

0602. First Progress Report on the DLDP (Jul 1987)

First report on the DLDP spells out the material and non-material objectives of the activity and then details the nuts and bolts of the programme.

These include the making of surveys, making DLDP Plans at the village level, actual implementation of Soil & Water Conservation works, reviewing these works, involving the banks, taking up allied agricultural activities like soil testing and tree planting, scope for women and the landless, encouraging organisational savings, linking with an adult literacy effort, etc.

The Dry Land Development Project (DLDP) was conceived when implementing the Drought Relief Works (DRW) project in 1986. At that time, it was felt that having a once-off effort was not the best way to deal with the problem. Instead, a more systematic, sustained and long term programme approach was necessary.

In August 1986, the Dry Land Development Project was presented to NOVIB, the Netherlands, in order to develop over 9,000 acres of uncultivable patches of government allotted land in 87 village Coolie Sangha Units and usefully afforest them, within each CSUs allotted budget of CSU Strength x 125 persondays for 3 years

The Coolies and their CSUs were to be technically assisted in planning and implementing these dry land development works, thereby strengthening and enhancing their traditional knowledge.

1. OBJECTIVES

An important objective of the DLDP was to positively effect the unjust and low wage structure prevailing in the taluk's peasant economy. Against the government prescribed minimum wage of Rs 8.25, the prevailing wage in the villages was Rs 3. The DLDP proposed to pay daily wages of Rs 8, Rs 9 and Rs 10 in 1987, 1988 and 1989 plus give Rs 100 worth of tools and implements free of cost to each and every Member Coolie in the 87 CSUs.

ADATS was also aware that the DLDP, during its implementation would open up a Pandora's box of land issues by focusing the Coolies attention on the question of lands that they had unjustly lost to the richer peasantry for a pittance. As long as their lands were not productive the Coolies did not identify land and cultivation as an earning venture. But now that there was a scope to develop it and bring it under cultivation, land would suddenly become, in the Coolies perception a very attractive proposition.

ADATS recognised the inherent value in any just and legal struggle in order to strengthen the Coolies unity and self dignity and therefore did not shirk away from the DLDP even when we knew it would not remain a pure macro-effort in terms of increasing productivity by bringing more tracts under cultivation. We knew that the larger project would shatter into a thousand localised, village exploitation specific factors, and were prepared to face them in a spirit of solidarity with the Coolies.

We also knew that the mere implementation of such a large project would require the development of conceptual planning and managerial skills in each and every one of the 3,000 Member Coolies in the 87 CSUs and 16 Cluster Meets. That was why we had, in our application to NOVIB, stated that the while ADATS would be the legal project holder, the CSUs Cluster Meets and the BAGEPALLI COOLIE SANGHA would be the implementing agency.

And lastly quite naturally, ADATS was attracted by the possibility to alleviate the hardships caused by a cycle of recurring drought and famine in a region like Bagepalli. To provide gainful employment on an assured basis for 5 months every year for 3 years to prevent Coolie from migrating every summer like herds in search of pasture to help Coolies stay in their

homes with dignity and on par with the *Ryots*, all had a certain appeal to ADATS' compassion to and identification with the Coolies of Bagepalli.

2. SKELETON PROJECT COST TO FACILITATE GRASSROOTS PLANNING

The total project cost for 3 years was projected was Rs 107,47,600 with 94.2% of it appropriated for wages, 1.8% for tools and implements, 0.4% for training and 3.6% for administration.

1.	Wages for 3,000 Coolies from 87 CSUs to work for 125 days every year (March to July) on the development of their dry lands – Rs 8, 9 and 10 in 1987, 1988, and 1989 respectively	101,25,000
2.	Tools and implements for 2,000 Coolie families from 60 village CSUs in the CEP area	2,00,000
3.	Training costs	45,000
4.	Salaries of 1 Extension Worker, 3 Field Workers and 1 Agriculturist for 3 years	2,01,600
5.	4 Motorcycles	68,000
6.	Motorcycle maintenance for 3 years	<u>1,08,000</u>
Total:		107,47,600

We knew that this was the bare skeleton of the project cost in order to initiate a grassroots planning exercise with the Coolies. It would not have been possible to embark on a serious planning exercise without actually having an assurance of support and starting the actual works. At the same time the costs, had to be revised and increased in order to add other vital components to improve dry land framing techniques, plant trees etc. These additions to complete the DLDP and make it holistic are given on page 146 of this Progress Report.

This large labour capital was to be presented to each CSU in terms of persondays that they themselves would plan the detailed usage of. A CSU with 45 Member Coolies would, for example get 5,625 persondays while another with 72 Member Coolies would get 9,000 persondays.

Earlier, in the DRW project this same procedure had been adopted and the Coolies had made very wise choices and judiciously used the available labour capital to create assets for themselves.

Now, in the DLDP we insisted that all this capital should be spent on the development of their agricultural lands alone, with one adult person from each Member Coolie family working together on all the Coolie lands around the village for 125 days (March to July every year, with a weekly day off) for 3 years.

While the ADATS administrative and support Staff would assist them in making the demographic and agri survey, formulate technically viable plans, make timely payments and give logistic support, conduct review meets and training take them on study tours to increase their environmental consciousness etc. the individual CSU plans had to be made by the Coolies themselves in their respective CSU meetings and get approved in their Cluster Meets. Then, the final DLDP plan for all 87 CSUs could be presented to ADATS by the BAGEPALLI COOLIE SANGHA.

We were aware that this final Plan would have more than a labour input. ADATS is now in a position to present the DLDP in a more complete form through this Progress Report.

3. DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY

The DLDP started in October 1986 with a detailed demographic survey carried out in all the 87 villages. Of these, 29 were in the old area where ADATS had already worked for 9 years, and 58 were new villages in the Chelur Expansion Programme (CEP) area where our involvement was just for the past one year. The experience gained in the just implemented

DRW project showed us that the economic projects implemented in the Coolie Sangha formation period (the first 3 years of ADATS involvement in a new village) could have positive non economic results and there was no need to wait for 5 or 6 years to introduce them.

This detailed demographic survey covering family and population details and land holdings was carried out using specially designed Survey Sheets that would also be used throughout the 3 year project implementation period as Working Sheets. This was because of the common experience of most Voluntary Agencies where they often conducted detailed surveys going into unnecessary details and then stacked them on high shelves, never to be used again. The entire DLDP Staff, consisting of one Extension Worker and 3 Field Workers made prior appointments and visited all the villages in October and November 1986. In each CSU in front of all the Member Coolies the surveys were conducted with one Coolie correcting/complementing/ supplementing another. In this way authentic information could be elucidated.

These Survey Meetings also helped to share the overall objectives of the DLDP with each and every Member Coolie in the 87 CSUs. Though the original conception if the DLDP was from the Coolies themselves when reviewing the DRW project it was still necessary to ensure that each and every Coolie was aware. In a representative system like the BAGEPALLI COOLIE SANGHA structure it is often possible that the elected Representatives and Secretaries carry the people on personal faith and equations of trust. It is then possible that, without meaning to be undemocratic, participation is restricted and each and every Coolie does not have a chance to share her or his ideas.

During this survey each Coolie was asked to describe in detail the exact nature of work they desired to be done on their land if there was no budgetary or other constraint. While most wished that levelling and clearing works be done, some wanted open wells to be dug on their fields.

In the 29 older villages, the demographic survey went without a hitch. But in the 58 newer villages of the CEP area this was not so. In quite a few villages Coolies began to get suspicious when we queried about their land holding. And when we demanded to be shown documentary proof of ownership and control many refused to give details.

We adamantly stuck to our ground that if they did not have faith in ADATS there could be no partnership between us. Finally, all but 13 new villages gave the survey numbers of their lands, showed their title deeds and *pahanis*. Therefore, the 1987 DLDP was planned for only 73 CSUs comprising 2,572 Member Coolies with 8,063 acres of dry land to be developed in the first year.

This will have the consequences that the DLDP will extend for one more year into 1990 for 13 villages where it will start only in 1988. By that time we are certain that suspicions will get quelled and the misguided 428 Coolies will opt for the DLDP in their villages. Now in July 1987, we know that we were right in not rejecting those 13 CSUs outright at that time. Even within each of these 44 CSUs in the CEP area there was a lot of turbulence with regard to membership. Many Coolies apparently frightened that we would grab their lands withdrew their membership. But many others joined.

As a result, the demographic survey never got quite completed with a few pending here and a few pending there till early 1987 causing a lot of confusion to the ones who were collating all this information.

A final tally of this information, which was available only in March 1987, showed:

No. of villages in the old area	29
No. of villages in the CEP area	58
No. of Member Coolies in these 87 CSUs	2,738

These 2,738 Member Coolies represent a total population of 12,680 persons. The average Coolie family size is 4.63 persons and the age-wise population break-up is as under:

0-15 years	39%
16-25 years	21%
26-45 years	29%
46-60 years	9%
61 years and above	2%

The sex ratio in the Coolie population is 92 women for 100 men:

Girls (0 to 15 years)	18%
Boys (0 to 15 years)	20%
Women (16+ years)	30%
Men (16+ years)	32%

The CSUs have a very diverse membership with agricultural labourers and self employed small peasants from all castes, religions and communities in them:

1. Harijans	41.4%
2. Tribals	11.4%
3. Stone cutters	11.2%
4. Intermediary Castes (Dhobis, Barbers, Blacksmiths, Weavers, Shepherds, etc.)	20.2%
5. Upper Castes	14.1%
6. Muslims	1.7%

44% of ADATS beneficiaries live in thatched huts, 3% in tiled houses, 40% have pucca houses with stone slab roofs, but 13% are totally landless:

Landless Coolies	20.0%
0.1 to 1 acre	4.7%
1.1 acre to 2 acres	15.8%
2.1 to 3 acres	18.9%
3.1 to 4 acres	14.4%
4.1 to 5 acres	6.7%
5.1 acres and above	19.5%

4. AGRI SURVEY

A qualified Agriculturist experienced in watershed development planning and management through an earlier work experience in a World Bank supported watershed development project was recruited to work full time in ADATS.

He visited each and every acre of Coolie land in the 73 villages where the DLDP was to be undertaken. In all these visits, just as during the demographic survey he was accompanied by all the Member Coolies of each CSU.

The Agriculturist studied each Coolie holding and reacted to the choice of work that the Member Coolie had opted for during the demographic survey. Some choices he endorsed as being sensible, some others he reinforced by giving a few more useful suggestions, and yet others he discouraged for being not viable.

All the Coolies accompanying him during these treks profited from many advises he gave each village, along with detailed explanations and reasons. In this manner, the Agri Survey conducted from December 1986 was the first training input in the 3 year DLDP.

Every evening after the day's visit the Agriculturist filled out the DLDP Survey Sheet column and thereby provided us with a possibility to compare between what the Coolies had asked for and what was technically/financially possible. With a very few exceptions, the DLDP answers Coolie aspirations with regard to their land holdings more than fully.

5. ALLOCATION SCALE

At the end of the Agri Survey, the Agriculturist could classify the dry land development works that needed to be carried out 4 broad categories:

1. Slope Correction
2. Rock Clearance
3. Land Virginity
4. Raven & Gully check

Of these, slope correction was identified to be the most serious problem that needed to be tackled on a priority basis in the first year itself in order to immediately bring the lands under cultivation during the 1987 monsoons.

All the lands he had visited were accordingly graded on scales of 0-10 for each of the second, third and fourth factors. But slope correction got a scale of 0-20 with 0 indicating level land and 20 indicating a steep gradient. When the total scores were multiplied by the actual land holding of each Coolie, a rational and sensible scale for distribution of available labour capital was arrived at. We enclose a copy of the DLDP Plan for Kothakota CSU as an example of how this rational allocation was done.

As a result, Coolies with less holdings but, perhaps needing a greater intervention to develop their lands are not punished for their poverty. Similarly, Coolies with larger holdings are not rewarded simply for being richer, even if their lands do not need much work to be done.

But in the new villages, the CSUs preferred to plan their personday allocations based on the land holding alone. Since these new villages had never had any experience in working together, we agreed, knowing that they would see the sense in this rational allocation at least from the second year.

6. PLANNING THE DLDP WORKS IN EACH CSU

The 73 CSUs had facts and figures that emerged from the demographic survey in front of them. Each individual Coolie had the expert advice given to her or him by our Agriculturist in mind. They also had a rational allocation scale that they understood and appreciated as being fair.

The budget allocation for each CSU was calculated at membership strength x 125 days x Rs 8 for the first year. Thus, a CSU with 45 Member Coolies got Rs 45,000 and another with 72 members got Rs 72,000.

But what is very important to note is that all this was not done by ADATS. We only facilitated a process with systems and formats and later with expert technical advice which would normally not have been available to them.

And it is equally important to note that during the demographic survey, the Extension Worker and the Field Workers acted more as teachers and guides to help the Coolies themselves understand a socio economic situation that they were aware of only in a superficial manner through everyday living. So too, the Agriculturist acted as a trainer rather than a conventional expert.

Many, many regular and special CSU Meetings, Cluster Meets and 2 BCS Meetings passed before the final DLDP Plans for 1987 was decided upon.

7. LANDLESS COOLIES

The question of the landless cropped up with a renewed seriousness when the Coolies realised that they constituted an alarming 20% of the CSU membership.

Our suggestion was that if dry land development was not treated just sectoral, but in an integrated and ecologically conscious manner, then the landless had more than a marginal role to play.

We explained to the Coolies that livestock rearing, planting grasses and trees were as important as clearing rocks and shrubs, levelling their lands, etc. and that many of these activities could be carried out by the landless.

Since this problem had not been foreseen by ADATS a budgetary allocation had not been made in the original DLDP proposal. Fortunately, the Bank accepted some of the proposals and ADATS has gone ahead with the other low cost efforts from out of savings in other heads of accounts.

8. PUMPSETS AND BULLOCKS & CARTS THROUGH THE BANK

At this stage, Canara Bank, Bagepalli branch, agreed to come forward with 2 inputs to enrich the Dry Land Development Project.

All the landless Coolies identified by the CSUs would be given loans of about Rs 8,000 each in order to buy bullocks and carts without any collateral security. These could be used in the 1988 DLDP to cart silt from the tank beds to the Coolie fields in order to enrich the eroded top soils, and part of the hire charges thus earned could go to gradually clear the bank loans.

The Canara Bank has also agreed to energise all the open irrigation wells dug under the DLDP by providing low-interest loans for pumping sets and electrification, once again on the respective CSUs recommendation.

9. SYNTHETIC CHICKEN REARING FOR WOMEN

The Indian Council of Veterinary Research (IVRI) has developed the *Giriraja* breed of synthetic chicken has the positive qualities of both, native as well as hybrid chicken. While they are disease resistant, can scavenge for their food in the village streets and do not need any special housing, they gain a good weight of 3.6 kgs in 280 days. They lay 180 eggs in 500 days against the native fowl's 68 eggs and are thereby more profitable. Or else, they can even be culled in 8 weeks when they gain a body weight of 1.3 kgs against the native fowl's 0.4 kg. The IVRI and the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS) needed to field test the breed which, we all hope can replace the native breeds which are uneconomical.

1,000 Coolie women identified by their CSUs will get a grant of Rs 155 each from ADATS to rear synthetic chicken. This grant will enable them to buy 2 brooder hens, 2 rearing baskets and 16 synthetic hatching eggs. Subsequent batches of 16 synthetic eggs per Coolie woman will be supplied at cost price.

The Veterinary Department of the government has agreed to co-operate by vaccinating the birds and making veterinary services available free of cost.

The first batch of 1,800 eggs given to 112 women are expected to hatch next week. Depending on the success of the experiment we will continue supplying synthetic eggs at cost price in an attempt to replace the local breeds with the far more economic and sensibly adapted synthetic breed. ADATS also plans to introduce geese and rabbit rearing in the near future.

10. TREES AND GRASSES

Soils and water conservation bunds done under the DLDP tend to get eroded in a few years. Our Agriculturist, after discussing this problem with the soil conservation specialists of the government found *stylosanthus Hamata* grass to be an ideal bund cover since it is a drought resistant self seeding, shrub type of grass with deep roots. The grass also has a very high pro-

tein content and is therefore good for sheep rearing on the bunds. Hamata grass also opens up the possibility of rabbit rearing for meat and wool by landless Coolies.

A few people however were sceptical of Hamata grass' ability to tide over drought. We therefore decided to experience on one-third the lands bunded to see for ourselves. We have already procured 2,500 kgs of Hamata grass seed – Rs 25 per kg for planting in September.

We offered to undertake the supply of useful fodder, manure and fruit trees for planting on Coolie lands. The Coolies rejected all shade trees as this would hinder cropping but have instead chosen tamarind, neem, jack, cashew-nut, silver oak, acacia, casurina, mango, sapota, lime drumstick and pomegranate. They also agreed to plant 2 coconut trees outside each Coolie home. to be irrigated with their kitchen run-off water.

ADATS has already made detailed lists after ascertaining what they want and placed orders for about 100,000 saplings of the Coolies choice with nurseries raised by other Voluntary Agencies experienced in afforestation and with the Forest Department for planting in September using a drip irrigation system with one pot of water sunk beside each sapling.

We have also negotiated with the CSUs that the entire cost of the saplings be refunded to ADATS if there is a plant mortality rate of more than 33%. It is clear that protection watering and raising these 100,000 trees is the Coolie Sangha's responsibility.

ADATS had not foreseen the heavy budget implication of this vital input when making the proposal. Hamata seeds alone cost Rs 225,000 for the entire 9,000 acres of land bunded. Coconut plants cost Rs 60,000 and the other saplings cost Rs 200,000.

11. SOIL TESTING AND DEMONSTRATION FARMS

Soil samples have already been collected from each Coolie's land in the older villages covering a total of 3,608 acres. These samples have been tested at the Government Laboratory, Kolar, and appropriate advice on cropping manuring and treating given to each and every Coolie. The remaining 4,454 acres in the CEP area will be similarly tested in 1988.

19 villages in the old area have been chosen for demonstrating improved dry land techniques with one acre of Ragi and one acre of Groundnuts intercropped with Redgram in each village in 1987. The entire cultivation operation starting from land preparation and sowing to harvesting and inter cropping will be carried out by ADATS under the Agriculturist's supervision. The anticipated profit for Groundnut is Rs 1,417 per acre and for Ragi it is Rs 706. This will be the first time that fertilisers, manure and plant protection will be taken up on dry lands anywhere in the taluk.

During important operations on these 19 demonstration plots, all the Coolies from the surrounding villages will be invited to attend and learn. Farmers' Days will be organised during the harvests.

Later this year, the DLDP Staff will study appropriate agricultural technology where the use of fertilisers and plant protection chemicals is discouraged. The 1988 demonstrations will be to educate the Coolies on this alternative technology.

ADATS believes that for too long these "alternatives" have remained mere fads that environmentalists and a few intellectuals like us have been concerned with. We wish to involve the Coolies, through practical demonstrations, into the issue so that they themselves can see the long range profits and losses. By the end of 1988, they will have the traditional, the hi-tech, as well as the alternative models before them. With some more training and exposure we are sure they will make the right choices.

In January and February 1988, all the 261 CSU Representatives will be taken on study tours to forest areas. The theme of these DLDP tours will be trees. The VLWs Community Workers and the Cluster Secretaries will also accompany the Coolies on these tours to forest areas.

These are yet some more activities that we had not taken into account when making the tentative budget for the DLDP in August 1986.

12. SAVINGS (SANGHA FUNDS)

The starting of the DLDP coincided with the Coolies decision to build up Sangha Funds at the CSU, Cluster and BCS levels. Our call to the Coolies to contribute 10% of their earnings to their respective CSU Funds evoked a positive response. □□ All the Coolies decided that since the wages they would get in the DLDP were very fair, they would voluntarily contribute a uniform Re. 1 per day from their daily wage to their respective Sangha Funds though this worked out to more than 11%. In many CSUs the Coolies voluntarily contributed Rs 10 each, being 10% of the value of the tools and implements we gave them under the DLDP!

ADATS made it a strict policy to pay the Coolies their full wage of Rs 8 per day, refusing to cut anything at source. We are clear that all contributions to their Sangha Funds should be voluntary with no trace of compulsion whatsoever.

Not even in a single village have the Coolies failed to collect the Sangha Fund contribution and credit it into their bank accounts! The odd cases of delay and default were the doings of their errant Representatives and VLWs in a few stray cases.

We are sure that the 87 CSUs will, by the end of the DLDP, have about Rs 11,25,000 in their respective 87 bank accounts from the DLDP alone. The interest earned from this money will be used to support the organisational expenses of their CSUs when ADATS eventually withdraws.

Coolies are, on their own, voluntarily contributing 10% of their other earnings also to their respective Sangha funds. We are very curious to see if after the 1987 harvests, they will contribute 10% of their yields since this will be the acid test of the viability and continuity of the BAGEPALLI COOLIE SANGHA as an independent mass organisation of the Coolies.

13. ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMME

Mainly because of pressure from ADATS, attendance at the daily ALP Classes was linked to DLDP wage payment. It was not enough we declared if a Coolie worked from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. In addition she or he had to attend the ALP Classes for one hour in order to get wages under the DLDP.

The Field Workers were instructed to peruse both the Attendance Registers – at the work spots and the night classes – before making payments. We believed that this would result in at least 90% adult literacy in the Coolies.

The task became tiring for everyone concerned and soon the relationship between ADATS and the Coolies bordered on the acrimonious inmost of the CEP area.

In a mid term review of the CEP area last month, we decided to abandon the compulsion and de-link the ALP Classes from the DLDP, much to the Coolies' confused delight and consternation.

We realised that our earlier success with the Adult Literacy Programme had been because of its voluntarism. When, at the start of the DLDP, we had got carried away a possibility of achieving near 100% literacy in adult Coolies, problems started arising. Very clearly, 100% literacy was our concern, not shared by the Coolies. As a result Coolie participation had been thrown to the winds by the new element of compulsion.

We will however, build in positive discrimination in favour of neo-literate Coolies in order to spur the ALP and not abandon the effort altogether. We still believe that adult literacy is the vital foundation stone of any true development efforts.

Though the ALP has not been reviewed since, indicators are that attendance at the night classes have increased and there is now a greater chance of finishing the 1st ALP Book by 31st July!

14. DLDP WAGE PAYMENTS

The DLDP has a trim staffing with one Extension Worker, 3 Field Workers and the Agriculturist who all report to the Executive Assistant. All of them are independently mobile on motorcycles. They all have clear and mutually agreed job description.

Each Field Worker is entrusted with about 25 villages where he has to ensure that wage payments are made promptly for works done according to the mutually agreed 1987 DLDP Plan. Copies of this plan are available in each CSU with the Cluster Secretaries/Community Workers, and with the DLDP Staff. In order to avoid confusion the procedure for making payments is also worked out in a careful detail, and copies of this are also available with everyone.

In each CSU there is a separate DLDP Minute Book in which the daily attendance is marked by an elected representative in the older villages and the Village Level Worker (VLW) in the new villages where ADATS Staff are present. At the end of each work, a special DLDP meeting is conducted in the CSU, chaired by the Collie Member whose work has just been completed. Details on the work done, her or his satisfaction or otherwise, etc. are fully recorded in the DLDP Minutes Book. These minutes are carefully perused the next day and the Field Worker makes the DLDP wage payment of Rs 8 per day directly to the Coolies. This is also recorded in the DLDP Minutes Book.

These DLDP Minutes Book are perused in the Cluster Meets in the presence of the BCS Secretary/Field Assistant (CEP) and the Cluster Secretaries/Community Workers on fixed days every week, in front of all the elected CSU Representatives and VLWs as part of their regular agenda.

The central office Accounts Department headed by the Accounts Admn. Assistant gives out advances to the Field Workers every morning, and takes in their accounts and the balances unspent every evening. The money in transit is covered against theft and loss by insurance with New India Assurance Co.

In this way, there are 3 points of counter check from within ADATS itself – the Accounts Admn. Assistant, the Executive Assistant and the Field Assistant (CEP) or the BCS Secretary – on payment made. In addition, there is an external point of check by way of New India Assurance Co. But most importantly, there is a Coolie check and control through scrupulous transparency at all stages – planning, implementation, payments and review.

15. IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

About 66% of the DLDP Works planned for 1987 have been completed. Initial turbulence with CSU membership prevented us from starting as planned in March. As a result, the works will get over only in August 1987, just before the monsoons in September.

Initial ploughing to loosen the top soil has already been completed on the 19 demonstration plots. Sowing of Ragi, Ground nut and Redgram will be taken up in September.

Orders have been placed for 100,000 saplings and 6,000 year-old coconut trees. Pits are being dug in front of all Coolies homes for planting the coconut trees in September. 2,500 kgs of Hamata grass seeds have already been procured.

1,800 synthetic hatching eggs have been distributed to 112 Coolie women and the first batch of chicks will hatch next week.

16. REVIEW MEETS

In September and October 1987, a series of Review Meets will be held on the first years experiences by the Coolies themselves. The Extension Worker, the Agriculturist and the concerned Field Worker will attend all these Review Meets along with the BCS Secretary/Field Assistant (CEP) and the Cluster Secretary/Community Workers.

The next DLDP Progress Report will be brought out after these rounds of CSU and Cluster level Review Meets and their rounding up by the November BCS Meeting.

17. THE TOTAL DLDP BUDGET

We have on page 136 of this Progress Report, given the skeleton budget that was presented to NOVIB in August 1986 in order to initiate the Dry Land Development Project. Since then, as has been explained a very exhaustive process involving all the 87 CSUs, 16 Cluster Meets and the BCS Meeting had been undertaken to plan the DLDP at the grass roots. This has certain budgetary implications that we will now share as the final budget for the DLDP.

1.	Synthetic chicken rearing for 1,000 Coolie women by providing them with 2 brooder hens, rearing baskets and 16 <i>Giriraja</i> hatching eggs from the IVRI/UAS, Bangalore @ Rs 155 each:	155,000
2.	Cost of 9,000 kgs of <i>sylosanthus Hamata</i> grass-seeds for giving a grass cover for all the bunds done under the DLDP @ Rs 25 per kg:	225,000
3.	Cost of 6,000 one year old coconut trees to be planted in front of 3,000 Coolie homes @ Rs 10:	60,000
4.	Cost of 1,00,000 fruit, fodder and manure trees to be planted on the 9,000 acres of Coolie land developed under the DLDP:	200,000
5.	Input cost for 19 demonstration plots to show appropriate technology farming in 1988:	38,000
6.	Cost of taking 261 CSU Representatives from 87 CSUs, 60 VLWs, 10 Community Workers and 6 Cluster Secretaries on a DLDP study tours to forest and hill areas for 3 days @ Rs 200	<u>67,400</u>
Total additional funds required:		Rs 810,000