages was not very common before the study period. But after 1985 onwards the above mentioned groups started participating in development programmes in the experimental group of villages. Families below the poverty line were guided and helped by the Village Planning Committees of the experimental group of villages. People's participation was almost nil in the case of the controlled group of villages. The following Table No. 4.14 clearly indicates the state of people's participation in the study villages.
### TABLE NO. 4.14

**PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN CARRYING OUT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>People in general</th>
<th>School children &amp; teachers</th>
<th>Village Leaders &amp; Members of village organisations</th>
<th>Voluntary agencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai (E)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur (C)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E : Experimental Group  C : Controlled group.  
* : Participated in implementing development programmes.  
- : Not participated.  

Source: Computed from the Family Survey Data.
In all the experimental group of villages, the students and staff of Gandhigram Rural Institute motivated the people to take part actively in the development programmes. Their frequent visits, contacts and some of the projects and programmes such as organising the spinning centres, lab to land programmes and getting pattas for house sites to scheduled caste families might have been the main reasons for the participation of the people in the development programmes. Another major reason was that the number of people's organisations and committees had been engaged in different kinds of welfare programmes in the experimental group of villages.

In the experimental group of villages the members of the village youth peace brigades and the youth clubs met once in a fortnight and engaged in public cleaning work in the villages. All the members participated in such 'shramadhan' programmes. At times the elders and the members of the planning committees also participated in the shramadhan programmes. The teachers and school children of the middle school of Kondamanaickenpatti participated in the cultural programmes, the construction of toilets and in cleaning the surroundings of the public buildings and village streets.
The Chairman and the secretary of Iho village planning committee of the experimental group village Puliya Rajakapatti guided and helped the office bearers of the women's club to register the club under society's act. During the study period itself the members of the Women's club of that village started receiving financial support from the Central Social Welfare Board for improving their economic condition. Twenty five members of the club received a total of Rs.20,000 for the purchase of milch animals and goats.

For obvious reasons such as lack of initiative among the leaders and youths and the absence of village organisations such as youth and women's clubs people in the Controlled group of villages were not actively involving themselves in the rural development programmes during the period under study.

Impact of the leadership on the village community

Right type of leadership is quite essential for planning and implementing development programmes in the villages. Different groupings of the people have natural leaders of their own. Many of these people may not be called leaders by others or by themselves, but they are silently
trusted. The emergence of new leaders among the political parties are also there in the village. Selected youths who are self-employed for their livelihood have to be given leadership training in orientation camps. By their conduct and character, their devotion and dedication to the public cause and finally by their ability to carry out the work entrusted in their hands they set an example to others. Some people voluntarily come forward to shoulder responsibilities during project planning and implementation and work for the benefit of all the sections of the community. Leaders of the above said categories are to be identified, trained and entrusted responsibilities for the successful planning and implementation of developmental programmes at the grass-roots.

The assessment of leadership in the study villages from 1985 to 1988 had been evaluated by taking into account the responses of the respondents to the following factors:

i) Acceptance of the leadership by the respondents.

ii) Eliciting people's participation in the implementation
of developmental programmes,

ii) Help extended for the successful implementation of the developmental programmes in the villages.

iv) Helping to settle disputes within the village itself.

The data regarding this are furnished in the Table No. L5
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
<th>Acceptance by the Respondents</th>
<th>Successful implementation of the programmes</th>
<th>Eliciting peoples participation</th>
<th>Helping to settle the disputes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anumantharayankottai (E)</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>35 (85.36) 40 (97.56)</td>
<td>30 (73.17) 41 (100)</td>
<td>20 (50) 30 (73.17)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kondamanaickenpatti (E)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>28 (85.36) 29 (97.56)</td>
<td>20 (73.17) 29 (100)</td>
<td>20 (50) 29 (73.17)</td>
<td>20 (68.96) 25 (86.21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puliarajakapatti (E)</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>20 (54.05) 30 (81.08)</td>
<td>- 30 (81.08)</td>
<td>- 30 (81.08)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (E)</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>93 (77.57) 99 (92.52)</td>
<td>50 (47.38) 100 (93.45)</td>
<td>40 (37.38) 89 (83.17)</td>
<td>20 (18.69) 25 (23.36)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palakanuthu (C)</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>25 (71.42) 12 (34.23)</td>
<td>25 (71.42)</td>
<td>- 12 (34.28)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palaniyur (C)</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>25 (80.64) 25 (80.64)</td>
<td>25 (80.64) 20 (80.64)</td>
<td>25 (80.64) 20 (80.64)</td>
<td>25 (80.64) 25 (80.64)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramagoundanpatti (C)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>10 (34.48) 6 (60.43)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (C)</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>60 (63.15) 43 (45.26)</td>
<td>50 (52.63) 20 (21.05)</td>
<td>37 (38.94) 20 (21.05)</td>
<td>25 (26.32) 25 (26.32)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures in the parentheses indicates row percentages.
E - Experimental Group  C - Controlled Group

Source: Computed from interview schedule data.
It is obvious from the above given Table that there was an impact of the leadership on the village communities of the experimental group. All the respondents (100%) of Kondamanaickenpatti accepted the leadership of their village. All the respondents of the experimental group villages Anumantharayankottai and Kondamanaickenpatti in 1988 expressed that the leadership of their villages had implemented the development programmes successfully. 81.08% of the respondents of Puliyarajakapatti said that the leadership has successfully implemented the programmes in their village. In the same way in eliciting people's participation also the leaderships of the experimental group villages have succeeded. But in helping to settle the disputes between individuals and groups in the villages itself without going to the court of law, the leaderships of the experimental group villages Anumantharayankottai and Puliyarajakapatti have not done anything successful. In this respect the two controlled group villages namely Palakanuthu and Ramagoundanpatti also have not done anything whereas the leaderships of the experimental group village Kondamanaickenpatti and the controlled group village Palaniyur helped to settle the disputes between groups and individuals in their villages.
This addition may be an improvement over the planning committee model (mainly consists of village planning committees, youth club and women's club) of the present study villages of the experimental group.

In the present model, an outside agency has to be constantly in touch with the village planning committee and other organisations. This may be avoided to a great extent by adding a few more meaningful bodies for planning and executing development programmes.

It is true, the villages of the experimental group had made some progress compared to the villages of Controlled group. But the progress was not in all the aspects of development. The progress could be much higher.

There is no structured arrangement to settle the disputes and quarrels between groups and individuals within the village itself without going to the police station or the court of law. In the present model of the villages of the experimental group, this has not been introduced.

Those who are talented or capable of doing things in different fields are not properly utilised for the development of the village in the present development model of the
4. Agricultural Development
5. Economic upliftment of the weaker sections
6. Employment opportunities
7. Providing housing to Harijan families
8. Health and sanitation
9. Family planning
10. Nutritious noon meal and other social welfare programmes
11. Transport and communication
12. Institutions and organisations
13. Awareness building programme
14. People's participation
15. Impact of leadership

The above said developmental activities were more significant in the villages of the experimental group when they are compared with villages of the Controlled group. The village planning committees, youth clubs and women's clubs were involved in planning and implementing programmes. Of course the Gandhigram Rural Institute was constantly guiding and helping the village planning committee.

For a more systematic, democratic decentralised planning and implementation of development programmes for the allround development of the villages, the village assemblies or Gramsabha and executive committee are quite essential.
1. Gramsabha (Village assembly)
2. Youth club
3. Women's Club
4. Villag Planning Committee
5. Education, cultural and Reception committee
6. Agriculture, water supply and irrigation committee
7. Health and sanitation committee
8. Committee for construction of houses for Harijans and weaker sections.
9. Village Industries and Employment Generation committee
10. Transport, communication and Electricity committee
11. Distribution and Marketing committee
12. Village court (Panchayat for settling disputes)

**Gramsabha**

**Structure:** All the heads of the families of the village are the members of the Gramsabha. The office bearers of women's club, Youth club, Cooperatives, other organisations of the village, the voluntary organisations working in the village (if there is any) and the school teachers are also members of the Gramsabha. Due consideration will be given to all sections of the society in selecting the office bearers of the Gramsabha. President, Secretary and the
experimental group villages. If they are properly utilised it will pave the way for the emergence of a responsible leadership at the village and national level.

Above all, to strengthen the present panchayats and the higher level local bodies, a strong foundation has to be laid at the small village level itself by way of bringing the village community together through the real participatory approach to solve the problems of the people. For this the Gramsabha, the village planning and executive committees and the elders council or any other appropriate body to settle disputes will be effective instruments. While constituting committees for planning and implementing programmes proper qualifications or criteria have to be fixed for selecting or nominating their members and office bearers. Keeping the above said observations in view, the following model is suggested for developmental planning and implementation of programmes for the all round development of the villages.¹

Improvements in the model

The improved model consists of the following people's bodies and committees.
treasurer may be selected by consensus. As far as possible, the members of the sabha must try for consensus. If it is not possible secret voting may be resorted to select the office bearers. The office bearers of the Gramsabha may have a term of five years. It must meet atleast once in two months to transact its business.

Functions;

i) Discussing the problems connected with the welfare of the village community and taking decisions to solve them.

ii) Discussing the work done reports presented by the various committees and guide the committees for better performance.

iii) Discussing the ways and means to raise the common good fund and for mobilising resources for the welfare activities.

iv) The Gramsabha may nominate representatives to the village panchayat. If it has to nominate only one representative to the panchayat it may nominate the president of the sabha as its representative to the panchayat.

v) Constituting various committees for planning and
implementing development programmes and giving guidelines for the functioning of the committees and the village court.

Finance

Finance for the functioning of the Gramsabha and the committees may come from the common good fund of the Gramsabha. The common good fund is the voluntary contribution by the village families. The Gramsabha may fix a bare minimum for each family according to its capacity as contribution to the fund. But those who are willing may donate more. Each committee should submit its accounts when the Gramsabha meets. The Youth club and the Women's club may raise funds on their own from its members. The Gramsabha may spend the funds for the earmarked purposes through the concerned committees. This necessity arise when the funds allotted by the government or panchayat union is not adequate or when the Gramsabha decides to carryout some projects without the aid of the state or central government.

Youth club

Structure

All the youths in the age group of 15-35 of the village
irrespective of the political parties, caste and religious group and sex may become members of the club. As far as possible, the office bearers may be selected by consensus. Once in a year the office bearers may be changed.

Functions

i) Organising discussion classes with the help of experts on different topics to acquire knowledge for their development.

   ii) Helping the Gramsabha and other committees in implementing the development programmes of the village.

   iii) Working as Peace Brigades in preventing conflicts and clashes between individuals and groups of the village.

   iv) Night patrolling in the village whenever necessary.

   v) Organising sight seeing cum study tours for youths and others in the villages.

   vi) Organising sports and games for children and youths.
Finance

The youth club may raise funds through the subscription of the members and donations. It must present the audited statement of accounts every year and get the approval and sanction of the members of the youth club. The Gramsabha may also help financially.

Women's Club

Structure

All adult women of the village irrespective of their affiliation to political parties, caste, religious groups may become members of the club. As far as possible the office bearers must be selected by consensus once in a year or according to the decisions of the club the office bearers may be changed.

Functions

i) Arranging meetings, group discussions and demonstration classes for learning the aspects of women and child development.
ii) Helping the Gramsabha and the various committees in implementing women and child development programmes and other programmes if it is necessary.

iii) Helping to keep the village streets, surroundings of the water supply tanks and wells and public bathrooms and toilets neat and clean.

iv) Helping the members and other women of the weaker sections to become self employed through organising craft training, short term courses and extending help to get assistance from bank and the voluntary agencies.

v) Joining the members of the youth club and work as peace brigades in preventing conflicts and clashes between individuals and groups in the village.

vi) Organising sight seeing and study tours for women and children.

Finance

The women's club may raise funds through the subscription of its members and public donations.
Village Planning Committee

Structure

The following may be the members of the Village Planning Committee:

- President of the Gramsabha (may also be the Chairman of this committee)
- The President of the Panchayat (to which the village belongs)
- The Panchayat members of the village (who are elected to the panchayat from that village or hamlets)
- Presidents and Secretaries of the youth club, women's clubs, Cooperatives and other village organisations and the Headmaster of the village school.
- Chairmen of the various committees constituted by the Gramsabha.
- Two Unanimously nominated well informed Harijan members—one male and another female—by the Gramsabha.

The President of the Gramsabha may nominate any two of the above said members as Vice-Chairman and Secretary of the Planning committee. Along with the above said members, if the Gramsabha decides to include some more members it may do
so. The village administrative officer, Rural Welfare Officer and other outside experts may also be members of the Village Planning Committee. The committee may meet once in a month. If it is necessary it may meet even once in a fortnight.

**Functions**

i) Survey, collection of data, preparation of resource inventory with the help of the outside experts, contacting people now and then to know their felt needs and other problems.

ii) Preparation of annual and long-term plans for the development of the village with the help of the outside experts, panchayat, panchayat union, development officials and interested voluntary agencies.

iii) Conducting meetings inviting the development officials and other experts to know the simple planning techniques and different schemes of the government for rural development.

iv) Conducting review meetings of the plan implementation, inviting the members of the various committees and
development officials and other agencies which are implementing the schemes.

v) Presenting the annual and long-term plans in the Gramsabha meetings.

vi) Visiting important places in connection with acquiring knowledge in planning and implementation of schemes.

**Finance**

For preparation of plans and visiting places in connection with the preparation of plans the Vice-President may get the money from the treasurer of the Gramsabha. The accounts may be presented to the Gramsabha.

**Education, Cultural and Reception Committee**

**General Criteria to become members of the committees**

The following criteria may be followed while nominating members to all committees and the office bearers to the Gramsabha Youth club and Women's club along with the other special criteria for particular committees.

1. Should be well-versed in the problems of the vil-
lage and to some extent in a position to suggest solutions to solve the problems.

2. Must set an example to others in all respects.

3. Should be a literate and interested in learning things.

4. Ready to spare sometime for public work.

5. Should not claim remuneration for public work except during unavoidable circumstances.

6. Should be acceptable by all sections of the people in the village and should be Free from caste, religion-, regional and language fanaticism.

Special criteria

Along with the above said criteria the following special criteria may be desirable to be the members of this committee.

1. Interested in improving the system of village education.

2. Well educated among the villagers.

3. Interest in cultural activities and

4. Good at giving warm welcome to guests.
Structure

Members of this committee will be selected in the meeting of the Gramsabha by consensus after having announced the general and special criteria. If any one who fulfills the above said criteria is willing or voluntarily coming forward to become a member of this committee, he or she may be included as a member. Due representation has to be given to all sections of the village. If more members who are fulfilling the criteria are willing to become members of this committee then the required number of members for the committee may be selected by lot. In this process, if any one of the section of the village feels it has no representation the president of the Gramsabha may nominate some one from that section. The head master or headmistress of the village school, the balwadi teacher, representative of the voluntary agency (if there is any voluntary agency is working and having a good relationship with the village) may be nominated as members of this committee, by the president of the Gramsabha. The president may also nominate any outside experts if it is necessary. The tenure of all the committees may be decided by the Gramsabha. The Chairman and the Secretary of the committee may be selected later in the meeting of this committee by consensus.
Functions

i) Implementing the plan of the village planning committee for improving the standard of education in the village school.

ii) Help to run adult education and general knowledge classes for the adults.

iii) Identifying the youths interested in fine arts and encourage them.

iv) Arranging for periodical cultural programmes, film shows and discourse of learned scholars and seminars having various development aspects as their themes.

v) Serving the parents and their wards by way of acting as a 'Career Guidance Council' for choosing their courses and jobs.

vi) Making arrangements for imparting skills in different crafts to the villagers.

vii) Making arrangements to take care of the common guests visiting the village.

viii) Running a reading room-cum-library.
ix) Arranging for the educational tours at least once in a year.

**Finance**

Gramsabha may help to meet the contingency and miscellaneous expenses of the committee. Accounts will be maintained by the Secretary and will be presented in the meeting of the Gramsabha. For other expenses of the programmes the committee may submit proposals to the Gramsabha and try to find out resources through government and non-governmental agencies.

**Agriculture, Water supply and Irrigation Committee**

**Special Criteria**

Along with the already stated general criteria the following may be the special criteria to become a member of this committee.

1. Being a good knowledgeable agriculturist.
2. Having a thorough knowledge about the water resources of the village.
Structure

The members, the Chairman and Secretary of the Committee may be selected in the meetings of the Gramsabha and the committee as it has been stated in the case of Education, Cultural and Reception Committee. The President of the Gramsabha in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee nominates the officials of the agricultural department, the representative of the voluntary agencies and the panchayat union worker incharge of supply of drinking water as members of this committee. The committee may meet at least once in a month. The duration of the committee period may be decided by the Gramsabha.

Functions

i) Taking care of the proper supply of drinking water to the village.

ii) Helping for the proper maintenance of irrigation tanks.

iii) Helping to implement the schemes formulated by the planning committee for the development of agriculture.

iv) Helping the farm families to get assistance from
the government for increasing their cattle wealth and maintaining them properly.

v) Helping the farm families to get assistance from the government for the development of agriculture.

vi) Arranging for agricultural demonstrations and field visits with the help of the department of agriculture and other voluntary agencies.

vii) Helping for raising community graze yard, community vegetable garden, orchard and social forestry and getting income through them to the Gramsabha.

Finance

Gramsabha may provide a small amount for the functioning of the committee. This committee may submit proposals for implementing useful programmes. Resources may be mobilised locally and through the state and central governments.

Health and Sanitation Committee

Special criteria

Along with the general criteria to become members of the committees the following special criteria may be re-
quired to become a member of this committee.

i) Those who are well versed in personal and public hygiene and those who are interested in keeping the village houses and their surroundings neat and clean.

ii) Those who have some knowledge in construction of latrines, drainages, soak pits and preparation of compost manure.

iii) One who has some knowledge in health care and nutrition and is capable of introducing locally available nutritious food stuffs to the people.

Structure

Just like the other members of the committees the members and the office bearers of this committee may also be selected adopting the same procedures. The doctors or health workers of the primary health centres and sub-centres may also be requested to be the members of this committee. Since health and sanitation includes the care of expectant mothers and children more women members may be selected or nominated to this committee. The committee may meet whenever it is necessary along with the regular monthly meetings.
functions

i) Taking care of the implementation of the schemes connected with health, nutrition and sanitation.

ii) Keeping the village streets, public places, community toilets and bathrooms neat and clean.

iii) Helping for the medical service to the people especially to the weaker sections.

iv) Providing health education to the people through individual contacts, group discussions and various extension methods with the help of the outside agencies if necessary.

v) Educating and persuading people for giving up the unhealthy habits of drinking, gambling etc.

vi) Conducting yoga classes and inter-religious community prayer with the help of the education, cultural and reception committee.

Finance;

Gramsabha may raise funds for implementing the schemes of this committee. Assistance of the state and central governments through panchayats and the panchayat union may
be one of the major resources for implementing the schemes.

The committee should maintain proper accounts.

Committee for Construction of Houses to Weaker section and Harijan Families:

Special Criteria:

Along with the general criteria the following special criteria have to be taken note of while selecting members to this committee.

i) Well informed and public minded persons among the people of scheduled caste and the poor who are badly in need of a house to live.

ii) Person who has some experience and knowledge in the construction of houses.

Structure:

Members may be selected on the basis of the general and special criteria by the Gramsabha and following the procedures adopted for selecting members of the other committees. The Chairman and the Secretary may be selected by the members of the Committee in a separate meeting as it is done i
the case of the other committees. The civil engineer of the
panchayat union or any one of his assistants, representative
of the voluntary agency (in any agency is working in the
village) or any experts nominated by the Gramsabha President
may be the members of the committee. The committee meets
once in a month. If it is necessary it may meet even once
in a fortnight.

Function:

i) Identification of the poor and Harijan families who are
really in need of a house.

ii) Helping to process the applications for getting assis-
tanced from the Government and other voluntary agencies.

iii) Being incharge of the house construction programme in
the village (for the poor)

iv) Helping for the maintenance of the newly constructed
houses for the poor by way of collecting small amounts from
themselves. In this connection proper accounts should be
maintained and reported to the Gramsabha.

' v) Helping to beautify the colony of newly constructed
houses by way of planting trees and laying of link roads and
v) Helping to beautify the colony of newly constructed houses by way of planting trees and laying of link roads and formation of small parks and vegetable gardens.

vi) Conducting periodical meetings to review the work of the committee.

Finance:

Fund for the construction of houses may be got from the government. Sometimes voluntary agencies may also help. Before submitting the accounts to the Government (if there is any dealing) the accounts may be presented in the Gram-jabha for its comments.

tillage Industries and Employment Generation Committee:

Special Criteria:

Jong with the general criteria the following special criteria may be required to become a member of this committee.

i) One who is engaged in village and small scale industries must be given preference.

i) One who is interested in the industrial development of the village without affecting the agriculture and the natu-
ral environment of the country side must be made members of this committee.

Structure:

All the members except the nominated out side members are selected in the meeting of the Gramsabha following the procedures adopted for selecting members for the other committees. If there are different types of industries one person from each industry may be selected to the committee. Those who are undergoing training in industrial institutes and polytechnics may also be selected as members. If the Gramsabha wants to include some outside experts as members of the committee they may also be included. The office bearers of this committee may be selected in the separate meeting of the committee. The committee may meet once in a month to transact its business.

Functions:

i) Helping the poor families to get bank loans to start some village industries.

ii) Identifying the right type of village industries for different groups and individuals.

iii) Helping for arranging for short training courses for
learning crafts and different kinds of industries with the help of industrial training institutes established in the block and district head quarters.

iv) Helping to implement the industrial development schemes of the planning committee.

v) Helping to find out employment opportunities to skilled and educated young men and women of the village.

vi) Collecting data connected with the employment position of the village.

Finance:

This committee may implement programme with the help of industrial development schemes of the state and central governments. If there is a need for construction of work-shed, villagers may be asked to contribute a portion of the expenses or labour. The Gram Sabha may make arrangements for it. For contingency expenses the Gramsabha may provide a small amount. The committee should present the statement of accounts in the Gramsabha.
Transport, Communication and Electricity Committee:

Special criteria:

Along with the general criteria the following special criteria are required, to be members of this committee.

i) Having some knowledge in modern transport communication system;

ii) Interested in improving the communication system of the village.

iii) Having some knowledge in electrical wiring and working of pumpsets.

Structure:

Following the procedures for selecting the members of the other committees the Gram Sabha will elect members for this committee. The civil engineers of the panchayat union or his assistants and the representative of the voluntary agency (if there is any voluntary agency is working in the village) and any other outside expert recommended by president of the Gramsabha may also become members of the committee. Any one of the wire men or workers of electricity
board working in the area where the village is located may also be requested to be a member of this committee. The committee may select its Chairman and Secretary in a separate meeting by consensus or by lot. The committee may meet once in a fortnight or once in a month.

Functions:

i) Implementing the scheme laying of link roads which connect the main road, farm houses and burial grounds, with the help of the resources of the panchayat union and the state government.

ii) Taking care of proper fixing of street lights and electrification of the public buildings and the village school and their maintenance by way of contacting the state electricity department.

iii) Taking care of town bus service and other transport facilities of the village with the help of the State Transport Corporation and the Regional Transport Officer.

iv) Helping the villagers to get transport facilities during marriage and pilgrimage seasons.

v) If the village is not connected with telephone,
exploring the possibility of linking it with at least one common telephone.

vi) Helping for proper power supply to the farms.

vii) Helping for repairing the motors and pumps at reasonable charges within a short period of time.

Finance:

This committee may run a community service centre with minimum investment to help the farmers and the villagers in repairing the electric motors and other electric appliances. This service centre may provide employment opportunities to a few persons. For this the Gram Sabha need not spend much except the initial investment which could be reimbursed through the collection of service charges in due course. The contingency expenses of the committee may be provided by the Gram Sabha. The statement of accounts of the committee should be presented in the meeting of the Gram Sabha.

Distribution and Marketing Committee;

Special Criteria:

Along with the general criteria the following special crite-
ria are required to be a member of this committee.

i) One must be good at proper account keeping.

ii) Should not thing about making profit for himself while doing business for the common good.

iii) First priority should be given to the welfare of the people and quality of things. Profit should be thought of only next to this.

iv) Must be knowledgeable in the current market rates of the agricultural and other produces.

**Structure:**

The committee may consist of the president and secretaries of the cooperative societies (if there are cooperative societies in that village) and other selected members of the Gramsabha on the basis of the criteria given above and the nominated experts by the president of the Gramsabha. The Chairman and secretary of the committee may be selected in a separate meeting of the committee. The Chairman and the Secretaries must be selected from among the selected members of the Gramsabha. The committee must meet atleast once in a
Functions:

i) Dealing with all sorts of cases except murder cases and large scale dacoity involving injuries and murder.

ii) As far as possible trying to compromise between individuals and groups.

iii) Helping for negotiation between the parties.

iv) After receiving the request from any one of the party the court will inquire each party separately and record the inquiry. Announcing the joint decision after meeting the parties separately second time. Since the joint decision will be within the broad guideline given by the Gramsabha the decision should be respected by both the parties.

v) Trying to help settle the problem between persons or groups of that village and another village.

vi) Giving moral and spiritual education to the people by way of conducting discussion classes and arranging lectures by learned scholars and spiritual leaders.

Finance:

The contingency expenses of the village court may be met by the Gramsabha. The secretary nominated by the president of
tee. The committee must present the statement of accounts in the Gramsabha for scrutiny.

Village Court: (Village Panchayat)

Criteria:

Judges to the village court should be unanimously selected on the basis of the following criteria.

i) They should be above party politics.

ii) They should be respected by all castes and all groups of the village community.

iii) They should have the moral courage to uphold truth and justice at any cost.

iv) They must be very much concerned about the unity and peaceful social life of the village community.

v) They must be having strong faith in secularism and national integration.

vi) They must be familiar with the proceedings of the civil and criminal courts to some extent.

vii) They may be above 40 in age and educated Uiterate).
viii) They must be setting an example in all respects to others.

ix) They must consider their job of settling disputes as a real service to the village community and should not expect any thing for this service.

x) They must be free from anger and should not hurt the feelings of others by their expressions.

Structure:

Following the above said criteria about five members from different socio-economic groups of the village community may be selected by consensus in the Gram Sabha. Efforts may be taken to provide representation for a cross-section of the village community and ensure the number to the minimum of about five. The opinion expressed by all the members of the village court will be given equal weightage. The President of the Gram Sabha will only be the Convenor of the Village Court by tradition. Village court will meet as and when necessary in a public place. The approach of the village court is more of conciliatory and compromising.
Functions:

i) Dealing with all sorts of cases except murder cases and large scale dacoity involving injuries and murder.

ii) As far as possible trying to compromise between individuals and groups.

iii) Helping for negotiation between the parties.

iv) After receiving the request from any one of the party the court will inquire each party separately and record the inquiry. Announcing the joint decision after meeting the parties separately second time. Since the joint decision will be within the broad guideline given by the Gramsabha the decision should be respected by both the parties.

v) Trying to help settle the problem between persons or groups of that village and another village.

vi) Giving moral and spiritual education to the people by way of conducting discussion classes and arranging lectures by learned scholars and spiritual leaders.

Finance:

The contingency expenses of the village court may be met by the Gramsabha. The secretary nominated by the president of
the Gramsabha may maintain the accounts and present it in the Gramsabha. Expenses for the meetings arranged for educating the people may also be met by the Gramsabha.

The size of the committees of the above said improved micro model may differ according to the size of the village. If there is difficulty in identifying members to the committees in small villages, one person may serve in more than one committee also. Excluding the Village Court (Village Panchayat consists of five members) eight committees are given in the improved micro-model. There need not be any hard and fast rule about the number of committees. The Gram Sabha may reduce the number of committees by way of clubbing two committees together and making them one. Even a few sub groups may be constituted by the Gram Sabha in the place of the committees to execute the development Programmes in the case of a few hamlets where it is felt difficult to constitute number of committees. Here the above said eight committees alongwith the village court are suggested mainly because of the following two reasons:

1. Many motivated, interested and talented individuals may have a chance to contribute in their own way for the development of the village community and have a direct
participation in the governance of their village under the guidance and control of the Gram Sabha. In such a set up the village would be like a little republic.

2. When all such above said individuals involve themselves in carrying out the development activities of the concerned village communities they would become more responsible and thus a new leadership may be created at the grass roots.

A small village may not be a viable unit for planning for implementing programmes such as providing full employment to the landless agricultural labourers and establishing health centres with all facilities. This may be taken note of by the Gramsabha and the committees and try to sort it out with the help of the panchayats and the panchayat unions by way of joining the nearby villages in achieving their goals in such above said development aspects.

The general criteria given while dealing with the Education, cultural and reception committee are common to select members for all the committees or sub-groups, and officer-bearers for the Gramsabha, youth club, women's club and other organisations of the village. If there is difficulty in identifying members fulfilling the special
criteria for some committee, persons fulfilling the general criteria may be selected. Afterwards orientation may be given to such persons with the help of the concerned experts to serve effectively in those committees.

The above said improved micro model may be introduced by social workers or voluntary agencies or institutions involved in rural development after establishing a good rapport in the village and after identifying leaderships at various levels and in different fields to some extent. The universities and the voluntary organisations may adopt villages, guide them for bringing development in all aspects of village life.
Chart 4.1

EXISTING MICRO MODEL
Chart 4.2

IMPROVED MICRO MODEL

1. Village Planning Committee
2. Education, Cultural and Reception Committee
3. Agriculture, Water Supply and Irrigation Committee
4. Health and Sanitation Committee
5. Housing Committee
6. Village Industries Committee
7. Transport, Communication and Electricity Committee
8. Distribution and Marketing Committee
9. Village Court