

Subject: VILLAGE DIALOGUES

Visit by: Management Group (SSK, HMN, TH, FS -accompanied by TS).

Village: DANYORE Visit No. FIRST

(1) General characteristics (as reported by villagers)

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| (i) | Population | 9,600 |
| (ii) | Houses | 1,200 (of these 200 houses in Dass ... barren land). |
| (iii) | Cultivated land | 6,200 kanals (inadequate water) |

(2) Venue & Attendance

27 elders from different directions of the village gathered in Jamatkhana. Ten others joined at intervals. The district council member of the area was also present.

(3) Introduction of AKRSP

TS introduced the MG and the village elders with each other. The GM addressed the gathering by explaining the objectives of the AKRSP. The AKRSP is here to concentrate on agricultural improvement. It is an economic-oriented organisation. His Highness has specially sent us to participate with the people for uprooting their poverty and improving their income. There exists different institutions in the village which are looking after the social and religious matters. For agriculture development, the participation of almost all the farmers is essential. The object is to benefit every one depending on agriculture. Agriculture improvement is possible only through collective planning and work. For this purpose the organisation of the villagers is of great importance. Individually it is very difficult to fix priority and solve the problems which have resulted in poor incomes. The AKRSP will extend financial assistance and technical guidance and training improved methods. To overcome poverty you have to think, identify such plan on collective basis and also shoulder the responsibility whatsoever.

The AKRSP will deal with you as one entity and not individually. Individual dealing is neither possible nor it can bring any fruitful results.

(4) Problem Identification

One of the elders in consultation with others, reported the following problems in the first instance:

- (i) Arrangement for supply of improved seed should be made to replace the traditional seed for better yield.
- (ii) Our seed gets infected and wasted due to non-availability of insecticides. Arrangement for seed treatment is necessary.
- (iii) Sufficient fruit produce is wasted by disease attack. Timely plant protection measures will help us to protect the fruit.
- (iv) Fertilizer is not available on time and on reasonable rates. Its availability on control rate may be ensured.

(5) Discussion

A general discussion took place among the villagers. After lengthy discussion, they reported that:

- (i) Sufficient land is available in the village, minimum 20 kanal and maximum 100 kanals per family. There is acute shortage of water and as a result a big chunk of land is lying uncultivated. If adequate irrigation water supply is arranged, 1200 houses will benefit.
- (ii) The water in the main channel is wasted due to a bridge at Gurandass and accordingly from Oshikandas side. The district council member (Amir Shah) informed that the government

had prepared a PC-1 of Rs. 44 lacs but has not yet approved.

GM: The AKRSP is not designed to take up works of big department. For such type of work, the government department (NAWO) is working, which can look after them. The AKRSP will concentrate on those schemes which the people can implement themselves without a contractor.

Elders: There is possibility of life irrigation from the Gilgit river, but electricity is not available. One pump can benefit about 50 families.

GM: Diesel pumps can be installed for groups of farmers whose land are lying close to each other subject to the condition that the management, maintenance and distribution of water will be their responsibility through respective organization.

Elders: We assure to undertake this responsibility in an organised form. We are ready to extend every cooperation to AKRSP.

GM: Very well! if you are ready to form an organisation and take up the responsibility, the engineer will come to assess the feasibility for installation of pumps at suitable sites in consultation with you. After survey, we will come again and discuss the procedures of work and organisation. Each group of beneficiaries will take up the responsibility. On our second visit, all of them should be present. All other needs can also be fulfilled through group action. The members of the organisation will discuss and plan the quantity and quality of fertilizer, seed, pesticides/insecticides etc., according to requirements which the AKRSP could then arrange.

The Engineer will also look into the feasibility of the channel coming from Oshikandas and work out the cost and whether the people can execute the work or not.

Summary of main problems

Inadequate irrigation water for cultivated land especially during March, April and May.

The construction of main channel about 10 miles coming from Oshikandas is one alternative. It involves huge funds for blasting and digging. Another alternative is the installation of life irrigation pumps. One pump will benefit about 50 families.

General observation

The people are organised for religious and social welfare work as a community. They are united and well disciplined. Their response was positive and encouraging.