

NAKSHATRA VANA Inside Borigumma Central Nursery



OFSDP is making concerted efforts for innovative standard approaches both for forestry and community development. With this objective Nakshatra Vana is an exemplary noble concept of popularizing tree planting and has been established in Borigumma central nursery, of Jeypore DMU. The Block Development Officer during Vana Mohostava-2011 celebrations, inaugurated and opened it to public in presence of other line department officials and locals. This noble concept is being pursued in order to popularize the tree planting of medicinal, social, aesthetic and economic value of 27 constellations or nakshatras by the villagers in their home backyards and agriculture bunds.

Winner of Quiz # 3

VSS/SHG

Bhisma Sahu
Animator, Sagapada VSS
P.O.: Taromakanta
Via : Suakati, Dist.: Keonjhar

FOREST OFFICIALS

Gajendra Behera
Membr Secretary
Raigoda Range
Angul DMU, Angul

ANSWER TO OFSDP QUIZ # 3

1. c	6. a	11. b	16. b
2. c	7. a	12. a	17. d
3. a	8. d	13. c	18. a
4. a	9. c	14. d	19. a
5. b	10. d	15. d	20. c

Though we received 150 responses, no one answered all the questions correctly. So it was decided to award the prize to the entry with maximum correct answers. Demand draft for prize money will be sent shortly through the DMU Chiefs.

Congratulation to the winners !



The quarterly newsletter of the JICA assisted Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project provides timely information relating to different project activities for the knowledge of various stakeholders.

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NEWSLETTER

Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project

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PD's Desk

In the previous issue, I had stated that the year 2011 could be the last year of project interventions.

Now I am glad to inform you that fifth batch interventions of OFSDP in 2012 for restoration of degraded areas in JFM mode and non-JFM mode has been already

initiated. During 2011 rainy season, OFSDP Divisions cum DMUs have included 240 VSS/EDC in the project fold. In JFM mode, 22,404 ha of degraded forests and 510 ha of mangrove forest have been treated for restoration. Simultaneously, 2,786 ha of AR teak plantations and 25 ha of casuarina plantations have been departmentally undertaken under the project. 1,348 additional SHGs have also initiated IGA in 2011 under the project umbrella. The eco-tourism destination with accommodation facilities creation by Chotkei EDC of Satkosia Sanctuary progressed during the quarter very enthusiastically. This nature camp however planned for opening in November, 2011 has been opened to visitors from 08th December, 2011. This singular and unique outcome of OFSDP implementation has been highly successful due to perseverance and commitment of Chotkei community. The nature visitors of Satkosia has received this development and services rendered by Chotkei EDC with their valuable support. OFSDP felicitates Chotkei EDC and their eco-tourism group.

I am sure that the VSS and EDC total 2301 in number under the project fold would have undertaken benefits of direction/ instructions through DMUs for consolidating and strengthening their existing work during October-December 2011. We expect to build upon these developments with possible extension of project at least for another two years with focus on sustainability of VSS/EDC functioning along with assets management and productive utilization in post project scenario. The JICA Mission Review in July 2011 and MoEF review in September 2011 have been able to guide us with our extension proposals.

During this quarter, report of a project instituted study on "Impact of ANR practices on Biodiversity" and a paper published in the Indian Forester "Assisted Natural Regeneration as a Tool for Forest

Rehabilitation under JFM- an analysis of current process and scope of refinement" are showing potentials of ANR when practiced with local knowledge and available silvicultural techniques. The widening gap with loss of forest biodiversity on forest degradation can be halted to address the livelihood concerns of forest dependent communities. NTFPs are assuming a higher contribution to local economy to over exploitation of timber and fuel wood from forests for livelihood.

OFSDP in the celebration of International Year of Forests 2011 has participated with officers and members of VSS & SHGs at the First Indian Forest Congress as well as JFM Enclave in New Delhi from 22-25 November 2011. I am glad to state that the show case programme of "Voices from the Field" with video screening included one remarkable initiatives from each State, but two successful initiatives from Odisha i.e. one of forest restoration by JFM Committee in Angul Forest Division and other of restoration of Chilika wetland. Additionally, one more highly successful work of JFM Committee of Koraput Division in video titled 'Vana Dhan' was screened before officials and JFMC members. OFSDP further at the State level has celebrated the International Year of Forests 2011 and participated in organizing of 4 regional level workshops (Nov-December, 2011) and the Odisha Environment Congress 2011 with theme of 'Forest Resources of Odisha : Issues, Challenges and Potentials' (22-24 December 2011) in Bhubaneswar. This provided a platform for the first time for sharing of knowledge amongst communities from villages, students, scientific institutions, Universities, Government bodies and NGOs. It was heartening to understand that process, programmes and achievement so far under OFSDP for communities and forest restoration being appreciably referred to in presentations, discussions and published papers of the Congress. All project participants may take note of it for sustaining their endeavors.

In this issue of newsletter, a few representative happenings and developments of the quarter on plantations, training, capacity building, income generation and livelihood and functions of OFSDP have been included. Readers would find them informative and knowledgeable.

(Vinod Kumar)
Project Director

13th GB Meeting



13th Governing Body meeting of Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society was held on 29th September 2011 at the State Secretariat, Bhubaneswar. The Agriculture Production Commissioner -cum- ACS & Chairperson of the Governing Body Sri R.N. Senapati, IAS presided over the meeting. Components like Restoration of Degraded Forests, Coastal plantation, Biodiversity management, development of sacred groves, linkages to SHGs, installation of smokeless fuel efficient Chullah, implementation of farm forestry and organizing meetings of District Advisory committee at regular intervals were the topics of discussion. Besides this, additional action plan and additional budget allocation for 2011-12 along with internal audit report for 2010-11 was also discussed and approved. Sri P.N. Padhi IFS, PCCF Odisha, Sri J.D. Sharma IFS, PCCF (WL) Odisha, Sri B.P. Singh IFS, Special Secretary F&E Deptt., Sri P.K. Behera, Secretary NEWS, Sri Vinod Kumar IFS, PD OFSDP and Sri Rajiv Kumar IFS, Sri D.D. Biswal IFS & Sri R. Raghu Prasad, IFS all Jt. PDs of OFSDP were present in the meeting. The Chairperson released the previous issue of OFSDP Newsletter in English & Odia.

Profitable cauliflower cultivation and trade by SHG

Delarpadar VSS constituted in a forest fringe village under Balliguda FMU has been functioning in JFM mode for their assigned forest area. People of this tribal village grow vegetables for their livelihood. They have been cultivating in traditional way and individually. OFSDP has engaged MART-CYSD Consortium as IGA Support Agency. Their team studied this VSS and motivated the only SHG of the village for collective vegetable cultivation and marketing. A Business plan of ₹30,000/- was prepared for Mahalaxmi Self Help Group. The group contributed ₹14,800/- from their own corpus. After getting a loan from VSS on its business plan and under guidance of IGASA team, SHG started cultivating cauliflower in 2 acres of land by using better quality seeds, manure, pesticides and modern farm equipments. Experienced farmers of the village helped SHG in various manners like managing inputs in cultivation and post harvesting events.

The SHG at first round of harvest transported 1 tractor load of cauliflower to Balliguda and K. Nuagaon markets and sold to traders @ ₹8/- per kg. On second and third round of harvest, SHG sold 3 tractor loads of cauliflower at their village point at the rate of ₹7/- per kg to traders from Balliguda. At the end of season,



group made a profit of ₹23,700/-. The SHG has now experience of managing their plan successfully and achieving higher income through collective cultivation and marketing. Draupadi Pradhan, President of the SHG says "first time the traders have procured vegetables at our village point and we got some incremental price of our produce. We feel confident in collective farming and marketing. We have learnt a lot from this activity."

SHGs of G. Udaygiri found a regular business

Moving towards a Successful Enterprise

Turmeric is commonly promoted in Southern parts of Odisha especially in Kandhamal, Koraput, & some part of Rayagada. Across the region, it is cultivated as a single crop in the uplands. Broadcasting is made in June and harvesting during February-March. Farmers keep a small quantity for household consumption and sell the surplus. There exists opportunity for collective marketing of turmeric in a better market for better sale value. The IGASA Team engaged by OFSDP has been providing training and market linkages for SHGs to be transformed into a cluster. 23 SHGs under 8 VSSs were included in a cluster for marketing of turmeric. 10 SHGs took loan from Village Forest Development Fund of VSS for the purpose. Rest 13 SHGs used their previous loan. They all decided to purchase turmeric locally. 200 quintals of turmeric was collected @ ₹7980/- per quintal. With aggregated quantity, they were able to sell 185



quintal @ ₹9495/- per quintal. Due to reduction in market rate, they held back rest 15 quintals and stored. Plan has been made to sell balance turmeric in various 'Melas & Exhibitions'. Through cluster activities SHGs gained good profit. They have returned loans with agreed interest to respective VSS.

They have also got very useful experience during the process where IGASA team provided them trainings and hand holding. Now the cluster has planned to undertake value addition by proper boiling, drying, polishing & grading to the product. They are also enthusiastic to sell the product in the next year with a brand name and good packaging.



OFSDP introduces Para-teachers

OFSDP has identified innovative approach of non-formal education for out of school children in remotest VSS/ EDC. Besides, Project also aims to start non-formal literacy education to members of VSS/EDC who experience problems in recognition of weight, currencies and calculations as well as for writing applications and are willing to gain services and benefits of programmes. The VSS/EDC identified one of their educated youth from village for his skill development to deliver the non-formal education at village. Para-teacher training for these persons was organized by the Project in convergence with Odisha Primary Education Program Authority (OPEPA) from 26th -30th September 2011 at Yatri Niwas, Bhubaneswar. Sri Vinod Kumar, IFS, Project Director OFSDP & Sri K.G. Mohapatra, IAS, State Project Director, OPEPA inaugurated the program. 148 educated youths (Non Formal Education Centers Instructors) identified from VSSs of eight project Divisions namely Angul, Balliguda, Bonai, Deogarh, Jeypore, Keonjhar, Paralakhemundi & Phulabani attended the training. The training was imparted by 16 resource persons from OPEPA. This was the first phase training and similar trainings will be organized in future also for other divisions. The para-teachers were also provided with kits containing books, copy books and games. These young educated people from the eight Project Division will teach the school dropouts, women SHG members and other interested people of the village where no school exists within 1 km with effect from November 2011.



Study on impact of ANR practices on Biodiversity

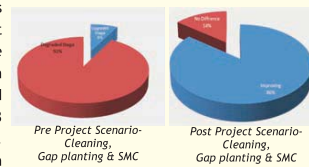
A study on "Impact of ANR practices on Biodiversity" has been carried out by M/S CTRAN Consulting Pvt. Ltd, Bhubaneswar in five Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project Divisions namely Koraput, Rayagada, Balliguda, Phulabani & Jeypore. The basic objectives of the study were:

- i. To analyze the impact of ANR treatments taken up under different programs/schemes in Orissa over an age gradient on the forest composition, structure, and floral biodiversity
- ii. To assess the implication of resultant biodiversity in terms of products and services flow for livelihoods augmentation
- iii. To gauge the impact of ANR treatments on faunal diversity

These studies were in two parts i.e Study I in 30 sites only in the OFSDP area and the other Study II having 72 sites under OFSDP, RLTP, FDA and Social Forestry Project area. Each type of project intervention was subcategorized into three types: ANR operation with cleaning only, ANR operation with cleaning and gap planting and ANR operation with cleaning, gap planting and SMC works.

Conclusion of Study I

It is observed that the cleaning, gap planting and SMC operation has helped in creating diverse forests which contain a range of dominant tree communities and other plant species that have changed in composition and extent over the 2-3 years time frame. Competition

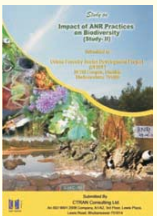


among the lower girth species restricted the diameter growth so that the basal area is affected. Different ANR treatments have enhanced the resultant biodiversity in the degraded forests and now the trend is increasing. Forests have significantly improved from biotic pressure

due to social fencing. The soil organic content and net primary dry biomass production trends have shown significant improvement. In the shrub community mostly alien invasive species are predominant and hence periodical selective cleaning is recommended.

Conclusion of Study II

After considering the tree density, basal area, diversity indices, dominance index, Bio-mass production, soil organic carbon it is concluded that cleaning and gap planting operation has performed better in case of mixed deciduous forest and only cleaning operation in Sal coppiced forestry. Cleaning, gap planting and SMC operations showed maximum result for moderately mixed deciduous forest type. Among different scheme areas, herbal diversity is better in OFSDP area. In case of faunal diversity, butterfly and ant communities showed maximum diversity. These species are indicators for good forest diversity as well as regenerating status. With regards to community perceptions, the study result showed that there is significant increase in the level of awareness in the OFSDP project area.



The study reports though early on the ANR interventions under OFSDP are however suggestive for application of this tool for eliciting community in Joint Forest Management towards enhancing productivity and biodiversity of forests

and for reiterating their commitments towards enrichment of degraded forest vegetation in addressing concerns of livelihood and soil conservation.

Enhancing Capacities

for front line officers and staffs



Circle level Project facilitation workshops were organized at 5 locations in each Circle for monitoring activities of OFSDP at the field level. Day long interaction with the front line staff on ongoing programmes and discussions regarding the new activities to be taken up under the Project was made at Koraput, Berhampur, Rourkela, Angul and Balasore (WL) on 06.09.11, 08.09.2011, 13.09.2011, 14.09.2011 and 20.09.2011 respectively. The Joint Project Directors, Deputy Project Directors, Resident Project Manager & MIS Expert of General Consultants from PMU attended these workshops. The Regional CCF of respective circle inaugurated the workshop. DMU Chiefs, Assistant DMU Chiefs, FMU Chiefs, FES, Foresters, Forest Guards of different DMUs actively participated in the above workshops.

Training on Attitude Change

A training workshop on "Inculcating Positive Attitudinal Change amongst Forest Officials" in vertical mode for field officers was

organized at Jashipur, Mayurbhanj District from 18.09.2011 to 22.09.2011, where 36 front line staff of Karanja, Rairangpur, Keonjhar, Bhadrak(WL) Divisions consisting of ACFs, Range Officer, FES, Foresters and Forest Guards actively participated. Resource persons from M/s Haselre Foundations, Chennai conducted the workshop for five days which helped a lot in the minds of the front line staff with positive attitudinal changes. Sri Aurobindo Behera, IAS, Principal Secretary, Forest and Environment Department, Government of Odisha attended the inaugural function as the Chief Guest and Sri Vinod Kumar, IFS,



Project Director, OFSDP presided over the function. The participants from workshop and games shared therein over 5 days got motivated to their functions with a feeling of oneness, cutting across hierarchy for development, conservation and protection. The enthusiasm and awareness aroused on their inner potential was also observed on animated discussions.

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Mid Career Training of 1984 IFS Officers at IIM and Overseas.

IFS Officers of 1984 batch of Odisha in the rank of Chief Conservator of Forests including some RCCFs of Project area attended Phase V mid-career training programme sponsored by Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India during 10th July to 6th August, 2011. The training programme was organised by the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (1st one week) and the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Deheradun (last one week). In between, the group was divided into two namely Smt Rebeca Nayar & S/Sri A Bharthuar, A O F Bakhla, P Behera, S Tripathy, & Dr A K Mohapatra for training at the Maxwell School of Public Policy, Syracuse University, New York, USA and the others namely, S/Sri S K Sinha and M. Sathyanarayana for a training course during the same time to the School of Forestry, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.



Summer passes smoothly with Freshwater availability in Mangrove EDC villages

The coastal communities close to sea experience water scarcity throughout the year. It becomes acute in summer with increased needs for drinking, bathing, cattle feeding. The pond water turns saline. The fresh water table plunges to more than 800 feet deep. It is thus cost prohibitive on part of the



individuals to dig a tubewell by their own. Even where the tube well is available, long line of women for collecting water and conflict becomes common affair. They have to travel long distances and to devote more time in fetching water. The OFSDP support in the 18 coastal villages of Bhadrak district with EDC constitution has resulted in steps for remedies of this problem. Three EDCs covered under OFSDP had taken participatory decision to address this water



scarcity problem through Entry Point Activity fund. These EDCs are of Dipiora village in Basudevpur FMU and of Kuamara & Gouraprasad villages in Chandabali FMU. Three tube wells were dug out from their EDC's EPA fund at a cost of about ₹2,40,000/-. Now 100 families from these three EDCs are happier lot, since they do not need to stand in long queue & to cover long distances for water. The women members of EDCs have volunteered for use and repair of tube well.

Reducing use of Chemical Fertilizer

An example for others



VSS of Rajsankar after doing exemplary work on forest protection, alternative IGA practices, user fee collection, labour contribution for VFDF and proper community mobilization, are now focusing on organic manure preparation. For last two years, they had been preparing vermi compost but they were not aware of humus preparation, vermi wash collection with its use, and for preparation of liquid organic manure. OFSDP had organized

training on humus preparation and the Member Secretary of this VSS got training. As a follow up action, he guided the VSS members for preparation of humus in their village. Convergence was established with International Development Enterprise (India) organization who also guided the VSS members in preparing liquid organic manure, collection of vermi wash and its use. As a result, VSS members are now preparing vermi compost, vermi wash and humus which they are using in their cultivated field. Moving one step ahead now villagers are also preparing liquid organic manure, which is basically a mixture of 3 types of leaf i.e (1) "Pita Patra" like Neem, Karanja, Karada etc. (2) "Leafs having smell" like Tulasi, Eucalyptus, Lemon etc.. (3) "Athalia Patra" like Arakha, Bara, Siju etc with jagery, cow dung and cow urine. This liquid organic manure is locally known as "Tarala Sara" or "Magic Tonic". By increasing application of organic manure by this VSS, the use of chemical manure and pesticide has been reduced which is benefitting the villagers. Now they are planning to expand this activity to nearby villages with aim that in long run whole area can be known as organically growing area. This would also enable villagers to get good price for their organically cultivated product and recognition.

GOING GREEN

Total Plantation Achievement During 2010-11 (Up to November-2011)

ANR	ECO	Fuel & Fodder	Bamboo & Cane	NTPP	Total	AR Teak	Mangrove	Casurina
16373	1511	1348	298	2874	22404	2786	510	25

Total Plantation Achievement Upto 2011-12 (Up to November-2011)

ANR	ECO	Fuel & Fodder	Bamboo & Cane	NTPP	Total	AR Teak	Mangrove	Casurina
146426	7474	8244	2323	19071	183537	11605	2516	92

Mass Plantation in KORAPUT



To realize the importance of plantation among all categories of people, a symbolic one day plantation was conducted in Koraput DMU on 7th July 2011. Local MLAs, Panchayati Raj members, Academicians, learned people, NGOs, school & college students, VSS members and other department staff participated in this one day plantation program. Awareness programmes were organized to spread the message among all category of people about importance of forest, different afforestation programme and individual & mass plantation work. In Koraput DMU, this programme of same day mass plantation was carried out on 10 sites. Out of these, plantations were taken up under OFSDP on 7 sites and on 3 sites under 13th FC grant. Total 85.8 ha of area were planted. RCCF-Koraput and DFO cum DMU chief Koraput monitored the whole programme and guided the field staff. All Forest Department staff involved themselves in this one day mass plantation programme and made this successful.



Plantation by Students



Eco-Clubs of Government High Schools, Borigumma and Raniguda of Jeypore DMU took up plantations inside the school campus on 5th July, 2011. More than eight hundred of local economic tree species and ornamental plants like Krushnachuda, Radhachuda, Kadamba, Amala, Nimba, Karanja have been planted during this mass plantation by school students. To increase awareness on tree plantation, environment and on forest among students of all level, junior and senior level group competition had also been organized among school students. Based on their performance, prizes were distributed among successful competitors.



Debate competition is going on among students of Senior Level in presence of FMU Chief, Sri Mahendra Patra & FLE, Jeypore, Sri Ramakanta Mohanty.

Plantation visited by Standing Committee



Badgaon VSS of Tamra FMU has been allotted a total JFM area of 141 ha. out of which treatment area under OFSDP is 110 ha. The component wise break up is ANR without Gap - 68 ha. ANR with Gap - 17 ha., Economic - 1 ha., Fuel & Fodder - 1 ha. and NTPF - 23 ha. A total of 18400 seedlings has been planted. The plantation area is being regularly monitored and protected through "Thengapali" system by VSS Members. This VSS has got Prakruti Mitra award during 2011. On 28.09.2011 the Standing Committee of Sundargarh Zilla Parishad visited the plantation area and highly appreciated the sincere effort made by VSS Members for the Protection & Conservation of the VSS forest area allotted to them. Due to the sincere steps taken by the VSS Members in preventing forest fire and grazing, the growth of the plantation taken during 2010-11 has been very good and the average height of Fuel & Fodder plantation is 6 feet during 2nd year.

Successful Plantation of Badamanoharpur



Badamanoharpur village is situated at a distance of 8 km from Dist. Head Qtr., Keonjhar. Villagers are mostly tribal and depend upon forest to maintain their livelihood. During 2008-09, VSS was formed to protect 118.843 ha forest area within Nelung RF. Total 21,000 saplings of different species were planted in 70 ha in ANR gap mode. The VSS engaging villagers has executed works of silvicultural operation, SMC and plantations. With active co-operation and profound enthusiasm of VSS members, the plantation intervention has become a huge success in the area. The plants have recorded an astounding height of about more than 20 feet in a span of 3 years and have registered more than 95% survival in the field. The then Principal Secretary, Forest and Environment Department Dr Aurobindo Behera, IAS and other Senior Forest Officers including the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Shri Subash Swain, IFS and Joint Project Director Shri Debi Dutta Biswal, IFS have visited and appreciated the successful plantations.

SAFE SHELTER

A few years back, seaside area adjacent to Uparadia village was an open grazing ground with growing sand deposition. The heavy pressure of over grazing by village cattle & exploitation of fishery resources had not been permitting mangroves to regenerate. The OFSDP initiatives resulted into constitution of an Eco-development Committee of Uparadia village for JFM mode interventions in Mangroves restoration from year 2009-10 onwards. The Uparadia EDC efforts now shows a positive impact on their community and on greening of area. Total 35 ha area of mangrove had been restored by 2010 and 20 ha area has been taken further for current year plantation. The EDC with the responsibility of joint management has been able to control grazing, illicit felling and protection for birds. In this process the

birds now feel safe to nest and lay eggs in the area. The crabs are also taking shelter under the dense Mangroves regeneration and their population growth in EDC managed area is showing increasing trend. The growth study of intervention area shows that the average height of plant is 92 cm, with maximum height achieved at 208 cm & the minimum height of 40 cm. Their protection has also influenced natural regeneration adjacent to treated area and the plants have achieved maximum height of 260 cm and minimum height of 80 cm. Safe shelter for birds and crabs is an indicator of growing biodiversity in an area earlier under heavy biotic pressures and increasing livelihood options for Uparadia EDC.

