

A
NAGA DREAM

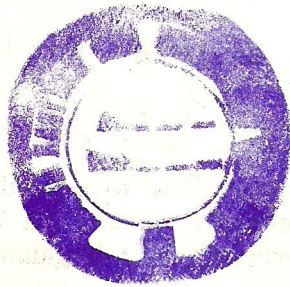
IN JALUKIE

J.K. BARTHAKUR

4166
51

A
NAGA DREAM

IN JALUKIE



J.K. BARTHAKUR

Gift

© Dr.J.K.Barthakur
C1/38 Pandara Park
New Delhi-110003

All rights reserved

NE
330.954165
BAR;1

First Published in 1992
by
The Secretary to the Govt.of Nagaland
(Agriculture Dept), Kohima,

Price: Rs. 150.00 US \$ 6.00

LIBRARY
235283
14-7-05
Purchasers or users are to note that the book
does not necessarily contain the views of the
Government of Nagaland
Author by
Editor by
Illustrated by

All rights reserved for sale, resale, lending, hiring out, circulation, reproduction
in any form, and related matters concerning the appearance and the contents of
the book by the first and all other sellers, and the first and all other purchasers.

Printed in India at Nu Tech Photolithographers, Delhi-110095

F 235
650

**This book does not necessarily contain the
views of the Government of Nagaland.**

PREFACE

It is quite some time since I submitted my report on an interdisciplinary approach to integrated development in one of the "compact" areas that the Nagaland Government had chosen. The concept of compact area development was mooted in Nagaland in 1988-89. When the thought was brought to the notice of the Planning Commission, its Member, Agriculture, Professor Y. Alagh, responded enthusiastically. He readily earmarked funds to make a beginning, but requested the Government of Nagaland to formulate a firm plan of action. As there seemed to be some holdups in formulating concrete proposals and schemes, the Member, Agriculture, asked if I would agree to take up a short assignment to help the Government of Nagaland. I agreed to work as an honorary consultant. The result was that the Government of Nagaland appointed me as such towards the end of 1989. I was able to take up the work in January, 1990 and submit my report within four months, as stipulated. The report had suggested that the Tribal Development Block should be treated as the unit of each "compact area". These Blocks are coterminous with the "Areas", or the lowest administrative units, which are usually placed under the charge of an Extra Assistant Commissioner. This suggestion was at variance with the much larger units envisaged earlier as "compact areas". The Government of Nagaland was therefore not in a position to accept the report immediately. Meanwhile, an alternative suggestion was gaining ground to define the "compact area" as the "Assembly Constituency", which covers a much smaller area than a Block. Thus, the Government of Nagaland was required to strike a balance between the divergent views. Eventually, the Nagaland Government was pleased to decide that since development was the main object of the exercise, it would be advantageous to treat the "Block" as the "compact area" unit.

The exercise and its outcome may not strike one as in any way exceptional unless the aspirations of the Naga people are deeply understood. The Naga traditionally lives in large villages which used to be self-sufficient in almost all respects. Each village was a sovereign republic. The traditional village organisation was well knit and the authority of its village leadership unassailable. The villages are now parts of the state of Nagaland and the old families of the chieftains no longer wield the same powers. Respecting the history and the will of the people, the Government of Nagaland had given statutory status to Village Councils and Village Development Boards and given them authority and funds for self-development. In the matter of decentralisation of powers and the building up of unity and discipline within the villages, Nagaland is far ahead of other parts of the country. But, unfortunately, Nagaland possesses neither geographical uniformity nor ethnic homogeneity. Some parts of Nagaland are almost plainlands, some have steep hills, while others, though hilly, have gentle slopes that respond to terracing. Within these general categories there are a number of other variations. Similarly, there are a number of tribal identities that respond generally to the term "Naga", but each such tribe also contains important divisions. All parts of Nagaland are not endowed with an equal level of development. Since each part is inhabited by distinct ethnic groups, some such groups are relatively disadvantaged compared to others. How, then, to inculcate a feeling of accomplishment in all areas and all groups of people?

One answer is to decentralise as much power and funding as is possible in areas that can be considered "compact", both ethnically and geographically; so that the people of each such area achieve the satisfaction of receiving their share of funds and attention, and then proceed with the task of self-development as best as may seem practicable. To national planners this approach appeared to be quite consistent with what they stood for. They suggested that the technique had to be inter-

disciplinary because the very definition of the term "compact area" entails the functioning together of all development departments within one area. Further, the inter-disciplinary approach can have little impact unless a "focus" of development, which must essentially differ for different areas, can be identified for each "compact area. Also, since the funds available from government sources will always be inadequate to exploit the full potential of such an area, linkages with financial institutions will be unavoidable. For such linkages, it is essential that schemes are made viable from the banking point of view.

This is what has been done in my report. For the Jalukie Area of Peren Subdivision of Kohima District of Nagaland the focal point for development has been identified as the growth of field-crops with modern inputs and techniques coupled with a grand "seed strategy". This would cover not only agriculture and horticulture but also pig and poultry rearing, fishery and so on, so that when an agricultural surplus is created, the people may take easily to these activities by utilising the surplus. When such a surplus becomes considerable, agro-based industries may come up for which activity should begin right now both at village and area levels. Concrete schemes were formulated at prices prevalent in 1990. All these schemes are bankable and the participating banks will be entitled to refinance from NABARD or IDBI. Now that the basic problem of defining a "compact area" has been solved, the report may become a useful guide for field workers.

This report pertains to the Jalukie area. This area presents distinctive challenges of its own. The detailed plan will therefore hardly be applicable to other areas of Nagaland. Yet a reader may benefit from its methodology to generate similar details for another area.

The report was first submitted to the Government of Nagaland under the title "A REPORT ON INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF NAGALAND-JALUKIE AREA". This was a direct definition as might be expected of a report submitted

to the Government. Now that that stage is over, it is presented again with the revised title of "A NAGA DREAM IN JALUKIE". This will possibly be more acceptable to the nonofficial participants of the ideas that emanate from the report. Without such acceptance, the book might merely languish on the shelves of a few and lose its basic meaning.

My experience of working in the Jalukie area and with the Government of Nagaland was delightful. The confidence the villagers exhibited while I visited and talked to them was extremely touching. I do not know how to express my gratitude for the kindness showered on me by all whom I met in Nagaland. I can name but a few who must not be left unmentioned. But my thanks are due to all who were good enough to spare their valuable time for me and guide me when I strayed towards a wrong path. May the Almighty bless and guide the people of Nagaland.

New Delhi
29-01-1992

J.K. Barthakur
of the
Indian Frontier Administrative Service
(Retired)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The consultant acknowledges with profound gratitude the help he received from a large number of villagers, public leaders and public servants in finalising the details of this report. It will be difficult for him to list all the names of the persons to whom he is personally grateful. Nevertheless, it will be an omission if the names of the following persons are not mentioned; but he must very sincerely add that the contributions made by persons whose names do not find a place in this list, were in no way less important nor did they contribute any the less towards the preparation of this report.

(The surnames are arranged in alphabetical order for the public leaders).

MINISTERS	<i>Sarva Shri</i>		
	N.I. Jamir	Minister for Coop. etc,	
	Mavil Khieya	Minister for Forest etc,	-do-
	Hokheto Sema	Minister for Veterinary etc,	-do-
	Melhupra Vero	Minister for Agriculture etc,	-do-
MLAs	Bangdi Iheilung	MLA, Peren Government of Nagaland	
	T R Zeliang	MLA, Tening	
PUBLIC LEADERS	Namgangheing	Former Chairman Tribal Council, Jalukie.	
	Iheilung	Chairman, Town Committee, Jalukie.	
	Imtui	Chairman, Area Council, Peren	
	Joshua	Public Leader.	
	Kevipele	Former MLA, Peren.	
	Kielu	Former MLA, Peren.	
	Longbe Mery	Public leader, Jalukie.	
	Idailung Thou	Chairman, Heraka Association, Nagaland, Jalukie.	
	N.C. Zeliang		
OFFICERS	T.C.K.Lotha	Chief Secretary, Govt. of Nagaland.	
	Anil Kumar	Special Commissioner,	-do-
	S.B. Chetri	Commissioner & Secretary	-do-
	L. Colney	Commissioner & Secretary	-do-
	A.K.Biswas	Commissioner & Secretary	-do-
	I.Imchen	Director of Agriculture,	-do-
	Dr. Sato Sikhose	Director of AH & Vety,	-do-
	B. Sema	Add. Director Agriculture,	-do-
	Kati Jamir	ADC, Peren.	

Angou Thou	EAC, Jalukie.
P.N.Singh	Joint Director Agri
Dr. S. Hexna	Joint Director, Vety, Kohima
Dr. Odangmetong	Manager, NEC Farm, Jalukie
V.Angami	Joint Director (S.C) Kohima.
Dr. Ansar Ahmed	Dy. C.F. (Forest) Kohima.
Z.Kikon	A.E.P.O.
Howoto Sema	S.D.A.O. Dimapur
Dr.Pukroi	Nyieni S.D.V.O. Peren.
N.Henry Zeliang	S.D.A.O. Jalukie
Temjen	S.D.O. (Soil) Jalukie
Dangti	S.D.O. (Irri) Jalukie
Ahmed	S.D.O. (P.W.D) Jalukie
A.R. Wati	D.F.O. Jalukie
Chakravarty	Forest Ranger (Rubber) Jalukie
Tia Edward	S.D.O. PHE Jalukie
S.Meren	Manager (DIC) Peren
N.Odyuo	Dy. Registrar (Coop.) Dimapur
N.N.Gaur	Dy. Registrar (Coop.) Kohima
Dr. K.T.Joseph	V.A.S. (NEC) Farm Jalukie.
S. Deb Verma	GM, NS Coop. Bank, Dimapur
T. Alem Lemtur	GM, NKS Mills Ltd., Jalukie.
N. Das	Adviser, NS Coop Bank, Dimapur.

CONTENT

	Page
Preface :	v-viii
Acknowledgement	ix-x
	PART I: THE REPORT
	1-87
Section 1 :	INTRODUCTION
	1-12
	Objective-general guidelines and modified objective-acid test-Gandhian Philosophy-the approach of the Nagaland Government-basic parameters.
	Appendix I: (appointment of consultant).
	Appendix II: (Model rules for Village Development Boards).
Section 2 :	MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUIREMENT
	13-19
	Principle of comprehensive development-summary of action plan-summary of requirement of funds-cost of covering all other villages of Nagaland by a similar programme-special requirements for success.
Section 3 :	THE APPROACH
	21-29
	Jalukie Area; land and people-ethnicity-a required shift in technique of development-the Pilot project.
Section 4 :	PARTICIPATION OF THE COOPERATIVE DEPARTMENT AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
	30-45
	The present status-the role of cooperatives-Nagaland State Cooperative Bank-cooperative

camp-training-State Bank of India-
Lead Bank.

Annexure A: Salient features of (Village)
Farming Cooperative Society-Annexure B:
Salient features of Jalukie Federation of
Cooperative societies.

- Section 5 : PARTICIPATION BY THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT 46-65
Central position of agriculture-
infra-structure for agriculture
department-demonstration cum
trial farm-mini-soil-testing
laboratory-plant protection-
production of certified seeds-
horticulture-sugarcane-training.
Annexure A: input cost and requirements of
different crops-Annexure B: Cost and input
mobilisation system per hectare-Annexure
C: villagewise physical and financial input
requirement under intensive agricultural
programme-Annexure D: villagewise projected
output of agricultural produce under intensive
agricultural programme (annual).
- Section 6 : COMMUNITY FORESTS 66-72
Community forests-creation of
community forests-land use and
conservation.
- Section 7 : THE GRAND STRATEGY OF SEEDS 73-82
Seeds for agriculture-animal
husbandry-fishery.
- Section 8 : THE PLAN TO START INDUSTRIES 83-84
Type of industries
- Section 9 : JALUKIE TOWN 85-86
Importance of Jalukie Town-
development requirement.
- Section 10 IRRIGATION 87-88
Public demand-existing proposals
of Irrigation Department.
PART II : SURVEY REPORT 89-105

1.1 OBJECT

1.1.1 The

purpose

of this

report

is to

provide

an

overview

of the

subject

matter

and

to

assist

the

committee

in

making

its

recommendations

on

the

subject

matter.

PART I

THE REPORT

SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 OBJECTIVE

1.1.1 The Government of Nagaland have identified four geographically compact areas for integrated development with an interdisciplinary approach. One of the identified area is Ghaspani-Jalukie. The Government of Nagaland desired that the consultant should prepare a comprehensive report for the development of the area (including steps to be taken for flow of institutional finance). In this, a thrust should be given to the development of agro-based and allied industries; horticulture; veterinary and animal husbandry; cottage and smallscale industries etc. The terms and conditions relating to the appointment of the consultant are placed at Appendix-I to this section.

1.2 GENERAL GUIDELINES AND MODIFIED OBJECTIVE

1.2.1 The notification for appointment was received by the consultant just before he had to leave for a visit abroad. The Government of Nagaland was informed of this. The visit to foreign countries took longer than was planned. On his return, the consultant inquired from the Government of Nagaland if they were still interested in the study or had already finalised their approach to the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Government of Nagaland were still interested in the study and had discussed the consultancy with the Member (Agriculture), Planning Commission. They were keen that the consultant should prepare a report on the project.

1.2.2 A meeting with the Chief Secretary to the Government of Nagaland took place in New Delhi on 13.01.1990. In that meeting, it was decided that the early part of the month of February would be suitable for field work. By then the government would be free from the parliamentary

election. They would, then, collect the preliminary information required for the study. It was clear that the government desired an insight into the problems of development of a compact area chosen by them so that they could systematically fabricate a similar strategy of development for other areas with local variations. Therefore, the government was of the opinion that it would be adequate if the study was kept confined to an administrative area at the initial stage. Full involvement of Village Councils was considered an essential ingredient of the approach so that the objective of decentralisation could be attained both at the planning and implementation stages.

1.2.3 The Chief Secretary further suggested the following as general guidelines to proceed with the work :

- (1) The project should relate specifically to a selected compact area around Jalukie. Nevertheless, it should be prepared in such a manner that it would be possible to replicate its basic structure in other more or less similar pockets.
- (2) The organisational structure provided by the district administration, Village Council (VC) and Village Development Board (VDB) should remain undisturbed.
- (3) As far as practicable, the vitalisation of the economy should be done through the medium of cooperatives.

1.3 ACID TEST

1.3.1 The sum and substance of various discussions held with the Government of Nagaland, especially with the concerned Ministers and senior officers, who listened to what the villagers led by their VCs, VDBs, MLAs, other political leaders, religious leaders etc., had to say regarding their developmental problems, emerge as what Shri S.K.Dey, the then Union Minister had termed as the "acid tests" in 1961. These are reproduced below:

“.. Community Development is “Sarvodaya”. It is the common goal of all who believe in the doctrine of the socialist society, whatever the pattern or form. The joint family was a model of the living concept of socialism in India. Community Development is but the expansion of the Indian joint family till it grows organically to encompass the village, block, district, state and the nation. Community Development is the end. Panchayati Raj is the means. For Community Development to be achieved, Panchayati Raj has to rise equal to certain acid tests. Broadly, the tests will be whether or not there is:

- (1) Production in agriculture as the top national priority;
- (2) Promotion of rural industries;
- (3) Promotion of cooperative institutions for development of the economy;
- (4) Development of local resources including the utilisation of man-power;
- (5) Optimum utilisation of resources available to Panchayati Raj institutions such as money, staff, technical assistance and other facilities from higher levels;
- (6) Assistance to the economically weaker sections of the village community;
- (7) Progressive dispersal of authority and initiative, both vertically and horizontally, with special emphasis on the role of voluntary organisations;
- (8) Progressive increase in competence both in officials and non-officials;
- (9) Understanding and harmony between the people's representatives and the people's servants through comprehensive training and education and a clear demarcation of duties and responsibilities; and

(10) Cohesion and co-operative self-help in the community..."

1.4 GANDHIAN PHILOSOPHY

1.4.1 An interdisciplinary approach to integrated development of a village and the geographically compact area to which the village belongs, forms the core of the thinking-process which may be called the Gandhian philosophy for the economic development of India. The emphasis is on improvement of conditions of the poorest in the village community and on providing villages, village groups, small towns and compact rural areas with all round assistance and administration. Shri S.K. Dey, translated the concept into community development blocks. Unfortunately, the excellent idea was not only severely modified from the very beginning, but as time passed, it also became considerably distorted. It did not take long for "blocks" to discard their "interdisciplinary" and "integrated" character. Without these two characteristics, the "compact population-cum-area" that the blocks constituted, lost the central theme of being the focal points to usher in a new era of economic, social and administrative development, as also to remain, 'forever', the "unit of planning and development".

1.4.2 It took a lot of time, suffering, and frustration among many well-meaning people to re-discover, firstly, the necessity of an "integrated" approach for rural development. By then the "blocks", both community development (CD) and tribal development (TD), had lost their vigour and orientation, and their reconstitution with programmes for poverty alleviation, rural employment and so on, under the "new ideas" of integrated rural development programmes (IRDP) etc., touched the village society only on its periphery. Secondly, without repeating well-known history, it can be said that, the country has now come back a full cycle to realise again that rural development has to be "interdisciplinary" as well as "integrated" over a compact geographical area.

1.4.3 For the Government of Nagaland, the idea did not remain nebulous. (Nagaland: 16.5 thousand km² between 25°6'N to 27°4'N and 93°20'E to 95°15'E, 1981 population-7.75 lakhs; ST population 6.51 lakhs (84%). Nagaland took bold and imaginative steps to bring the dream of Gandhiji nearer to realisation and had shown an eagerness to pass on the benefits of development, including those of science and technology, directly to their people.

1.5. THE APPROACH OF THE NAGALAND GOVERNMENT

1.5.1 The Nagaland Government had enacted the Nagaland Village and Area Council Act, 1978 (1978 Act). This ensured that the *administration of the villages would largely remain the affairs of the villagers; and thus restore traditional respect for the village authority by vesting powers and privileges in the chairman and other functionaries of the Village Council.* Secondly, the Nagaland Government had framed (under section 50 (1) of the 1978 Act) Village Development Boards' Model Rules, 1980 (VDB or VDB rules). Under these, the *VDB occupies the central position for development of the village and forms the grass-root level from where the planning process of Nagaland begins.* Amongst other things, each VDB receives funds directly from the government for development of the village, can collect funds for development purpose and acts as the main channel through which developmental efforts percolate to the villagers. The Nagaland Government was gracious enough to cause a Padma Shri to be awarded (in January 1990) to the officer (Shri A.M. Gokhale) who had actively helped them to establish the VDBs. The copy of the Model Rules for VDBs are reproduced in Appendix-II to this section.

1.5.2 Having established the VDBs, which are extensions of the Village Councils, the Nagaland Government have now paid attention to the economic and ecological

problems of a regional nature. Nagaland imports over one lakh tonnes of foodgrains annually. This drains out over twenty five crores of rupees from the economy. There is a possibility that by adopting higher technology for intensive agricultural activity through Village Councils and VDBs, not only can this deficit in the production of foodgrains be wiped out but it can also reasonably be expected that Nagaland will be able to sell their surplus to other parts of India, especially to Assam which imports more than 12 lakhs MT of foodgrains through the Food Corporation of India (FCI).

1.5.3 In Nagaland, sixteen areas comprising large stretches of valley land have been identified. These pockets of sub-tropical climate receive heavy monsoons, and they have lots of plains areas. As can but be expected, the agricultural base in such areas which are so close and so similar to the Brahmaputra valley of Assam is akin to the plains and like in the Brahmaputra valley, the people grow only one crop in a year and, that too, of low yielding season-bound *kharif* paddy. There are well-wooded forests wherefrom largescale extraction of timber goes on. A large cattle population is let loose by the owners after harvesting the single paddy crop (in the middle of January) to ravage the countryside seeking out grass and shrubs which soon disappear while starving cattle await the rains of April that will bring a fresh grass cover. Moreover, the shifting swidden cultivation called *jhum*, destroys lots of forests. For Nagaland, the regeneration of the forest becomes as important as producing a food surplus because both are needed to strengthen the weak economic base of the State.

1.5 BASIC PARAMETERS

1.5.1 A preliminary study of the resources, budget, plan allocation, plan priorities and the ways-and-means position of the Nagaland Government, led to the following understanding:

- (1) The Nagaland Government can provide no more

than a little of the infra-structure required for the programme. Thus, the selected schemes are to be reflected in the budget as block level schemes. As a corollary, the appropriation of funds, indicated under these heads, to any other sector or head of development should not be permitted.

- (2) The financial institutions must be asked to support the programme for enhancing the income and wealth of the community as a whole.
- (3) Every production-oriented scheme suggested to be taken up by the Government of Nagaland, must be able to return to the exchequer the fund utilised, in, say, twenty years (the principal in the first twelve years and interest at 10 percent in the remaining eight years). Nagaland is a "special category State". Nevertheless, 10% of the plan allocation is in the shape of a loan from the Central Government on which interest payments are charged. A scheme ensuring return of the principal amount to the exchequer will find ready acceptance in the plan process. The programmes of compact areas will never run short of funds for implementation if they are designed to return the investments made on them.
- (4) The Nagaland Government may reflect their requirement of funds in the Eighth Five Year Plan, and meanwhile approach the Planning Commission for special funds for 1989-90 and 1990-91 for the selected pocket for which detailed schemes have been prepared.

— I —

**APPENDIX-I TO SECTION 1
GOVERNMENT OF NAGALAND AGRICULTURE
DEPARTMENT KOHIMA NOTIFICATION**

No. AGR/GEN-16/89

Dated Kohima, the 25th September, 1989.

1. The Governor of Nagaland is pleased to appoint Dr. J.K. Barthakur, an Officer retired from the Indian Frontier Administrative Service in the rank of Addl. Secretary to the Government of India, as Honorary Consultant to the Government of Nagaland for a period of 4 months with effect from the date he commences work, for the purpose, and on the terms and conditions given below.
2. The Government of Nagaland have decided to take up compact area development in certain identified areas in the State. Dr. Barthakur will prepare a comprehensive report for the development of one of the identified areas, (including steps to be taken for flow of institutional finance) in which a thrust would be given to the development of agrobased and allied industries, horticulture, veterinary and animal husbandry (including poultry & piggery development) and cottage and small scale industries etc. The report for one of the identified areas will be submitted by Dr. Barthakur within a period of 4 months from the date he undertakes the work.
3. Dr. J.K. Barthakur will work as Honorary Consultant to the Government of Nagaland on a token honorarium of Rs. 1 only.
4. While in Nagaland, Dr. Barthakur will be treated as a State Guest and all expenditure on accommodation, boarding and lodging etc. will be borne by the State Govt. Dr. Barthakur will be provided with transport at Govt. expense for his journeys within Nagaland. Dr. Barthakur will also be provided necessary secretarial assistance for his work while within Nagaland. For all travel from New Delhi to Dimapur and back, undertaken in connection with this assignment, Dr. Barthakur will be paid air fare. Furthermore, for all journeys undertaken in connection with this assignment, Daily Allowance shall be paid as admissible, under the rules, to Super Time Scale Officers of the State Government.
5. While in Delhi, in connection with his work as Consultant, Dr. Barthakur will make his own arrangements regarding transport and Secretarial assistance. The actual expenditure incurred, as certified by Dr. Barthakur, on transport and Secretarial assistance (except one type writer which will be provided by the State Government) and on telephone calls made in connection with this assignment, will be reimbursed to him.
6. This notification issues in supersession of the earlier notification of even number dated 27th July'89.

Sd/ (Z.Obed)
Chief Secretary

NO.AGR/GENL 16/89

Dated Kohima, the th September, 1989. Copy to:-

1. The Special Secretary to the Governor of Nagaland, Raj Bhawan, Kohima.
2. The Secretary to Chief Minister, Nagaland, Kohima.
3. The P.S. to All Ministers, Nagaland.
4. All Commissioners/Secretaries/Addl. Secretaries/Jt. Secretaries to the Govt. of Nagaland.
5. All Departments/Branches in the Secretariat, Nagaland, Kohima.
6. All Heads of Department, Nagaland, Kohima.
7. All Deputy Commissioners/Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Nagaland.
8. The Publisher, Nagaland Gazette, for publication in the next issue of the Gazette.
9. Dr. J.K. Barthakur.

Sd/-
(S.B. CHETRI)
Commissioner & Secretary to the Government
of Nagaland.

**APPENDIX-II
NOTIFICATION.**

No. Home/C1/86/79;

Dated Kohima, the 6th Mar, 1980.

In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Section 1 of Section 50 of Nagaland Village and Area Council Act 1978, the Government of Nagaland hereby makes the following Model Rules for the composition and functioning etc of a Village Development Board constituted under Clause 12 of Section 12 of the aforesaid Act:-

1. Short title and commencement:

This Rules may be called Village Development Boards Model Rules 1980. It shall extend to the whole of Nagaland.

2. Duties of the VDB

The Village Development Board, subject to such directives which the Village Council may issue from time to time, shall exercise the powers, functions and duties of the Village Councils enumerated in clauses 4,6,7,8,9 of Section 12 of the Act, subject to the prior approval of the Chairman of the Village Council.

3. The Village Development Board shall also, subject to such directives as the Village Council may issue from time to time, formulate schemes, programmes of action for the Development and progress of the Village as a whole, or groups of individuals in the village, or for individuals in the village, either using the village community or other funds.

4. Composition

The Members of the Village Development Board shall be chosen by the Village Council. The tenure of members shall be 3 years unless decided otherwise by the Village Council by a resolution. The Members may include members of the Village Council or persons who are not members of the Village Council or those who are ineligible to be chosen as or for being members of the Village Council by virtue of their age, or by virtue of tradition and custom. At least one woman shall be a member of the Board representing all the women in the village. Government servants can be chosen as member with the permission of the Government.

5. A member of the Village Development Board may be replaced by a resolution of the Village Council, for reasons to be recorded in the Resolution.

6. The Deputy Commissioner ADC shall be the Ex-officio Chairman of the Village Development Board.

7. The Village Development Board Members shall select one among themselves as the Secretary who shall be a person who is literate.

8. Procedures for Operating Bank Account

The Village Development Board shall operate its fund through suitable accounts in the Bank. These Accounts shall be operated jointly by the Chairman and Secretary of the Board.

9. No cheque shall be honoured by the Bank unless it is accompanied by a copy of the Board's resolution authorising such withdrawal signed by all the members present in the particular meeting in which such a resolution was passed and consented to the Board's Chairman.

10. No term Deposit shall be withdrawn from the Bank on maturity unless the Village Council consents to it.

11. The same procedure as in 9 above shall also apply if the Board desires to spend out of any cash which may be in the hands of the Secretary.
12. **Meeting**

The Board shall meet on the same date every month. The Board may decide the date and shall inform the Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of the Village Council about a date.

The Members of the Board shall give widest publicity about the date to their khel people. Such a meeting shall be open to public. Any change in the date shall be effective only after obtaining the consent of the village Council and the Board Chairman.
13. In addition to the monthly meetings, the Board may meet more frequently if any Member of the Board gives notice to the Secretary. However, the resolutions of the Board in such meetings shall not be implemented until these resolutions are debated in the monthly public meeting.
14. Every decision or recommendation of the Village Development Board shall be in the form of a Resolution passed in a regular monthly meeting by all the members present in such a meeting.
15. The monthly meetings shall be attended by the following categories of persons:-
 - a) Village Development Board Members.
 - b) Loanees (those persons who have obtained loans from the VDB or against the VDB's guarantee/ recommendations)
 - c) Any other persons who have been asked by the Board to attend.

The monthly meeting shall be presided over by a VDB Members selected by the VDB members for the occasion.
16. The meeting shall be in 3 parts: Firstly, the Secretary will write the past month's account on a *Black Board* and invite questions with reference to the accounts and he shall answer the questions. Secondly, each loanee may be questioned by Village Development Board Members and public, and Thirdly, other issues in connection with Development will be debated. The Secretary will record the issues and decisions. Any person attending the meeting may ask questions. All questions which are not answered to the satisfaction of the questioner shall also be recorded by the Secretary.
17. **Intending Beneficiaries.**

Persons desiring to obtain loan, or desiring to be included in any development schemes formulated by the VDB, shall express such a desire in a monthly meeting.
18. The Board shall not disburse any loan unless the loanee furnished in writing a promise to the Board to abide by the declarations in his application and to attend the monthly public meeting until he discharges his liability to the satisfaction of the Board and promises to accept any penalty imposed on him by the *Village Council* in default of any condition of his loan, provided that the penalty shall be utilised for discharging the liability. At least one copy of such an agreement shall be kept in the VDB Chairman's Office.
19. Any person permanently residing in the village may apply for a loan, but such an application shall contain atleast the following particulars:-
 - a) The period in which the applicant proposes to repay the loan with interest.
 - b) The amount of loan.
 - c) The purpose for which such a loan is sought.

20. Duties of Chairman and Secretary

Whenever the Board passes a resolution authorising the Secretary to withdraw any amount from the Bank Accounts, 3 copies of such a resolution signed by the VDB Members present in the meeting shall be prepared by the Secretary and he shall personally meet the Chairman with those 3 copies.

When the Chairman receives these 3 copies, he shall examine them. If the Chairman finds nothing wrong he shall record his approval on all the 3 copies. Thereafter one copy will be attached to the cheque. The second copy will remain in the Chairman's office and the third copy will be brought back to the village by the Secretary to be read out in the next month's public meeting.

Secondly, if the Chairman has some doubts, but not serious ones, he shall record his remarks on the copy of the resolution to be kept in his office and record his approval on the other 2 copies. In such an event, the Chairman shall send the copies of his remarks to the VDB Members and the Chairman of the Village Council for their information.

Thirdly, if the Chairman has serious doubts about the propriety of the resolution he may return the resolution with his remarks for reconsideration or fix a date for an open public meeting in the village and put the matter before the public.

21. At the end of each monthly public meeting, the Secretary shall write a letter to the Chairman of the Board showing:-

- (a) Names of V.D.B. Members absent.
- (b) Names of Loanees absent.

22. The Secretary of the Board shall maintain the following records which may be inspected by any member of the village in its monthly public meeting:-

- a) A Register showing a record of meetings held. It will show the time and date and place and names of members and loanees present & absent. It will show questions not answered by the Secretary or loanees to the satisfaction of the questioner.
- b) A File for Money expenditure resolutions.
- c) A Cash Register showing transaction of savings and Current Accounts and Cash. This will be accounted as on the date of the monthly meeting. It will show loans taken by the VDB, loans given by VDB, and loans given to individuals on the VDB's guarantee. It will show particulars of Fixed Deposit's'.
- d) Secretary shall check his records against the records kept in the Chairman's office every 3 months.
- e) Secretary shall keep a File for vouchers proving money transactions (payments and receipts).
- f) Secretary shall keep a File for letters to and from the Chairman.
- g) Secretary shall keep a File for other letters.

23. Letters of the Village Development Board addressed to every authority outside the Village shall be in 3 copies. One copy will be sent to the Chairman of the Board for information. One copy will be kept in the Board's record and one copy will be sent to the addresses.

24. Audit and Accounts.

The Village Council may cause the VDB's accounts to be audited at such times as it

may decide. The Deputy Commissioner will render necessary assistance in auditing the accounts.

25. The VDB shall place before the Village Council an Annual Account before 30th April every year covering the period from 1st April of the previous year to 31st March of the current year.
26. **Disputes and Interpretation:**
All disputes, except those in which the lending institution is a party, arising out of the VDB's working and decisions shall be settled by the Village Council.
27. In any dispute as to the interpretation of these rules, the Deputy Commissioner's decision thereon shall be final, subject to the approval of the Government.

Sd/-
(L.L. YADEN)
Special Secretary to the
Govt. of Nagaland,
Home Department,
Kohima.

Times of India
New Delhi, 26th January
1992

.... The centralised pattern of planning has not been successful in achieving results commensurate with the investment, nor has it satisfied the needs of the people according to their priorities. Massive expenditure incurred on development schemes have not led to greater satisfaction among the people. Keeping in view the local conditions in Nagaland, viz, strong tribal institutions like Village Council, traditional system of taking collective decision etc., the new Compact Area Development Scheme has been launched in Nagaland starting from 1st April, 1991.....

VAMUZO
CHIEF MINISTER,
NAGALAND,
KOHIMA.

Dr. J.K. Barthakur is a retired officer of the Indian Frontier Administrative Service. Except for a short tenure in Delhi, he had served throughout in the North-East Region of India. A Ph. D. in Statistics with a number of books to his credit, ranging from monetary economics to agricultural development, he is considered to be an authority on the problems of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes of India and on sorting out the developmental problems of hilly areas.

As an honorary Consultant of the Government of Nagaland, he has devised a strategy of development through cooperation and self-reliance of the tribes which will find a wide applicability in similarly placed areas of India.

Over the green crown of a large spreading tree where birds chirrup and small red berries, carelessly loosened, drop downwards, the view takes in the distant river-valleys. They seem to have urged the patches of light mist to linger with them and not hurry to join the golden clouds above the hills. For they are too involved in welcoming the coming sunrise...So, more than a hundred years ago, wrote a home-sick Assamese poet, the Late Padma Nath Gohaiten Barua, a teacher at Kohima, the capital of present day Nagaland. Nagaland has remained as beautiful as ever and as enchanting. Also, unfortunately, her problems continue to persist.

The picturesque villages of Nagaland, in olden days were sovereign political entities. Respecting history and the wishes of the people, the Government of Nagaland has given statutory administrative powers and funds to Village Councils and Village Development Boards. In organising the self-administration of each village Nagaland is far ahead of other parts of the country.

Nagaland is geographically diverse. Some parts are plains, some hills are steep while some hills are gentler and permit extensive terracing. So the level of development could not have been the same all over. It is not. Since an area is usually inhabited exclusively by an ethnic group, distinct developmental differences are evident between the tribes. The Nagaland Government seeks an answer to the complex situation by conceiving "compact areas" that are to become the units of development. But, problems remain.

So, the Government of Nagaland consults an officer of the old school about it in one such "compact area". This book is the result of that and will remain relevant for years to come.

33
B