

**REPORT OF  
ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR ELICITING  
PARTICIPATION OF PEOPLE IN THE  
PROCESS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
IN VILLAGE BHUPNAGAR, JHANSI, U.P.**




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# PREFACE

Rural development is as important as urban development. However, it is found that importance of rural development has always been less than the urban development on many indicators, like road, education infrastructure, skill development infrastructure, employment opportunities, sewage disposal, waste management, etc. In our country there are more than 6 lakh villages. Many villages are highly developed while many are still developing. The need of the hour is to gain pace in development and the process of development should be focus on the employment generation and sustainable resource utilization.

Keeping this in view, our Triniketan Foundation for Development is trying to contribute, to whatever extend possible, to enhance the conditions of village Bhupnagar. As an initial step, we are trying to understand the problems so that proper plan can be prepared and strategy could be formulated for the overall development of the village.

The present report is a humble effort towards this end.

I gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of Mr. Shiromani Singh Rajput, Mr. Bhagwandas Pehelwan and others for their cooperation. My special thanks to all the participants and the observers.

I also thank Mr. Paul George for designing the report with illustrations.

Dr Anila Nair  
Chairperson

# REPORT OF AN ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR ELICITING PARTICIPATION OF PEOPLE IN THE PROCESS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN VILLAGE BHUPNAGAR, JHANSI, U.P.

## PART ONE

### Introduction

Rural development is very important for the development of India. About 70 percent population of India still live in rural areas. Almost half of the workforce in the country is engaged in agriculture for their livelihood. Given such importance, it is necessary to promote rural development activities because rural areas of the country have a potential for employment opportunities. Besides, the rural areas have huge prospect and potentials in terms of resources, like human resources, land resources, water conservation, forest resources, etc.

The proper and sustainable development of these resources depend on our endeavor to enhance their capacity.

Keeping this in view the Triniketan Foundation for Development is planning to participate in the development process of Bhupnagar village, located in Distt. Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh.

To begin with, the foundation first conducted an orientation-cum-need sensing programme in the village on April 08, 2023. We believe that by harnessing our resources in our 6.5 lakh villages in India we can make our villages abode of peace, progress and growth.

The Programme was held in the Panchayati Bhawan located in village Bhupnagar, Jhansi, U.P.

## **Aim**

The aim of the programme was to elicit ideas and opinions from the participant village residents regarding the development of their village.

## **Objectives**

The specific objectives of the programme were the following:-

- To identify problems and opportunities for taking initiatives for development;
- To identify availability of human and material resources in the village;
- To measure the gap between existing resources and emerging requirements;
- To understand the extent of utilization of resources;
- To acquaint them with the ideas of building effective, organization, especially the Panchayati Raj Institution;
- To map resources in the village.

## **Participants**



The programme was attended by 35 participants who were chosen by Shri Shiromoni Singh Rajput, the village Pradhan, a veteran trade union activist. The participants (see list) were from different age groups and educational levels. In addition, more than a dozen students from the village Junior High School also participated in the programme.

## Inauguration

The programme was inaugurated by the Head Teacher, Ms. Arti. She highlighted the need to encourage the village people to work together to use the village resources effectively. She further said that because of interpersonal misunderstanding, quite often village people fail to reap the benefit of working together. She emphasized that awareness training is much needed as it might change their behavior towards more co-operation among themselves. She thanked Dr. Anila Nair, chairperson of the Foundation. Another important event was the release of the “Triniketan News”. It was released by Dr. Anila Nair and Mr. Shiromoni Singh Rajput. Mr. Shiromoni Singh Rajput, after the release of the Triniketan News, Mr Singh invited Dr. Anila Nair to address the participants.

Dr. Anila Nair, the Chairperson of the Triniketan Foundation for Development, welcomed the dignitaries and participants of the programme and spoke about the need for rural development and how important it is to work together to achieve the goal of sustainable

development for one and all. She briefly highlighted important constitutional functions of the Panchayat and how an effective implementation could transform the villages in India.

She also said the Foundation would continuously provide academic assistance to the activists who are involved in the village development activities. She further said that rural development is important and without development of agriculture, livestock, etc. it would be well-nigh impossible to achieve the goal of a viable India. She said that if all the stakeholders, like teachers, sarpanches, government



officials, academics, civil society, self-help groups, organizations, trade unions, mahila mondals and other organizations and interested individuals join hands together, then it would not be very far to realize our dream of a sustainable development of our villages.

After the Chairperson's talk, Mr. Rajput was invited to share his ideas and experiences as a village Pradhan. He described briefly about different issues regarding rural development and narrated how he has brought changes in the village.

He also shared his future plan for the development. Mr. Rajput, while describing the initiatives he has been taking since his being elected as a village Pradhan, pointed out that he has been receiving a lot of cooperation from his fellow villagers for the development of Bhupnagar. He also elaborated on the comprehensive functions on the Panchayate Raj Institution. He then invited participants to share their perception about different problems that are hindering the rapid development of the village. Mr. Rajput invited Mr. Bhagwandas Pehelwan, a veteran trade union leader to speak on the occasion.

Mr. Pehelwan thanked the organizers Mr. Rajput and Dr. Anila Nair for inviting him in the programme. He said that the initiative proposed to be taken to improve the conditions of the village is laudable. He urged upon the participants that with their help and cooperation Bhupnagar village can be made a model village. He also emphasized the need for unity among all sections of people for their development. After Mr. Pehelwan's speech, the school children, who were also present, were given a writing



pad and pen by the Foundation. After these events, discussion was initiated. The participants were requested to highlight and articulate problems and issues also suggest their solutions of problems. The following points emerged from the discussion and interactions.

### Shortage of water

All the participants unanimously said that the most pressing problem in the area is the shortage of water for irrigation. Although the village periphery is connected by a canal, but supply of water is not very regular. As a result, during sowing and tending different crops become quite difficult.

The participants also said that more effort is required for water harvesting. They suggested that even the sewage water could be collected and treated for further use.



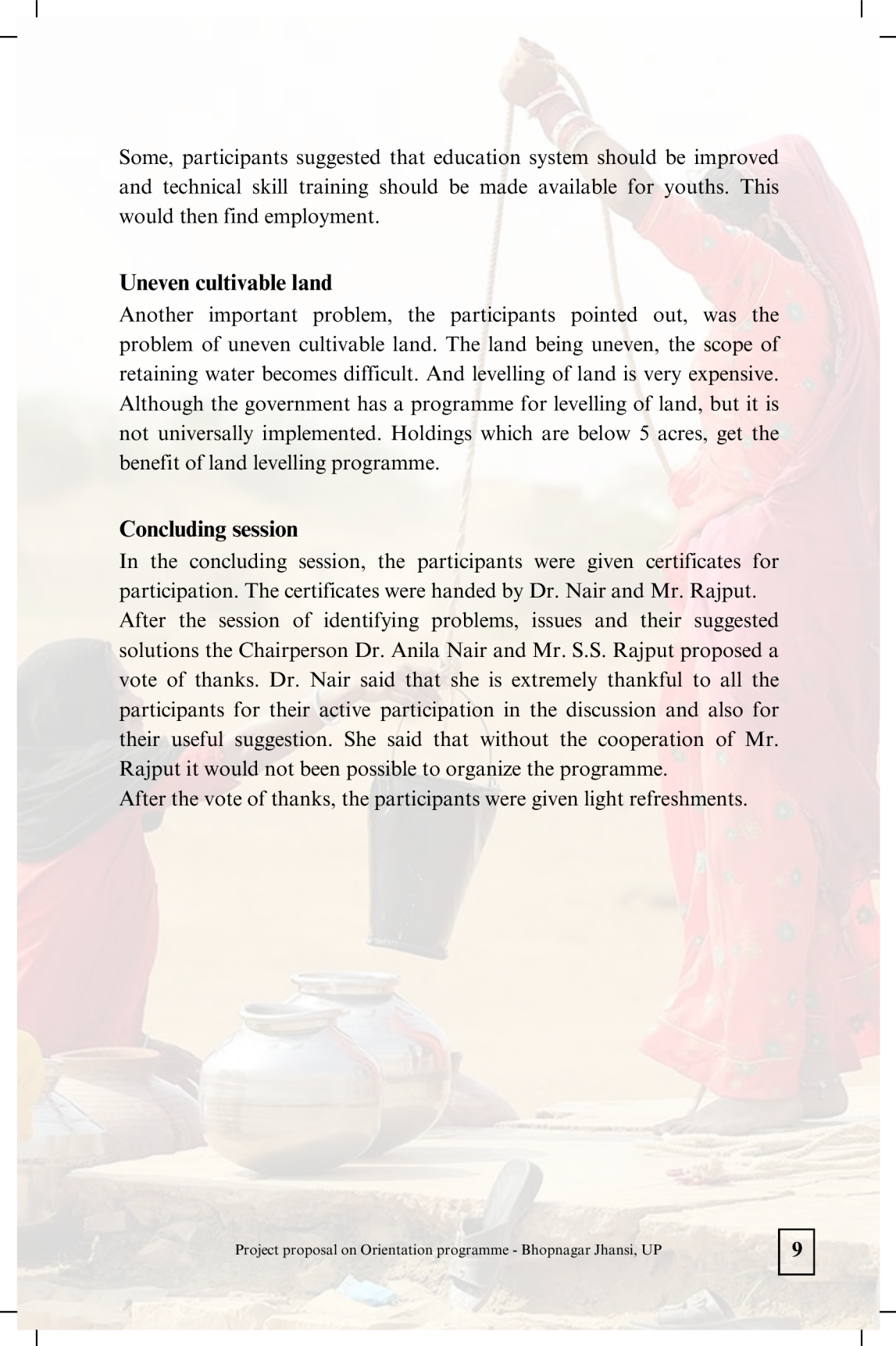
### Sanitation & waste management

Another problem which the participants raised was the management of waste materials especially the left out feeds, cattle dungs and crop residue.

During our visit we, found that the village landscape is dotted with dung heaps. Due to congested residential habitation, dumping grounds for waste materials are shrinking, resulting in dumping of waste materials near houses/courtyards.

### Education

A junior high school is located at southern part of the village. It is situated in a very beautiful place. However, the school compound needs to be spruced up. And this can be done by participation of students, their

A woman in a red sari is pouring water from a pot into a large earthenware pot on the ground. The background is a bright, hazy outdoor setting.

Some, participants suggested that education system should be improved and technical skill training should be made available for youths. This would then find employment.

### **Uneven cultivable land**

Another important problem, the participants pointed out, was the problem of uneven cultivable land. The land being uneven, the scope of retaining water becomes difficult. And levelling of land is very expensive. Although the government has a programme for levelling of land, but it is not universally implemented. Holdings which are below 5 acres, get the benefit of land levelling programme.

### **Concluding session**

In the concluding session, the participants were given certificates for participation. The certificates were handed by Dr. Nair and Mr. Rajput. After the session of identifying problems, issues and their suggested solutions the Chairperson Dr. Anila Nair and Mr. S.S. Rajput proposed a vote of thanks. Dr. Nair said that she is extremely thankful to all the participants for their active participation in the discussion and also for their useful suggestion. She said that without the cooperation of Mr. Rajput it would not been possible to organize the programme. After the vote of thanks, the participants were given light refreshments.

## PART TWO

### About Bhupnagar

“According to census 2011, the location code or village code of Bhupnagar village is 152840. Bhupnagar is located in Jhansi Tehsil of Jhansi District in Uttar Pradesh, India. It is situated 18 kms away from Jhansi, which is both district and sub-district headquarter of Bhupnagar village. As per 2009 stats, Bhupnagar is the gram panchayat of Bhupnagar village.



The total geographical area of the village is 300.6 hectares. Bhupnagar has a total population of 873 people. Out of which male population is 456 while female population is 417. Literacy rate of Bhupnagar village is 64.49% out of which 72.37% males and 55.88 females are literate.

There are about 180 houses in Bhupnagar village. Baragaon is the nearest town to Bhupnagar for all major economic activities, which approximately 3 kms away”.



### Village Infrastructure

**Communication:** The village is connected by a narrow road from the Jhansi-Kanpur highway and also from the block headquarter Baragaon. The road is not very much in good condition. It requires a top-up tar-mortar coating. The road serves as a lifeline of the village.

### Irrigation

The village is connected by an irrigation canal from Baragaon and it meanders by the side of the village. Sometimes, it provides much needed water for cultivation. During the recent visit to the village we found some accumulated water in the canal. Like the roads, canal also requires

renovation.

Beside the canal, the cultivation of different crops also depends on power driven pump sets and many such pump sets could be seen in the agricultural field.

### **Village school**

The village has a junior primary school. About students study in the school, the school is housed in a pucca building and protected by a broken boundary. It has a space which can be utilized for plantation of both timber and fruit trees.



### **Panchayat Bhavan**

The village has a beautiful, neat and clean Panchayat Bhawan adjacent to the school. It is covered by a few neem and acacia trees which keep the compound cool and elegant.



### **Aanganwadi**

Near the Panchayat Bhawan, the village Pradhan has recently constructed an Aanganwadi centre which is elegantly painted. The overall ambience is very clean.

## Public Toilet

At a corner of the compound of the Panchayat Bhawan, there is also a public toilet constructed for the people who quite often attend meetings in the Panchayat Bhawan.

## Drinking water

Bhupnagar is supplied with drinking water. However, there are also some hand pumps that also help the villagers to obtain water. Currently, the people in the village do not face any shortage of drinking water.

## Crops grown in village Bhupnagar

In different seasons different crops are cultivated. However, the main crops that are cultivated are :

- Rabi Season. During Rabi Season, the main crops that are cultivated are : wheat, gram, peas, mustard and barley.
- Kharif Season. During Kharif season, the following crops are cultivated : penuts, pulse and sesame.
- Vegetable Cultivation. Apart from the above crops, some farmers also cultivate vegetables, like brinjal, bittergourd, tomato, bhindi etc.
- Trees and Plants. The village is covered by a variety of trees and plants. The tree species are: mango, pupil, sisham, neem, banyan, babul, black berry, guava, eucalyptus etc.

## Livestock

People of Bhupnagar depend a great deal on livestock for their livelihood, apart from agriculture and non-agricultural activities during off-season. Almost every household keeps buffaloes, cows, goat and poultry. In fact, buffaloes are the major source of milk and income.



### List of participants

S. No.	Name	Age
1	Bhagwandas Pehelwan	74
2	Piyush Yadav	28
3	Marsh Kumar	27
4	Preetam Singh	50
5	Chowdary Unnat Pal	37
6	Vinod Dau Bhupnagar	40
7	Ramesh Rajput	55
8	Umesh Rajput	38
9	Jagdish Prasad	50
10	Yogender Singh	40
11	Beeresh Bahadur Singh	50
12	Dhanprasad Bangari	35
13	Smt. Vandana Srivastav	51
14	Smt. Hemlata Verma	40
15	Abhilash Rajput	38
16	Mohan Singh Aadvathi	60
17	Suresh Aadvathi	39
18	Raja Bhaiya Rajput	22
19	Mohit Yadav	22
20	Raj Yadav	17

## List of participants

S. No.	Name	Age
21	Brij Mohan Sharma	57
22	Rameshwar Rajputa	58
23	Sita Ram	28
24	Yashpal Singh	28
25	Ram Charan Bhangari Bangai	32
26	Girija Kant Fulkeria	30

## **PART THREE**

### **About the foundation**

The Triniketan Foundation for Development was established in 2018. The main aim of the Foundation is to work for the upliftment of the socio-economically disadvantaged sections of the society, especially women, children, differently abled and unemployed people. Since its inception, the foundation has been engaged in creating awareness among people about social security schemes and programmes, labour legislations, health issues, human rights, skill development, etc. The foundation has a number of dedicated volunteers/activists who are devoting their times and resources for different socially useful works. The Foundation is adopting villages and mohallas for its development, especially education and economic by providing information on various issues.

### **Vision**

The visions of the Foundation have been outlined as below:

- To develop the foundation into a center of excellence: for human and physical resources development of the country by the state of art education, training and research.
- To shape policy and programmes for peoples' inclusive participation in development.
- To foster an environment of peace, harmony freedom and equality.

### **Mission**

The main mission of the organization is to provide an ambience to one and all to develop his/her potentials. The following are the mission statements:

To enhance human capabilities by education, training and research for all round development of the society by directing activities by analyzing the critical problems and indicating and undertaking appropriate and sustainable solution.

## Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of the foundation are:

- To develop human and physical resources of the country.
- To conduct Educational Research and training (both soft and technical).
- Programmes for people in general and workers in particular.
- To participate and help the people in implementation of development programme in the country.
- To create awareness programmes on relevant social and economic issues.
- To organize workshops and seminars on topical Issues relating to country's peaceful and inclusive development.
- To establish institutes and organization for education, research and training.
- To set up old age homes, orphanages for the needy people.
- To organize health and wellness programmes for the socio-economically disadvantaged group especially women and children,
- To develop network with like-minded civil society organization for sharing knowledge,
- To empower women and men with skills, knowledge and resources for proper development,
- To protect, promote and preserve environment in the country,
- To undertake traditional and action research for enhancing development process of the country,
- To undertake consultancy services,
- To publish book, journals, newsletters, pamphlets for dissemination of knowledge and information for the development of the society,
- To help farmers and agricultural workers with knowledge and skill to enhance their ability/activities.
- To undertake such activities which the foundation may deem fit in order to fulfill and realize the objectives stated above.

To undertake any of the above activities, we seek guidance and any form of financial and material assistance from our sympathizers and well-wishes.

We hope your cooperation will go a long way to achieve our objectives.