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REPORT OF THE APPRAISAL MISSION

TO

HIMACHAL PRADESH

JANUARY 1981

APPRAISAL OF DEOTSIDH WATER  
SUPPLY SCHEME, HAMIRPUR DISTRICT

KD 3489

Mission members: Mr Arwind N. Das  
Mr Sunil K. Dhawan

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ROYAL NETHERLANDS EMBASSY

NEW DELHI - INDIA

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REPORT OF  
THE APPRAISAL MISSION  
T O  
THE DEOTSIDH RURAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY SCHEME  
I N  
HAMIRPUR DISTRICT  
HIMACHAL PRADESH.

1. INTRODUCTION :

1.1 OBJECTIVES -

The task of the mission was to make an appraisal of the socio-economic aspects of the proposed rural drinking water supply project for the Deotsidh group of villages in Barsar tehsil in Hamirpur district of Himachal Pradesh. The terms of reference of the mission are attached as Appendix-I.

1.2 COMPOSITION -

The mission consisted of Dr. Arvind N. Das and Mr. Sunil K. Dhawan, both from the Public Enterprises Centre for Continuing Education, New Delhi.

1.3 DURATION AND ITINERY AND METHODOLOGY -

The mission visited Himachal Pradesh between January 21 and 30, 1981. It visited Simla (the State Capital), Hamirpur (the district headquarters), Barsar (the tehsil headquarters), a Block Development Office at Bijhar and Chakmoh, Karah, Baragram, Baharal, Dhabiti, Ghodi, Chowki, Thaon, Laphran, Sohari, Kulwal, Jajri and Karsi villages.

Discussions were held with a cross-section of villagers in the different villages and with officials at different levels regarding various aspects of the proposed drinking water project by itself, its different aspects and possible inter-linkages with other developmental efforts.

At the state level discussions were held in Simla with Mr. B.K. Sarkar, Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department (PHED); Mr. Dilbagh Singh, Superintending Engineer, PHED (Ud); Mr. P. Mukherjee, Finance Secretary; Mr. P.D. Bhatnagar, Director, Department of Economics and Statistics; Mr. H.C. Malhotra, Engineer-in-Chief, Public Works Department; and others.

At the district level (Hamirpur), discussions were held with the following officials : Deputy Director, Agriculture; District Education Officer; District Animal Husbandry Officer; Divisional Forest Officer, Soil Conservation; District Development and Panchayat Officer; Divisional Forest Officer; General Manager, District Industries Centre; District Statistical Officer; Deputy Chief Medical Officer; Executive Engineers, PHED; and the Sub-divisional Magistrate officiating as District Collector.

At the Sub-divisional level (Barsar), discussions were held with the Sub-divisional Magistrate; Tehsildar; Officials of the Electricity Board; Industries, Animal Husbandry and Agriculture Departments and with the Sub-divisional Officer (Assistant Engineer), PHED. In addition, discussions were held with Shri N.P. Prasher, Member of Parliament, and Chairman of the State Governments' Review Committee for Water Supply Schemes, and other elected representatives.

At the Block level too discussions were held with the Block Development Officer and officials concerned with

industries, panchayats, agriculture etc. and a few health visitors and gram sevaks (village level workers).

Two Primary Health Centre were visited and discussions were held with the doctors and compounders.

Several Junior Engineers and Surveyors of the PHED were extensively interviewed as were many villagers belonging to different castes, religions, and economic strata. Information was obtained from them through dialogue.

13 villages were visited for collecting data. In addition 2 villages ~~are~~ not included in the proposed project were also visited. The villages were selected so as to cover a wide geographical region. In each village, we talked to the higher castes and lower castes separately, our discussions covered the following aspects :

- (i) Socio-economic characteristics of the village
  - caste composition
  - cropping pattern
  - nature of employment and wages.
- (ii) Specific problems of drinking water supply
  - sources of drinking water and access to drinking water
  - participation and contribution by project beneficiaries.
- (iii) Likely outcomes of the proposed project
  - current problems of the villagers
  - specific needs that the proposed project would meet.

In the villages, we interviewed the peasants in groups. Wherever possible, we tried to ensure that the group discussions were not dominated by merely one or two individuals.

While describing the socio-economic characteristics in an Indian village, one normally uses the category of "dominant caste". According to the dominant - caste theory, in many of India's villages there exists a particular caste which possesses most of the major power resources - viz., large number of caste members; high ritual status; most of the land and other economic assets; the performance of functionally influential and valued occupations etc.<sup>1</sup>

In the project area, although we could not collect data on landholdings and other assets, in a systematic and verifiable manner in view of the short duration, we could get a fair idea of the nature of power and resource distribution through our interviews.

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<sup>1</sup>John McDougall, "Dominant Castes or Rich Peasants", EPA, Vol. XIV Nos. 12 and 13, 1979, pp. 625-634.

2. REPORT :

The following is a point-wise summary report based on information collected through the above methods. The structure of the report broadly follows the outline set in the terms of reference (Appendix-I).

2.1 PROBLEMS WHICH LED TO THE PROJECT PROPOSAL -

The following factors led to the formulation of the project proposal for safe drinking water supply to the project area :

- Scarcity of water, particularly during summer when the local sources, bowries, dugwells, etc. dry up.
- High incidence of water-borne diseases.
- Large number of pilgrims visiting the temple of "Baba Balak Nath" every year. As there are not arrangements for safe drinking water, the pilgrims have to buy inhygenic water at exorbitant rates.
- Lack of drinking water arrangement for school-going children in their schools. Children have to take bottles of water from their homes to the school.
- Political and other representations from various leaders, grampanchayats (through ministers) etc., to the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED).

In addition to these immediate factors, another reason for the project proposal is the overall plan of the Himachal Pradesh state government to ensure supply of drinking water to all villages of the state by 1985. In accordance with this resolve about 8000 problem villages (revenue villages comprising of about 10 sub-villages each) have been identified for preparation of projects to be funded through the state-government's Minimum Needs Programme, the

Accelerated Rural Integrated Development Programme aided by the central government or through special funds generated through project based international aid. This programme has been accorded particular importance in view of the fact that upto 31.3.1980 only 37.99% of the inhabited villages and only 49.04% of the rural population of the state had assured sources of drinking water under the Water Supply Schemes. In Manipur districts the position in March 1980 was as follows:

TABLE -1

AREA	TOTAL NO. OF VILLAGES AS ON 31.3.1974		PROBLEM VILL. COVERED UPTO 31.3.1977		PROBLEM VILL. COVERED UPTO 31.3.1980		BALANCE AS ON 1.4.1980	
	Vill.	Pop.	Vill.	Pop.	Vill.	Pop.	Vill.	Pop.
Manipur District	1565	251626	31	10960	347	71575	1233	114033
Darrang District	11137	1952297	406	99571	3322	759564	7815	1172753

(SOURCE: Assam Pradesh, Planning Department, Fourth Five-Year Plan 1969-73 and Sixth Annual Plan 1971-72, Guwahati 1980).

For implementing the rural water supply programme, work is being done under two programmes viz. Minimum Needs in the State sector and the Accelerated Rural Water Supply programme in the Central Sector as under:

YEAR	STATE PLAN (MINIMUM NEEDS PROGRAMME)			ACCELERATED RURAL WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME		
	Expenditure (Rs. in Lakhs)	Coverage		Expenditure (Rs. in Lakhs)	Coverage	
		Vill.	Pop.		Vill.	Pop.
1977-78	211.00	169	49,526	214.00	308	63,539
1978-79	409.60	564	1,02,808	427.00	192	1,55,631
1979-80	704.02	662	1,70,545	431.50	339	1,53,156

In addition funds have also been arranged from the Life Insurance Corp. and schemes have been sent to the Govt. of India for arranging financial assistance from International Financial Organisations. Additionally the



Netherlands government has given Rs. 77.00 lakhs for completing the Logwalti Damon Water Supply Scheme in Haridwar district.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Programme/Department	Fifth Plan Outlay 1974-79	1974-78		1978-83
		Outlay	Expenditure	Approved Outlay
Rural Water Supply				
a. P.W. (Public Works Dept.)	703.20	530.20	544.21	3,250.50
b. RIDD (Rural Integrated Devpt. Dept.)	168.00	56.00	55.99	145.00
<b>Total Water Supply</b>	<b>876.80</b>	<b>586.20</b>	<b>599.20</b>	<b>3,445.60</b>

In 1978-79 & 1979-80 the break-up of expenditure on water supply was as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	State Sector	Central Sector	Total
1978-79	544.65	469.55	1014.20
1979-80	695.67	431.80	1127.47

During 1980-81 a sum of Rs. 695.00 lakhs has been provided for water supply program. In addition to this a sum of Rs. 400.00 lakhs under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme and a sum of Rs. 300.00 lakhs under Drought Relief are likely to be made available by the Government of India. The following two schemes have been submitted by the H.P.W.D. to the Government of India:

The following two schemes have been submitted by the H.P.P.W.D. to the Government of India :

	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
(a) Water Supply Schemes to Rural Areas in Hamirpur District	Rs. 2.86 Crores
(b) Water Supply Scheme for Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 50.50 Crores

For the Annual Plan of 1981-82 a sum of Rs. 220.00 lakhs has been proposed for water supply. In addition to this a sum of Rs. 400.00 lakhs is likely to be allotted to the H.P.P.W.D. by the Government of India under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. During the mid-term Plan 1978-83, the approved outlay was Rs. 3550 lakhs for water supply programmes in the state. Under the Central Sector, a sum of Rs. 400.00 lakhs was recommended for release every year. Against an outlay of Rs. 3550.00 lakhs under the State Sector and Rs. 2000.00 lakhs under Central Sector for the period 1978-83, actual releases were as under :-

(Rs. in lakhs)		
YEAR	STATE ALLOCATION	CENTRAL ALLOCATION
1978 - 79	536.00	427.00
1979 - 80	726.00	392.86
1980 - 81	695.00	400.00
TOTAL	1957.00	1219.86

For the period 1980-85 (Sixth Five Year Plan) the total outlay for water supply programme of the PWD is Rs. 4350.00 lakhs and for the RIDD is Rs. 150.00 lakhs.

OUTLAY & EXPENDITURE DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN FOR 1991-92 AND  
DRAFT SIXTH PLAN, 1980-85

SECTOR	ACTUALS 1979-80	1980-81		1980-85		1991-92	
		Appro- ved Out- lay.	Antici- pated Expendi- ture.	Proposed Outlay	Capital Content	Proposed Outlay	Capital Content
Water Supply							
WD	695.67	690.00	690.00	5350.00	5350.00	1020.00	1020.00
RIDD	19.90	20.00	20.00	150.00	-	25.00	-
Total Water Supply.	715.57	710.00	710.00	5500.00	5350.00	1045.00	1020.00

This is the financial perspective of the Drinking Water Supply Programme in Himachal Pradesh as a whole.

It is within this perspective that work has been started on attempting to provide drinking water to villages in Hamirpur district.

The Block-wise distribution within Hamirpur district as follows :

TABLE - 2

BLOCK	TOTAL NO. OF PROBLEM VILLAGES		TOTAL NO. OF PROBLEM VILL. COVERED AS ON 31.3.1980		VILLAGES WITH WORK IN PROGRESS AS ON 1.4.1980		VILLAGES YET TO BE TAKEN UP	
	No.	Pop.	No.	Pop.	No.	Pop.	No.	Pop.
Hamirpur	330	48675	140	26890	98	12200	92	9585
Nadaun	433	59456	91	15310	128	17250	214	26896
Deeranj	291	60553	73	21707	75	14809	143	24037
Bijnar	340	55420	6	1155	279	46723	55	7542
Sujanpur	191	27942	37	8132	62	9862	92	9948
TOTAL	1585	252046	347	73194*	642	100844	596	78008

(SOURCE : Figures supplied by the Himachal Pradesh PHED, Simla)

\*There is a discrepancy between these figures and the population figures in Table-1.

The Deotsidh project area, which covers villages within Bijnar Block, was reported to be among the driest in terms of availability of drinking water. The problem is accentuated here on account of the scattered nature of villages, seasonality of available water sources and is compounded by the huge influx of pilgrims to the shrine of Baba Dalak Nath. The problem is particularly severe for the Scheduled Caste (SC) population, for inhabitants of isolated clusters of houses, for school-going children, for pilgrims and, of course, for women who have to shoulder the major burden of fetching water for domestic use from far off sources at present. The time and labour spent in obtaining water at present is substantial and its reduction could have been a factor in formulating the Deotsidh water supply scheme proposal.

These problems were first brought to the notice of the PHED authorities through representations and memoranda in 1970. In the same year the Deotsidh scheme was included in the departmental budget but, owing to scarcity of resources and the low priority accorded to drinking water supply schemes in general, the budgetary allocation to the scheme was little. Till March 1979 the total expenditure incurred on the scheme was Rs.12,31,727. This included cost of survey, project preparation etc. and expenditure on the first phase of the project to supply water to a limited number of villages in the Deotsidh area. As the major scheme for water supply to the Deotsidh area involves a fairly substantial amount and in view of the involvement of the Netherlands government in financing the Logwalti-Bomson project and the interest expressed by the members of the evaluation mission which visited the Logwalti-Bomson project in other similar projects, the Deotsidh scheme too was put before the Netherlands government for consideration for financing. Pending decision on this request no further allocation was made for this project in the state government's budget for 1980-81.

This is background which has led to the present project proposal.

## 2.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT FROM A SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POINT OF VIEWS -

The main object of the scheme is to supply safe drinking water to an area affected by scarcity of drinking water and subject to water-borne diseases.

Improvements in health and time saved by villagers, specially women, in bringing water are seen as automatic socio-economic benefits even without specific programmes of health education and providing alternative employment opportunities for women being taken up in concert with the project.

Our discussion with officials at various levels and of different departments indicate that the following stated objectives can be considered :

- to improve sanitation in the area.
  - to check water-borne diseases by providing safe drinking water and health education through different functionaries of the Health Department.
  - to make a saving of time in fetching water as at present; particularly in the case of women, and thereby releasing time for undertaking other productive activities already existing in the area.
- In addition, there are the following implicit objectives:
- to stimulate animal husbandry, through use of the water at present used for human consumption.
  - to recruit local labour as and when possible and to impart it with different types of skills during the construction period of the project.

While these constitute the multiple objectives of the project, it must be noted that the primary focus is on the one objective of supplying potable water which is the most crying need. The project is justified by even just that one objective.

### 2.3 CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES USED FOR THE SELECTION OF THE AREA COMPARED TO OTHER AREAS AND FOR THE SELECTION OF VILLAGES WITHIN THE AREA -

The target before the PHE department is to provide safe drinking water to all villages in Himachal Pradesh by the end of 1985. The department is trying to cover 1,500 - 2,000 villages per year under one or the other scheme.

Priority is given to "serious problem villages", i.e., villages where concentration of Scheduled Caste (SC)/Scheduled Tribe (ST) population is high (problem villages being defined according to standard criteria). Priority is also accorded to

certain areas by the state government on account of local political pressure.

Every year representations from political leaders and gram panchayats are received by the PHED. These representations are tabulated, giving estimated costs and budget provisions (if any). These are then discussed among the Chief Engineer, Superintending Engineers and other officials of PHED and allocation to different schemes is made keeping in view the overall budget allocation by the state government. These sub-allocations mean that the schemes have been approved and as and when the financial support becomes available, execution of the scheme will begin.

Technical details of the scheme are then prepared by the field staff of PHED with revised estimated budgets.

The Deotsidh scheme was represented for in 1970 and in the same year it was included in the state budget. It is not known whether the representation was from the people, through Gram Panchayats or otherwise, or through political leaders or by outside interested parties. The total cost at that time was estimated to be Rs.11,74,600.

Selection of the villages was done by the Executive Engineer and his staff. Presently 17 villages have been taken out from the original plan and the work in them has been targeted to be over by the end of March 1981.

In view of the long time lapse between the initial thinking regarding the project and its eventual (and even now only partial) implementation, it is not possible to comment on the original criteria used for selecting particular villages which would come under the scheme at that time beyond stating the general criteria used at present.

2.4 TARGET GROUP(S) AND THEIR CHARACTERISATION. DO THE SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY WEAKEST GROUPS FULLY BENEFIT FROM THE PROJECT ? -

Our observations indicate that in addition to overall population, the following specific target groups have been taken into account :

- women
- school children
- pilgrims.

In the state-level discussions it did emerge that Scheduled Castes population is also a target group; however, no special considerations have been made for them such as providing standposts at a reasonable distances from their houses. We feel that unless such provisions are specially made a number of SC families may not even take the tap water on account of the geographical distance of their habitations from the main village. This was also observed in two villages of the Phase-I of Deotsidh Scheme. However, discussions indicated that PHED officials are becoming aware of this aspect.

2.5 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE : TO WHAT EXTENT THE PROJECT BENEFICIARIES CONTRIBUTE TO INVESTMENT COSTS AND LATER TO COST OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE. ARE ANY IMPROVEMENTS ENVIAGED BASED ON THE LOSWALTI BOMSON SCHEME EXPERIENCE ? -

No direct contribution will be specially made by the beneficiaries towards the investment cost. For operation and maintenance a nominal charge of Re.1/- head/month may be collected. A suggestion (which many people thought to be impractical) that maintenance and guarding of pipelines and standposts within panchayat areas could be entrusted to Gram panchayats by enabling them to recover water rates for the purpose.



In this context it was interesting to note the reluctance of some very poor SC households to be interested in the water supply scheme as they felt unable to commit themselves to any payment especially as they are neither aware of the extent of demands likely to be made on them nor are they happy with their experience of having had to pay for electricity supply.

Based on Logwalti Bomson Scheme, one of the major changes is inclusion of some socio-economic data on the project area in the project proposal itself. It has raised awareness among people and officials outside the PHED about the scheme.

On the technical side of maintenance, provision of telephones for better and speedier communications is being thought about but adequate provision for this in the budget does not seem to have been made.

#### 2.6 INTEGRATION WITH OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES AND COORDINATION WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS -

The following development departments of the Government are functioning in the area : Agricultural Extension; Education-formal and non-formal; Animal Husbandry; Soil Conservation; Forest; Development and Panchayat; Industries; specially small-scale industry; Public Works, Public Health; etc., in addition of course to the Block Development Office. Some of these departments are visibly active in the area; others, on account of shortage of funds and other factors are conspicuous by the infrequency of their appearance in villages. On the whole without a long-term survey and evaluation it is difficult to conclude the extent to which they have been effective in their functioning in terms of meeting their objectives and the extent to which they reach the economically weaker sections. To take just one example, it was reported

that the lowest level government functionary, the Gram sevak, ordinarily has no more than 5 to 6 days in a month, after attending meetings at the Block Office and Panchayat Samities, to actually visit villages. He is therefore able to visit each village in his area not more than once in three or four months.

This is of course not to say that no development activity is taking place in the area. Far from it, indeed there are often enough conflict of interests (e.g. between Forest/Soil Conservation and PHED/Animal Husbandry Departments) during their work in the area. The method of solving these inter-departmental conflicts at present is either through correspondence or through monthly meetings of departmental heads at sub-divisional and district levels.

Discussions with officers belonging to different departments at different levels indicated that although there is fairly widespread awareness among them about the Deotsidh W.S. Scheme, not much concrete thinking has been done to date regarding the potential linking of various departmental efforts towards obtaining optimal benefits from the scheme. However, this process of thinking about linkages between this scheme and others has started and, if continued, should result in coordination of attempts.

Many possible areas of developmental activity directly or indirectly linked to the proposed water supply scheme were indicated in the discussions at various levels.

Many villagers talked of the need and possibility of diversifying economic activities (particularly of women) during the time likely to be made free once the onerous task of water-fetching is lessened. In this context need for training and promoting activities like spinning, weaving,

sewing etc. (at present sporadically supported by the District Industries Centre and the Soldier Welfare Board) etc. was stressed. The lack of pastures on account of forest lands being 'reserved' was pointed out as an obstacle in developing lives-stock but almost everywhere the opinion was expressed that if drinking water for human beings is made more easily available, more effort can be put in looking after milch and draught cattle. The need for some irrigation schemes - large or small - in order to boost both agriculture, horticulture and allied activities was also universally expressed. Some villagers talked about the feasibility of small scale industries e.g. soap-making, carpentry.

The existing small-scale industries in the area comprise of a few composite (rice-husking, cotton-carding, oil expelling, band-saw operations and wood planing) units, some bakeries operating on external inputs but local markets and some soap manufacturing units similarly based on inputs brought from outside the region. 50-60 spinning/weaving units also exist but operate on a very low level. Other possibilities pointed out include making cardboard from pine-needles, making hand-made paper, stone-crushing, dhoop (fragrant wood shavings used for ritual burning) - making, hosiery, knitting, pickling and canning etc.

At the sub-divisional level, the developmental departments' functioning is marked by a degree of informal contact and coordination owing to the very smallness of the sub-divisional headquarters (Barsar) and the need for social interaction among different officials. However, here too some inter-departmental friction does exist. Some of the development departments functioning at that level and their activities are as follows :

ELECTRICITY :- 70% of villages have been supplied with electricity, the remaining 30% are mainly in the Deotsidh area. In 1980-81 the attempt was to supply electricity to 10 harijan (SC) busties (settlements) and 36 villages.

- A 33 kilowatt sub-station is proposed at Mehrae (Barsar) partly in order to cater to the water supply requirements.

INDUSTRY :- Apart from usual activities is, ironically in this energy - scarce period, involved in converting existing water-mills into power-mills in the interest of 'efficiency'.

VETERINARY :- Runs dispensaries at Chakmoh, Bihri and Garli and a hospital at Barsar.

- Provides two types of services : treatment and development and extension. The latter is carried out through periodic visits of livestock Assistants to villages, subsidised supply of milch cattle to small and marginal farmers (the extent of subsidy is 33%, the rest at usual bank lending rates from nationalised banks for ordinary farmers; and 50% subsidy and the remaining at Differential Interest Rates for SC farmers). In 1980-81, 60 heads of cattle were reported to have been supplied in this manner : 20 to SC farmers and the rest to others. In addition to this, subsidy is extended for repair of cattle and poultry-sheds, and artificial insemination (with the assistance of New Zealand) is carried out using the frozen semen technique.

AGRICULTURE :- Advances loans and subsidies for minor lift irrigation projects. Under the Integrated Rural Development Scheme the subsidy is to the extent of 33% of the cost to small and marginal farmers and 20% in the case of larger holdings.

- There is practically no demonstration of advanced techniques of cultivation barring the example of progressive farmers.

HEALTH

- Limited attempts are made to disseminate preventive health knowledge and in the fields of environmental health and sanitation. The emphasis is on the curative side.
- There is need for orientation camps in health; these could be used to disseminate information about hygienic storage of drinking water in addition to other subjects.

2.7 ATTITUDE OF THE GRAM PANCHAYAT TOWARDS THE SCHEME -

On account of the long delay in the execution of the scheme, some of the panchayat members are skeptical about the departments' promises. In the meanwhile on instruction from the government, the Block Development Office is also not giving grants for repair/construction of bowries as frequently as were given before on the ground that the villages are covered under a scheme.

However, we feel that once the construction starts the skepticism of the Panchayat will be reduced and proper and regular contacts with them may even elicit a degree of support. Some opinions were that laying pipelines, maintenance of taps and security of the water supply system should be left to the Gram Panchayats. However, there were very strong

views against these opinions also. Indeed some panchas (members of the Panchayats) themselves felt that the work should be done departmentally. About the Panchayats in general opinion was not always favourable. It was often reported that these were dominated by influential rich villagers, that only the Pradhan was really important, that there being no budget for training of panchas, they were often not aware of their powers and responsibilities and that the general populace was rather indifferent to the Panchayats as evidenced by the fact that Gaon Sabhas (General Village Councils) which should meet at least once in six months were rarely able to meet on account of lack of quorum. It was also interesting to note that the PHED surveyors had on occasions at least taken the hospitality of the Pradhans during their survey visits and could therefore have been influenced by them in their work.

In the state of Himachal Pradesh as a whole Panchayats have been involved in the construction of 179 water supply schemes and Panchayat Samities in the construction of 207 water supply schemes according to the Draft Sixth Five Year Plan, 1980-85 and Draft Annual Plan 1981-82 prepared by the Planning Department of the government. However no qualitative or evaluative account on their involvement or performance is available.

## 2.8 SOCIO-ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE PROJECT AREA -

First, some comments on the socio-economic data provided in the project proposal and then, our impression of the project area.

2.8.1 The surveyor(s) who visited all the villages collected only the technical details; levels of earth etc. We found some villages where even this kind of survey has not been done in the harijan hamlets.

2.8.2 Socio-economic data related to per capita income is taken from the Integrated Rural Development survey conducted by the Block Office. The reliability of such data is suspected on account of the persistent confusion in the popular mind between 'income' and 'profit' or 'savings'.

2.8.3 Population figures and percentage of SC are collected from Gram Panchayats and also from the 1971 census. Such techniques are fairly appropriate.

2.8.4 Data related to health, infant mortality etc. were taken from the District Statistical Office. The figures given seemed to be lower than the estimated aggregate indicated by figures supplied to us by the health centres.

For instance, the following numbers of water-borne diseases were reported at just one health centre (at Bijhar) during 1979 and 1980 :

MONTH	1979	1980
January	22	18
February	21	27
March	34	41
April	48	134
May	193	250
June	121	141
July	70	100
August	44	96
September	37	41
October	26	24
November	45	38
December	48	66
Total	709	976
Total of all ailments reported.	6576	9384

On an impressionistic basis we were informed by medical practitioners that 30-40% of all diseases in the area are water-borne and of these 50% are gastroenteritis, 40% relate to worms and 10% cases are hepatitis. These however are only impressions.

2.8.5 The overall economic conditions of the villagers is poor, though it might have improved marginally as a result of land distribution to the harijans\*. A detailed examination of 3 villages (Appendix-III), indicated that on an average, a poor family\*\* has 1 acre of land and 3 heads of cattle (one milch cattle). Thus, beside agriculture, animal husbandry also supports the consumption needs of the families. Other occupations are labour (both agricultural and non-agricultural), services (defence and civil), trade and transport.

Drinking water seems to be a major problem. Other problems are lack of irrigation facility, lack of veterinary dispensaries and lack of productive employment for women. Health is also a serious problem. Supply of safe potable water along with proper education regarding its storage etc. will provide a great relief.

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\*As a result of land distribution we found that some of shifted their houses to the allotted land. Thus geographically they have further moved away from the main village, in some cases more than a kilometre.

\*\*Identified as target group under Integrated Rural Development Programme.



benefits of safe drinking water as also of organised action to get optimal benefit of various other developmental activities.

3.4 As has been noted in the report, multiple objectives of the proposed scheme could be defined. However, in order to integrate the water supply scheme with the others it is necessary to continue the dialogue between various departments and between officials and the villagers (if necessary through periodic camps and orientation programmes) in order to optimise the benefits. These should be participative, dialogical and constitute a long-term planned socio-economic and developmental component of the programme. Since the project is at its initial stage continued involvement of outside agencies with holistic approaches to monitor and periodically assist this process may be possible right from the beginning, through the construction phases.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE NETHERLANDS APPRAISAL MISSION TO  
THE RURAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY SCHEME "DEOTSIDH" IN HAMIRPUR  
DISTRICT, HIMACHAL PRADESH

The mission will have an informative character and will have particularly but not exclusively the following tasks :

1. REPORT ON A NUMBER OF ASPECTS SUCH AS

- 1.1 problems which led to the project proposals
- 1.2 objectives of the project from a social and economic point of view, e.g. in the social field :
  - to contribute to diffusion of preventive health knowledge, in particular environmental health
  - to improve general environmental sanitation
  - to bring about a lower incidence of some/all water and sanitation related diseases (water borne, -washed, -based, -related)
  - to stimulate universal, exclusive integrated and correct use of the facilities necessary for an optimal health impact
  - proper distribution of services taking into account any disadvantaged regions and sections of the community
  - proposed distribution of the burden of the project such as disruption in communications
  - participation of all groups of the population through official representative organs and otherwise for
    - information about the objectives
    - participation in decision making concerning execution
    - participation in construction whenever possible
    - commitment for payment of water charges
    - participation in safeguarding and maintaining the facilities.
- e.g. in the economic field :
  - employment for the local population
    - system of recruitment
    - wage payments
    - ensuring that minimum wage is paid
  - acquisition of skills for the local population through the execution
  - time and energy saved in collection of water
  - impact on economic activities through productive use of energy and time saved (cottage industry, livestock, agriculture and other fields)
- 1.3 Criteria and procedures used for the selection of the area compared to other areas and for the selection of villages within the area.

- 1.4 Target group and their characterisation. Do the socially and economically weakest groups fully benefit from the project.
- 1.5 Operation and maintenance : to what extent do the project beneficiaries contribute to investment costs and later to cost of operation and maintenance. Are any improvements envisaged based on the Logviti Bawson scheme experience.
- 1.6 Integration with other developmental activities and coordination with other departments
  - what other developmental activities are undertaken in Hapurpur district
  - which departments are involved in particular in activities related to reaching objectives also envisaged by providing drinking water - increase in state of health
  - what type of coordination exists between different departments on different levels : state-, district-, gram panchayat
  - block development office
  - functioning of developmental activities, in terms of meeting their objectives, and the extent to which they reach the economic weaker sections.
- 1.7 Attitude of the gram panchayat towards the scheme
  - maintenance problem
  - effectiveness
  - problems in dealing with the population
  - contact with the weaker sections
- 1.8 Socio-economic situation in the area) extending the information provided by field investigation of a selected group of villages
  - socio-economic background: income level, employment opportunities
  - general problems and problems related to the supply of drinking water
  - perceived impact on health
  - awareness of the scheme
  - willingness to contribute to the scheme for construction and for its operation

2. FAIR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY AND FEASIBLE:

- 2.1 clarification of the objectives of the scheme
- 2.2 improvement of the selection of villages and coverage of population specially of the socio-economically weaker section
- 2.3 improvement of integration of the scheme, in particular with activities in the field of health, and with other developmental activities
- 2.4 improvement of coordination mechanism with other departments
- 2.5 additional activities to be undertaken for better attaining the objectives of the scheme.

ITINERARY

- January 21 - Departure from Delhi.  
Arrival at Panwara via Chandigarh
- January 22 - Arrival at Siala  
Discussions with Chief Engineer, Engineer-in-Chief,  
Finance Commissioner and Officials of the Planning Deptt.
- January 23 - Discussions with PWD Superintending Engineer  
Departure for Hoshiapur  
Discussions with Executive Engineer (2)
- January 24 - Departure for Bansaer  
Discussions with Executive Engineer & Superintending Engineer  
Visit to Village Schari
- January 25 Sunday  
Visit to villages Chakroch, Jajri, Karsi and Dostaidh
- January 26 Monday  
- Discussions with sub-divisional Magistrate (Bansaer)  
Visit to villages Baragan, Dabiri, Thoon, Chandi & Chandi
- January 27 - Visit to villages Lajman, Mahara & Karch
- January 28 - Visit to village Kalwal & Discussions with Block Officials  
at Dighar.  
Discussions at Hoshiapur with District Officials
- January 29 - Preparation of Draft Report  
Discussions at Bansaer with sub-divisional officers
- January 30 - Departure for Panwara via Siala  
Discussions at Panwara with Chief Engineer.

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Note: While the mission tried to complete investigations in the field in the given amount of time, the programme was rushed. It would have helped to have one other (woman) member of the mission and 4 more working days. The disruption caused by holidays as well as the large amount of time taken in travel would have been compensated for with these provisions.

APPENDIX II

VILLAGES VISITED BY THE MISSION

<u>NAME OF THE VILLAGE</u>	<u>TOTAL POPULATION</u>	<u>SC POPULATION</u>
Sohari	405	190
Kalwal	270	81
Karah	145	8
Maharal	856	256
Laphran	180	19
Ghodi	396	97
Chowki	266	43
Thaon	99	22
Dhabiri	422	156
Baragram	447	33
Chaknoh	1137	168
Jajri	848	135
Karsi	420	120

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APPENDIX III

CASTE	LAND HOLDING (KANAL)	CATTLES	OCCUPATION	FAMILY SIZE	EARNING MEMBERS
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<b>I. VILLAGE BARA GRAM</b>					
SC	46	Buffalo, 2 Ox	Agr., Labour	19	5
SC	10	बकरी	Agr.	4	2
SC	10	2 Buff., 1 Ox	Agr., Labour	7	3
SC	10	1 B, 1 Ox, 1 भेड़	"	4	2
SC	--	--	Labour	2	1
SC	--	--	"	3	1
SC	10	--	Agr.	1	1
SC	10	1 B, 2 Ox	"	5	1
SC	10	--	Agr. Labour	2	2
SC	10	1 Cow	Agr., Labour	3	2
SC	10	1 B	" "	6	2
SC	10	1 B, 1 C	" "	6	3
SC	--	1 B	Labour	4	2
SC	10	2 B, 2 Ox	Agr. Labour	5	1
SC	10	2 B	Agr.	6	1
SC	10	--	Agr., Lab.	5	2
SC	10	1 B	Agr., Lab.	5	1
SC	7	3 B, 2 Ox, 3 Sheep, 1 बकरी	Agr.	8	4
SC	--	2 बकरी	Lab.	3	2
SC	10	1 B, 2 Ox	Agr., Lab.	5	2
SC	10	2 Ox, 1 बकरी	Agr. Lab.	5	1
SC	10	2 B, 2 Ox 1 बकरी	Agr. Lab.	12	4
SC	10	1 B, 1 बकरी	" "	6	2
SC	10	--	" "	4	1
NSC	20	1 B, 1 Ox, 1 बकरी	Agr.	5	1

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
NSC	14	1 B, 2 Ox	Ag., Lab.	13	2
NSC	30	1 B, 1 <i>stew</i>	Ag.	5	1
"	30	2 B, 2 Ox	"	12	1
"	14	2 B, 2 Ox	"	4	2
"	20	1 B, 2 Ox	"	5	1
"	25	1 B, 2 Ox	"	7	1
"	45	2 B, 2 Ox, 1 Sheep	"	12	1
"	15	2 B, 2 Ox	"	7	4
"	25	1 B	"	4	1
"	35	3 B, 2 Ox, 2 Sheep	"	7	3
"	36	2 B, 2 Ox	"	5	2
"	30	3 B, 2 Ox	"	9	2
"	30	1 B, 2 Ox	"	6	1
"	35	1 B, 2 Ox, 1 Sheep	"	9	1
"	45	4 B, 2 Ox	"	6	2
"	45	1 B, 2 Ox, 1 C.	"	2	2
"	22	2 B, 1 <i>stew</i>	"	3	2
"	40	2 B, 2 Ox, 1 Sheep	"	5	3
"	15	1 B	"	3	2
"	20	2 B	"	6	1
"	40	2 Ox, 2 B, 1 Sheep	"	3	1
"	1	1 B	"	1	1
"	35	2 Ox, 2 B, 2 Sheep	"	6	1
"	8	1 B, 1 Sheep	" Labour	6	1
"	15	1 B, 2 Ox	"	8	2
"	9	1 B	" Labour	5	1
"	9	1 B	" Labour	5	1

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
NBC	50	3 B, 2 Ox	Ag.	6	2
"	29	1 B, 2 Ox, 1 Sheep	"	7	2
"	25	1 B, 2 Ox	"	6	2
"	15	1 B, 2 Ox	" Labour	6	1
"	15	1 B, 1 Cow, 2 बकरी	"	5	1
"	20	2 Ox, 1 बकरी	" Labour	9	3
"	21	2 B, 2 Ox	"	11	2
"	21	--	"	1	1
"	25	2 B	"	4	2
"	15	2 Ox, 1 B	" Labour	7	2
"	36	1 B, 2 Ox	"	9	2
"	30	2 B, 2 Ox, 1 S.	"	9	2
"	35	1 B, 2 Ox	"	13	4
"	10	1 B	"	4	1
"	30	3 B	" Labour	12	2
"	13	2 B, 2 Ox	" Labour	5	2
"	17	1 B	" Labour	4	1
"	8	1 B	" Labour	6	1
"	32	2 Ox, 1 B	"	23	2
"	14	1 B	"	6	2
"	18	2 Ox	"	6	2
"	42	1 B, 2 Ox, 2 S.	"	3	2
"	--	1 B	Labour	1	1
"	15	2 Ox, 2 B	Ag.	7	1
"	25	2 Ox, 1 B	" Labour	11	2
"	12	1 B, 2 Ox	Ag.	2	2
"	32	1 B, 2 Ox	"	7	2
"	15	1 B, 1 S	" Labour	4	1



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 (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6)  
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II. VILLAGE TAHAO

BC	13	1 B, 1 S	Ag. Lab.	5	1
SC	10	2 B, 1 Ox.	" "	3	2
SC	20	2 Ox, 2 B	" "	7	2
NSC	35	2 B, 2 Ox, 4 𑂔	" "	7	2
"	18	2 B, 2 Ox, 1 𑂔	" "	5	3
"	15	2 B, 2 Ox, 1 S, 2 𑂔	" "	3	2
"	25	3 B	" "	5	2
"	25	2 B, 2 Ox, 1 S, 1 𑂔	" "	6	2
"	25	1 B, 1 𑂔	" "	3	2
"	25	1 B, 2 Ox	" "	3	2
"	25	1 B, 1 S	" "	4	1
"	10	1 B, 2 C, 2 Ox.	" "	6	3
"	15	2 Ox, 2 B, 1 𑂔	" "	7	4

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<b>III. VILLAGE DHAKYORA</b>					
SC	7	2 B	Ag. Lab.	4	2
SC	10	2 Ox, 1 B, 1 S	" "	7	4
SC	22	2 Ox, 2 B, 1 S, 1 ♂	" "	6	2
SC	11	1 B	Lab.	5	2
SC	10	1 B, 2 Ox	" "	4	2
SC	10	2 Ox, 1 B, 1 S, 1 ♂	" "	5	3
SC	10	1 B, 2 ♂	" "	5	2
SC	--	1 B	Lab.	5	2
SC	10	2 ♂	" "	5	2
SC	7	1 B	" "	1	1
SC	10	1 B, 2 S	" "	4	2
SC	20	2 B, 2 ♂	" "	3	1
SC	10	2 Ox, 2 B, 4 ♂	" "	5	2
SC	7	2 Ox, 1 B, 1 ♂	" "	4	1
SC	10	2 Ox, 2 S	" "	5	1
SC	10	1 Cow	" "	2	2
NSC	23	1 B, 1 S	Lab.	2	1
"	20	1 B	"	1	1
"	42	2 Ox, 1 B, 1 ♂	" "	6	2
"	37	2 Ox, 1 B, 2 S	" "	7	4
"	8	1 B	"	2	1
"	23	1 B	"	1	1
"	10	2 Ox, 2 B, 2 S	" "	7	4
"	5	1 Ox, 1 B, 1 S	" "	8	5
"	15	1 B	"	1	1
"	19	2 B	"	2	1
"	10	1 B	"	6	1

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
NSC	29	2 Ox, 2 B, 1 ब	Agr. Lab.	4	2
"	32	1 B, 1 S, 1 ब	"	7	2
"	19	1 B	"	2	1
"	10	2 Ox, 1 B	" "	7	2
"	6	1 B	"	5	2
"	19	1 C, 2 B	" "	3	2
"	44	2 Ox, 2 B, 1 S, 1 ब	" "	16	7
"	10	2 Ox, 2 B, 1 S	"	4	2
"	22	2 Ox, 2 B	"	8	1
"	46	2 Ox, 2 B, 2 S, 1 ब	" "	9	4
"	36	2 Ox, 2 B	"	3	2
"	20	2 Ox, B, 2 S	" "	6	4

Abbreviation :

- SC - Scheduled Caste  
 NSC - Non-Scheduled Caste  
 B - Buffalo  
 ब - बकरी (goat)  
 S - Sheep  
 C - Cow  
 Agr.- Agriculture.