

Report of the Regional Consultation on
**“Wastelands and Livelihood:
Problems and Prospects for the Eastern Region”**

Organised by
Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development
Ranchi

The logo of the Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development (SPWD) Ranchi is a green circular emblem. It features the acronym 'SPWD' in a bold, sans-serif font, centered within a double-lined green circle. Below the circle, the full name 'Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development' is written in a smaller, green, sans-serif font, following the curve of the bottom half of the circle. The word 'Ranchi' is positioned below the main text of the logo.

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Wastelands and Livelihood: Problems and Prospects for the Eastern Region

The Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development (SPWD) is revisiting the issue of Wastelands, in its Silver Jubilee year (2007) and in this context a series of consultations are being held in various regions of the country. SPWD Ranchi organised the first regional consultation on “Wastelands and Livelihood: Problems and Prospects for the Eastern Region” at Ranchi on 12th and 13th September’2006. Presentations by subject matter specialists were made on four themes:

1. Degraded lands and livelihoods, with focus on mining,
2. Water and livelihoods
3. Forest and livelihoods
4. Local governance and access to natural resources

The participants were from different background (NGO worker, Researchers, Academicians, Foresters and Development Activists) mostly belonging to Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar. It was also attended by development professionals from Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi.

SESSION I: OPENING SESSION

The session was chaired by Dr. A.K. Basu, and was addressed by chairman of SPWD Shri V.B. Eswaran and Shri V.K. Sardana. A background paper was presented by Shri Sharat singh of SPWD presenting an overall picture of the region.

Executive Director SPWD, Shri. Vijay Kumar Sardana in his **Welcome note stressed on the need to organize such consultations.** Twenty years ago **Dr. Kamala Choudhary** had initiated regional consultations to understand the regional nuances of wasteland. He paid homage to the visionary development worker Dr. Kamala Choudhary and dedicating the consultation to her vowed to carry on the good work that she had initiated. It was through a series of consultations that way back in the early eighties SPWD could bring the focus on wastelands and 25 years since then it is felt that various nuances of wasteland, its dynamism needs to be re-looked into. In this step SPWD is organizing a series of workshop in different regions of India.

Inaugural speech was delivered by Chairman, SPWD, Shri V B Eswaran. **Shri Eswaran in his inaugural speech introduced the problem of wasteland and the objective of the consultation.**

- Twenty years ago through a series of workshops SPWD brought the problem of wastelands or degraded land to public attention, states and Central government. In the year 1984 an estimate was published by SPWD. According to which 93 million hectares of wastelands was present outside the forest area. It also brought out the major causes of degradation. Since the cause was identified much could be done to treat some of the areas. Since last 20 years many actions and inactions have added to the problem of degradation.

- The consultation is to explore the various reasons for formation of wastelands or land degradation; in Eastern region mining is one of them but other reasons need to be explored, other agencies need to be involved. There is a need to look at the technical, social and economic reasons involved in land degradation. With the objective to identify causes of degradation as well as to explore the subject this consultation is being held.
- SPWD has also launched a pilot exercise on wasteland mapping with NRSA, and other agencies in Southern and Western India for deriving lessons that can help us move ahead.
- Compared to the semi-arid regions the extent of common land (outside forest) is very less in eastern region, the status these lands need to be explored? Status of the commons especially grazing land/gauchar in this region is not well documented. What kind of livelihood support is derived from these types of lands and how that can be improved? What is the management system existing for managing these resources these need to be explored. What is the condition of traditional system of resource management?
- The intensity of soil erosion in this region is very high and there is a need to document and disseminate locally developed steps to check erosion. Farmers in the region have developed simple technique to check erosion. Who will maintain these bunds or other erosion control structures is important.
- The traditional irrigation system of Ahar- Pyne to what extent community has been able to maintain the system? He stressed to document and build upon the local knowledge which is very important to make this kind of effort sustainable.
- Reclamation of the mined areas, the procedure, people's participation and accessibility right of community is the issue that needs to be looked into.
- In Bihar 90 percent population is dependent on natural resources/ agriculture. It is imperative that land is the most precious resource and one has to go for best productive purpose of use of these lands. The wasteland in the state ranges from degraded forest to water-logging, for improving the quality of these land investment is needed. A secure tenorial right is important for investment on land improvement.
- The share cropping arrangement prevailing also needs to be studied.

Dr. A. K Basu an eminent scientist and social engineer expressed that

- The wasteland is not an issue of only livelihood but is an issue of environment which affects large number of people. The understanding of wastelands has not percolated to the lowest level. Wasteland development means forest area development, rural development and development of poor.
- In India 60.2% farmer are marginal farmer and average land holding is about ½ hectare. The small land holding forces them to make a combination of land based activity and non land based activity for livelihood. With small fluctuations in the crop production the focus shifts to non land based activity and the land slowly becomes waste.
- The reducing sustenance from agriculture is one of the reasons more and more land is being left waste.
- Options of alternative livelihood need to be explored. Re-examine wastelands for the marginal farmers' development.

- The intense rainfall is the problem here as the water flow carries the most valuable top soil here. Jharkhand should prepare district agricultural plan on the basis of actual soil depth.
- In the waterlogged area the floating agriculture can be promoted.

Shri Sharat Singh, SPWD, presented a background paper giving an overall picture of the region.

- The eastern region of India comprising of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand is richly endowed with forest, mineral and water resources but paradoxically is also the poorest region of the country.
- The region constitutes 2.5% of the total geographical area of India while supporting 22% of the country's population. There are 106 districts, having 1455 community development blocks and 21,818 panchayats.
- Agro-climatically eastern region lies in four zones- "Middle Gangetic plain", "Lower Gangetic plain", "Eastern Plateau and Hill region" and "East coast plain and Hill region", while the region is further sub divided into 10 agro-ecological sub regions. The region is generally humid to sub humid with pockets of dry region.
- It receives an annual rainfall between 1000mm in most areas to as high as 2000mm in parts of West Bengal. The length of growing period ranges from 150-180 days in plateau region to 210-240 days in the lower Gangetic plains.
- The net sown area in West Bengal and Bihar is greater than 60% while Orissa has 38 % and Jharkhand has only 22.1%.
- The region is very densely populated with a density of 903 per sq Km in West Bengal, 880 in Bihar, 338 in Jharkhand to 236 in Orissa. It also has a high percentage of SC and ST population.
- The region has a very high incidence of poverty with 54% population below poverty line in Jharkhand, 47.2% in Orissa, 42.6% in Bihar and 27.02% in West Bengal. This could be attributed to inequality in land holding, land degradation, physiographic form, lack of irrigation facilities, displacement, illiteracy, vanishing of commons, eroding of community institutions and failure of government delivery mechanism.

Wastelands in eastern region

| States | Waste land(sq. km) | | Percentage to Total Geographical Area(TGA) (year 2003) |
|-------------|--------------------|----------|--|
| | 2000 | 2003 | |
| West Bengal | 5718.48 | 4397.56 | 4.95 |
| Bihar | 5880 | 5443.68 | 5.78 |
| Jharkhand | 15884 | 11165.26 | 14.01 |
| Orissa | 21341.71 | 18952.74 | 12.17 |

- The major categories of wasteland are "Degraded forest" and "Land with scrub". In Jharkhand 70% of the total wasteland belongs to the category of degraded forest, 40% in Orissa, 51% in Bihar and 24% in West Bengal.

- Orissa has 41% of its wasteland in the category land with scrub followed by 17% in Jharkhand.
- In Orissa 6% wasteland is under the category of shifting cultivation with Phulbani district contributing 50% of the shifting cultivation area followed by Gajapati and Kalahandi.
- Malkangiri has the highest wasteland (32.44% of Total Geographical Area) followed by Deogarh (31.99%), Gajapati (25.99%), Nayagarh (23.93%).
- In Bihar Kaimur has 27.46% Banka(17.58%), Rohtas(15.89%), Jamui(15.84%) and Gaya (15.33%) of total geographical area under wastelands.
- In West Bengal “Waterlogged and Marshy land” forms the largest category (34%) followed by degraded forest (24%). In the districts of WB, Purulia has highest wasteland (15.36%) followed by Malda (14.23%) and Murshidabad (8.47%).
- In Purulia district land with and without scrub contributes more than 50% of its wastelands. The area could be either privately owned or under common lands. Since most common lands have been distributed under land reform programme in the state, it is more likely that the wastelands are privately owned. In Midnapore district 47.31% of its forest is degraded.
- In Jharkhand, Garhwa has the highest area under wastelands i.e. 25.3% of TGA followed by Koderma 21.84%, Chatra 20.22% and West Singhbhum 20.13%
- In Simdega and Koderma more than 90% of the forest is under the category of degraded forest, 11 districts have more than 30% of their forest under degraded condition.
- Jharkhand in particular has the second highest industrial wasteland in the country. Nationally the area under mining and industrial waste has increased from 1252.13 sq Km to 1977.35 sq km in a span of just three years between 2000 and 2003 and much of it is contributed by the eastern region. This has created more problems with displacement of people, change in land use and land form.
- The major categories of wasteland in eastern region are Degraded forest; Land with scrub; Land without scrub; Waterlogged lands; Shifting cultivation; Mining wastelands
- The state of Jharkhand can be divided into 4 physiographic zones Santhal Pargana, North Chottanagpur plateau, South Chotanagpur plateau and Palamau.
- The region mainly comprises of soils developed on granite gneiss (32.6%) and granite schists (14.2 %). Soil acidity problem (ph < 5.5) is acute in 4 lakh hectare of cultivated area.
- The region has a major problem of slight to moderate soil erosion since about 43 % soils are located on very gentle slopes (1 to 3%) and 31 % of the soils are on gentle slopes (3 to 8%).(Dept. of Agriculture, GOJ)
- Heavy rains, uneven topography exposes the un-bunded uplands to sheet and gully erosion, causing loss of soil and plant nutrients. Out of the total geographical area, about 23 lakh hectares are subjected to severe erosion every year. Erosion, moderate to severe together affects about 30 lakh hectares, which is about 40 per cent of the geographical area.
- Checking soil erosion by adopting soil conservation measures should be the most important step to check land degradation.

- Most rural households are engaged in subsistence farming under adverse and risky environmental conditions. The families are often engaged in low paying non-agricultural activities (Banik et al; 2004).
- The livelihood basket consists of agriculture (that meets food security only for few months in a year), income from forest (fuel wood and NTFP¹), livestock, and wage labour.
- The livelihood basket is adversely affected by low agricultural productivity, small and fragmented land holding, poor soil and water resource condition, degraded forest, lack of access to quality and certified seeds, fertilizers/compost, poorly/ non-managed CPR, lack of marketing linkages for forest produce and non availability of local wage labour.
- The undulating topography gives rise to short range variations in terrain, soil and water condition. This forms the basis of toposequence Degraded uplands followed by Upland; Upland (badi, homestead);Medium land; Low land
- The characteristics of these sequences as given by Banik et. al(2004) is shown in the table below:

Table: Land types defined by low-scale difference in topography

| System | Degraded Upland | Upland tanr | Upland badi | Mid-upland (Baid) | Medium land (Ajan/Kanali) | Low land (Garha/D on) |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Soil | Rocky, loamy sand | Sandy Loam with gravel | Sandy Loam, Sandy clay Loam | Sandy Loam | Sandy clay loam | Clay loam |
| Soil depth | shallow | shallow | shallow to moderate | moderate | moderate | deep |
| Available soil moisture | 150-175 mm | 200-225 mm | 200-225 mm | 225-250 mm | 250-275 mm | 300-375 mm |
| Fertility | low | low | medium | low | low to medium | medium to high |
| Cropping system | Degraded Forest, not cultivated | Fallow Gora, minor millets | Double cropped rice, maize, potato, vegetable | Mono cropped, rice medium duration | Mono cropped rice- long duration | Mono cropped rice-long duration |
| Problems | Erosion, drought Unbunded | Erosion, water scarcity Unbunded | Small plot, lack of Integrated Pest & Nutrient Management | Lack of water | Lack of water | Poor drainage |

¹ Non Timber Forest Produce

- Effort on wasteland reclamation in this region has been mainly to Bund the highly degraded upland and bringing it under a tree-grass cover.
- In the plateau region rainfall plays an important role in determining land use since agriculture is mostly rain-fed. Being heavy rainfall region still the area experiences drought. Pre-monsoon rain plays an important role in timely sowing during Kharif season, while rains in September correspond to the milking stage of paddy. Rainfall in the milking stage is critical; lack of it drastically reduces the productivity. The post monsoon rain stabilizes rabi crop, by providing residual moisture.
- Analysis of the rainfall data of last shows erratic trend resulting in agricultural drought. The erratic rainfall condition affects the crop calendar. Late sowing results in risk of pest attack and also impacts the subsequent Rabi crop.
- Efforts like farm ponds in medium and low lands as well as 5% model have been made to provide supplemental irrigation, but **more research on crop modeling and decision support system is required.**
- **In Jharkhand 12.9% of the net sown area is under irrigation** (Deptt. of Water Resources, GOJ). Wells are the main source of irrigation (29.38%) followed by others (streams, rivulets) 25.7%, and ponds (19.07%). Canal irrigates only 17.5% of the irrigated area.
- Jharkhand has one major and ninety seven medium irrigation projects with a potential of 2.088 lakh ha but the actual irrigation is only 0.95 lakh ha. While 55,225 minor surface irrigation projects with a potential of 2.09 lakh ha irrigates only 1.36 lakh ha The state has 3.24 lakh ground water sources with a potential of 2.12 lakh ha irrigating 1.54 lakh ha., the efficiency of groundwater based sources is highest, thus indicating high pressure on groundwater with very little effort on ground water recharge.
- With no involvement of community in water distribution, operation and maintenance the surface irrigation structures have become a wasteful expenditure.
- Small structures like the ponds/tanks, ahar small earthen checks and Lift irrigation system are successful in eliciting people's participation but they have their own limitations of water availability creating problems within the management committee rendering them defunct. The other limitations are constraint of power and high running cost.
- **Livestock** is also subsistence based with the focus more on draught power and manure in case of large ruminants, while small ruminants and poultry is used more as a coping mechanism/ insurance against sudden expenses. Efforts have been made to develop poultry based enterprise through self help groups by various NGOs'.
- The problem in large ruminants is of quality of breed, lack of fodder, lack of know-how, degraded grazing land and highly degraded forest.
- Considering common land as a category comprising of Barren and un-utilised land, Permanent pasture and other grazing land, cultivable waste and land under miscellaneous trees it was found that the state has 0.22ha common land per household. It is least in the industrial/mined districts of Dhanbad-0.11ha and Bokaro-0.13ha. **The condition and status of common land, encroachment, productivity and access should be studied.**

- In the state 22.11% of the land is under agriculture, current fallow (17.1%), Other than current fallow (9.4%) and 3.55% under Cultivable waste. Thus the NSA/hh² is found to be 1.18ha while the state average land holding is 1.58ha this indicates a very high incidence of private wasteland.
- Attempts to use the private fallow for the benefit of the community have been tried. A model of plantation of fruit and fodder species on private fallow with the benefit to be shared among the community has been successfully tried in Palamau.
- With increasing demand for land from industries and mining companies the land cover condition is under threat.
- **Jharkhand accounts for 37% of the national mineral resources.** It accounts for 29% of national iron ore reserve, bauxite bearing plateau covers 190 sq. km, while the state has 72204.11 Million Tones of coal reserves (Deptt. of Mines and Geology, GoJ).
- According to a report by TERI in the year 1999-2000, 300MT of coal production resulted in degradation of 7500 ha of land.
- The study by Sikdar(2004) indicates that land under vegetation and settlement has decreased at the expense of mining activity.
- In Angul, Talcher coal belt of Orissa according to the district industrial pollution control and action project report: There is a considerable fall in biomass production.
- Mining has displaced people, alienated them from their land, resulted in loss of livelihood, polluted rivers, created water scarcity, changed the population dynamics and caused health hazards.
- Local population was supposed to get employment; the data suggests it has given jobs to less than 1/3rd of the displaced people. The norm for compensation was to provide a job to one member of the family that has lost 3 acres of land; this has been misused and not adhered to.
- The compensation also does not take into account the role of common land in livelihood of the people, although during 1860's a Wasteland Claim Act was passed wherein people were to be compensated for their common lands, this has not been implemented.
- New compensation policy of Central Coalfields Limited is doing away with the provision for job, and a policy of cash for land is being adopted.
- The norms for pollution control, land reclamation and local area development are not being strictly enforced. Huge mine dumps, abandoned mines, lack of safety in mines, poor health condition of the local population bears testimony to this neglect. Since 1992, every project report has an Environment Management plan, but the people who have to implement the plan are not aware of its provisions.
- Concerted effort for reclamation of abandoned mines and restoring of ownership is required.
- Over and above the state sponsored displacement, mining also created influx of people and demand for land resulting land alienation. Although the land laws in Jharkhand prohibits transfer and sale of land but time and again it has been circumvented.
- **Forest of Jharkhand is in poor health**, according to the wasteland atlas of NRSA. 33% of the forest is degraded and it contributes 70% of the wasteland in Jharkhand.

² Net sown area / House hold

- Mining has resulted in large scale destruction of natural forest, only to be compensated by plantation which to is rarely followed

Table: Forest cover under mining lease area

| | Jharkhand | Orissa |
|------------------|-----------|--------|
| Total lease area | 21,589 | 37,664 |
| Forest area | 10,151 | 19,263 |
| Dense forest | 7,564 | 9,764 |
| Open forest | 2,587 | 9,499 |

(source: from GSI site)

- Alienation of people from the forest is one of the major factors of degradation. “During the colonial period demarcation of Protected forest was done with support of armed forces and reservation was one great encroachment on khunt-katti (original settlers) rights in Khas porahat” (Macpherson;1908)
- The Forest department efforts to build bridges with the community and regenerate the degraded forest has been through JFM programme, plantation of bamboo, khair, sisal, lac and tassar host trees.
- The problems in JFM programme has been: unequal partnership- forest department is the dominant partner, issues of protecting versus non-protecting people, not all sub groups are represented, poorly defined powers of FPCs.
- In Jharkhand forest has been traditionally managed by the community and the self initiated institutions are widely prevalent. Some of these institutions have been co-opted by the forest department but many of them have not been recognized.
- There is a growing demand that forests should be transferred to the community control although this has to be seen under the changed socio-economic structure. Policies recognizing the traditional system, rights and entitlements like “PESA” and tribal bill has been formed but the intentions have not been transformed into practice.

SESSION II: DEGRADED LAND AND LIVELIHOOD

There were five speakers Dr B. N. Divakara Scientist from Institute of Forest Productivity (IFP), Professor Uday, from Department of Geology, Ranchi University and Pranab Ranjan Chowdhary, a NRM consultant from Orissa Prof S.P. Sinha from Society of Hill Resource Management, Palamau and Shri Mansa Ram Mahato from Jamgoria Sevabrata of Purulia Session was chaired by Shri Arbind Kumar, Lok Jagriti Kendra, Madhupur, Jharkhand.

In the presentation on **Forest degradation and its relation with livelihood** the main points raised by Dr Divakara was;

- Around 33% of the forest is degraded.

- Deterioration of forest and its reduced productivity day by day has influenced the livelihood of the people. Forest is a very important source of livelihood of the people in Eastern region.
- The degradation could be reversed by afforestation. Planting trees that can be used for Tasar, Lac cultivation, Tendu leaves, oil seeds like Mahua, Karanj, Neem etc the degraded forest could be re-vegetated while providing livelihood options to the local population.
- The problems are biotic pressure, Edaphic degradation, Composition of inferior species, Low marketable output and Invasion of invasive species.

Professor Uday's presentation was on **mining and its impact on the environment and livelihood**. The points he shared was;

- The main mineral resources of Jharkhand are Coal, Bauxite, Iron ore, Limestone, and Uranium.
- In Jharkhand the coal reserve is about 33-36% but the technique for extracting the coal is very old and poor. According to Geological Survey of India (GSI) the present available technique mining upto 100 meters is possible but the coal reserve is available up to 1200 meters below the earth surface.
- In Lalmatia area the coal is available in the artesian condition. Only after removal of 1000 gallon of water mining is possible here. Ground water withdrawal for mining will affect the base level flow of water. When the water will goes below the base level then it affect the stream flow
- In Jharkhand coal mines are mostly of open cast type. One feet of coal extraction in open cast mines produces eight feet of overburden. These overburden dumps change the landscape, affecting the stream flow and agricultural fields below.
- Two major coal companies in Jharkhand are Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL) and Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL). Earlier in CCL, 31% of its coal production was through underground and 68% through open cast mines. In the year 2005 the area of underground mining reduced to 13% and area of open cast mining increased to 87 %. Similarly BCCL 85% coal production was through underground mines and 15% was through open cast. Now 40% area is underground mining and 60% is open cast mines.
- There is an increasing share of open cast mining, and this is the major reason for environmental problems. The overburden dumps has led to changes in direction of flow of run-off, silted streams, brought changes in landscape and subsequently affected the land-use.
- The Barakar-Tilaya river basin covering 91000 sq km, has a very high incidence of soil erosion. 59% land is degraded due to soil erosion- 19% of it is under sheet erosion and 23% under gullies.
- The catchment area of Tenughat dam which is 33000 sq km- 87% area is affected by the soil erosion.
- In the east Bokaro and west Bokaro coal basin. In 1960-1961 CCL started open cast mining. It has changed the land use pattern of the area. For last ten years there has been increasing pressure for land to till and this has resulted in encroachment and conversion of degraded scrub land and degraded forest into agricultural land. The area under

degraded forest category in ten years has reduced upto 38%. While the area of agricultural land has reduced from 12% to 6%.

- In Singrauli coalfield of Chattisgarh basin the capacity of coal is 2700 million tones. For extracting this amount of coal 75000 million tonnes waste/overburden will be produced.
- Mining guidelines stipulate reclamation as a necessary component but the National Coal Development Corporation coalfield in Bhurkunda of Hazaribag district, the coal has been extracted and the pits have been left un-reclaimed. These pits can be used for fishery development.
- In Kiriburu per year nearly two million tonnes of dust is being produced and that is being deposited in the streams and ponds. The result is the red pond in the area.
- The top soil that is removed for mining needs to be properly kept so that it can be used while reclamation of the mine is being done.
- For the sponge iron in Orissa and Jharkhand border the land lease have been given to the private miners. Optimal resource use and reclamation is not their priority.
- Mining is being done in larger area and the reclamation is done in a smaller area.
- He stressed on the need for mine reclamation with people's involvement.

Pranab Ranjan Chowdhary, in his presentation **on tribal livelihood and their struggle for land rights** made the following points

- The tribals own only 16% of the land. Rest 84% is not owned by the tribals. Out of 84%, 75% is owned by the government
- 51% of the tribals are legally landless.
- Land right is the main problem of tribal affecting livelihood and poverty. In Orissa 2/3 of the land is owned by the state and the tribals own only 1/3rd of the land. In the tribal district of Orissa 58% of the population own only 13% of the land and in the Gajpati district 14% of the land is privately owned and the STs land is still less.
- Marginal farmers own less than 20% of the land and rest of the land is owned by the others. Person owning less amount of land constitute more population.
- Survey of settlement started in Orissa after independence in 1960. These people were living before the settlement. When the settlement occurred these people were given very less land and the paradox is that they got access to very less land and their livelihood is linked to land and forest but they don't have access to land.
- Land development approach without considering access and right will not lead to sustainable development.
- When displacement occurs these people do not get any rehabilitation package as they are not the legal owner of the land.
- Lack of access to land is the major reason for the vulnerability of the people in the tribal belt of Orissa.
- Communities have the capacity to invest on land and to convert the upland in lowland. The paradox is when the land is being developed the government declares them encroacher. Or if it is their own land then the government charges more tax from the people. Community can manage their own resources but the access is necessary.

In his presentation Prof. S.P. Sinha spoke on the Chakriye Vikash Pranali (CVP), wherein private wasteland were brought under plantation and the benefits was shared among all the villagers.

He mentioned about the poverty scenario of the region with the example of Khatia village of Chainpur block where all 45 families used to bring water from a distance of five kilometre. The quality of water was not good but later after the programme was started it has helped recharge the wells and improved the base flow in streams.

Due to the effort of local community in the area an asset worth Rs. 39 crore is standing in the form of trees and green cover.

In his presentation Shri Mansa Ram Mahato highlighted the work done by their organization to stabilize the main crop of the area which is paddy. The organization is working in the poor villages of Purulia district since last 15 years.

The technology package evolved in the area namely the staggered trench on steep slopes, 30 X 40 model of upland treatment with plantation of tree with intercropping of arhar and sabai grass, 5% model in paddy fields, ponds and wells in lowland has been very effective.

A large area of private wasteland was brought under tree and grass cover generating livelihood options for the poor.

Sabai in uplands has led to checking of soil erosion and giving an alternative livelihood option for the farmers. The sabai grass is used for rope making and it has a huge demand in the local market.

In the fields where 5% model has been implemented the production has nearly doubled and there has also been change in the variety. In some areas farmers are also taking second crop on residual moisture.

DISCUSSION:

The points that emerged during the discussion were:

- Tribal land is getting alienated even though there are laws prohibiting it. Land for industries and mining in Jharkhand and Orissa is one of the major reasons of alienation. There has been spate of new projects pipeline in both the states and the condition is only going to worsen.
- The rate at which new projects are being launched to extract the resource is precariously high. Das Committee commissioned by the Steel Ministry, reported that India has reserve for only 75 years where as Australia has a reserve for 1000 years and America has reserve for 500 years. While in Jharkhand in two years 200 MoU has been signed out of which 180 is of iron and steel industries.
- In economic terms this mining is beneficial to a very small group of people for a limited period but these are destroying forest, changing the land form, land use and polluting the environment. What should be the direction adopted by civil society organizations?
- The agricultural practices also degrade land. In Santhal pargana the local crop of beans and cocoon was the main cash crop and in last few years it has been observed that the input cost has risen while the productivity has stagnated this has led to falling of many tribals in the clutches of moneylenders.

- The last 22 years in Banji & Bhutahi of Pundi panchayat of Mandu in Hazaribag, mining is being done and agriculture in limited scale is also being practiced. The active mining is being done in the 150 square km. Mining produces huge debris and it changes the land use pattern. This has affected the agricultural production.
- There is a need to intervene at macro-level on policy level. Tribal bills and PESA needs to be translated to the ground. Control and management of poor and tribals over their resources should be the focus of civil societies.
- The Environmental management plan has to be strictly followed with active peoples participation Efforts of civil societies should be to advocate mine reclamation.

SESSION III: WATER AND LIVELIHOOD

Presentations were made Shri H. R. Prakash of ARTIC, Srikakulam, Ms. Anita from Lok Jagriti Kendra, Madhupur, and Shri Pranab Ranjan Chowdhry. The session was chaired by Shri Satish Giriya of Nav Bharat Jagritii Kendra, Hazaribag, Jharkhand.

Shri. Pranab Ranjan Chowdhry spoke on the **river basin management and its relation with livelihood**. Some of the points raised by him:

- Earlier efforts by DVC were on river basin but it had only irrigation and electricity generation as its focus but its local livelihood and other externalities was never taken into account.
- The focus had been on watersheds or a group of watersheds but as more externalities have sprung up and since our landscape is formed by the direction of water flow therefore we need to look into river basin.
- River basin so that livelihood is sustainable. Basin approach is not only geo-hydrological approach but it includes social economic and political approach. It is more than sum of many watersheds and it includes all the watershed externalities. Many question needs to be answered. Based upon ecosystem at different locations as we go along the basin, water demand and landscape management a holistic plan for basin needs to be made.
- A study is being conducted in the Baitarni river basin. SHRISTI an organization in Orissa is conducting the study and trying to generate the information so that socially responsible and environmentally sound basin management is possible. The focus is on livelihood and sustainable management.
- The study would look into various land use, approaches, actions and impacts and integrate them at basin level. Since every action in the upper basin affects the downstream user.
- The study focus is in 4 districts in Orissa, the key problem is mining and shifting cultivation on the upper catchment. While in the delta area the river has silted up and the river bed level is above the village level a flood embankment separates the two.
- Approach of the basin study mainly in four thematic area, these are natural resource management (NRM), hydrology, rights and the governance appraisal of basin and the livelihood. The information is being collected along these four thematic areas along a basin boundary.

- The objective is to generate information, share it among stakeholders and have a dialogue between all the stakeholders. Based upon that prepare an approach plan for basin development plan.
- Initial finding in the upper catchment where the water quality is of C class while as per the census data 40 lakhs people depend on the river as drinking water source. Connecting the two it is seen that people are drinking water not fit for consumption. This is the way it can help in making proper policy decisions.
- The basin was perennial while presently it has become seasonal. The effort is to generate information from various sources to pursue informed development.

Shri Prakash from ARTIC, Srikakulam (A.P) in his presentation shared his experiences of the coastal area,

- Disaster badly affects coastal area livelihood, mostly dependent on the sea. Marine fishes regulation act (MFRA) protects the interest of traditional fisher folks. It reserves 8 km distance for fishing by these small fishermen, these customary rights has not been enforced. Trawler fishing continues in this zone and it affects the livelihood of poor fishermen.
- Due to aquaculture promotion along the coast, it has led to pollution of water bodies.
- The coastal regulation act protects 500m of land along the coast but industries are violating this by setting up economic development zones and tourism industry is also violating this norm. This impacts the livelihood of people along the coast.
- In the coastal area there is recurring floods and cyclones for this one should work with the community.
- The impact of disasters on poor communities is longer. Here the important aspect is to develop community based self reliance capacity.

Ms. Anita from Lok Jagriti Kendra, Madhupur (Jharkhand) in her presentation highlighted the status and problems related with water and livelihood at international level. Water is not just a chemical reaction. It has various uses. Seventy percent of the human body constitutes of water. It is being used for agriculture. Irrigation helps in increasing the yield by 100- 400 percent. Availability of water is an international problem. Developed country uses water for the industrial purpose while the prime use by developing country is for agriculture.

- How we consider water is important. Is water our right or is our need? If we consider water as need then it will have different dimension and if we consider water as right then it will have different dimension. A debate needs to be initiated.
- The national water policy considers water as need that means water becomes a commodity. Water has become a commodity and we need to address this since access by poor communities is being reduced.
- Communities control over water is being reduced even though access of water is a fundamental right in the constitution. In Jharkhand ownership right is being given to Panchayati Raj institution. In Bihar it is being governed by the irrigation act. In Section-3 which says that the water bodies will be governed by the state. The control on water sources should be with the community but one act gives the full right to the Panchayat while another act gives the right to the state. This is contradictory.

- The civil society in Jharkhand is advocating a Farmers policy- the focus needs to be on farmers and their priorities. Locally developed technology needs to be documented and replicated.
- In Jharkhand with local technology, traditional methods nearly 20% wasteland could be brought under agriculture. Instead the government response is to bring in industries. Does it really help the local community? If yes to what extent?

DISCUSSION:

The points that emerged during the discussion were:

- How do we understand need is important. If we see need as want or demand then that is different. If we see need by comparing as a part of the production process then that is different and based upon it we demand for rights. So it is more than basic need and in that context need and right becomes one and the same.
- People can fight for their right but what about animal who cannot have their say.
- There is a need to document the traditional methods but one should not be averse to new technology. The technology has to be poor people centered. Does the technology increase or decrease the profit/share of the dependent people.
- It was also felt that public-private(industry)-people partnership is very important in river basin management since they are one of the major polluting stakeholders in the basin.
- Water conserved on the ridges owned by weaker section benefit the people in the lower reaches generally owned by rich and affluent. In the watershed programme there is problem of equity.
- The limitation of civil society is of scale and they are unable to advocate at basin level.
- How should we lobby since there are two different perspectives one of advent market economy and other of local farmers? The farmers' perspective does not have government backing. This is a challenge for the civil society.

SESSION IV: FOREST AND LIVELIHOOD

The session had three presentations made by Shri. A. K. Mishra, CCF (Working Plan), Department of Forest, Government of Jharkhand, Prof. SMS Quli from Department of Forestry Extension, Birsa Agriculture University and Shri Nihar Mishra from Vasundhara, Bhubaneswar The session was chaired by Shri V.B. Eswaran, chairman SPWD

The first presentation of the session was by Shri. A. K. Mishra, He shared his experiences on the close linkage of forest dwellers and Forest. He said

- Forest is the main source of livelihood for tribals of Jharkhand. Since they have limited or no option so they cut timber for selling in the market.
- Regeneration of the area is getting affected due to grazing, indifference of the local people, no organized management practice, problem of investment and increasing biodiversity pressure. Lot of cattle is moving in the forest, trees are being cut in unorganized manner and are being brought to the market for selling.

- In Santhal Pargana the Paharias³ inhabit on the hill slope and the Santhals⁴ are in the valley. The paharias are allowing private people to do stone quarrying and the stone dust, pebbles affects the land of santhals below. There is conflicting interest, and livelihood of both the communities is dependent on the respective activities.
- In the state of Jharkhand after the implementation of JFM resolution in 2001, 90% of the forest produce including timber should go to the local community. No this is a non starter reason is not only non sharing of protected resources, but difficulty in permission for sale of forest produce at village level is also a major problem. This is due to attitude problem of planners
- There are prospects of revenue generation if organized marketing is done. As in Chatra district of Jharkhand a system is introduced in which Rs. 500 per truck of Sal leaf plate will be charged by the village community and Rs. 25 is deposited in the forest department as royalty. During last ten years it has generated Rs. 60 lakhs in 26 village committee and this money is increased every month by 1.5 lakhs to 2 lakhs. So in these villages the maximum amount deposited in one village is Rs. 5 lakhs. People are free to use this Rs. 5 lakhs in whatever manner they want. This is a small intervention by the government organization and non government organizations, by organizing people.
- Focus of the development programmes should be to improve resource condition, build community assets, generating cyclic returns on the investment rather than being dole. In most of the schemes money is invested in the form of wages
- Forestry will be only alternative for wasteland development. The investment made will help bring a stream of environmental and economic returns

Main points presented by Prof. SMS Quli was

- The forest cover of the Jharkhand is 28.4% of the total geographic area.
- In the state the livelihood sources are: agriculture, animal husbandry and forestry.
- The Problems of the state are :
 - Although Agriculture forms major source of livelihood, nearly 70% are small or marginal farmers.
 - There is 50% deficiency Food grain production.
 - Highly Risk prone Agriculture due to Rainfed practices.
 - Around 2% population suffers chronic hunger.
 - Around 10% population experiences experience seasonal food security.
 - Out of 3.77 million rural populations 2.32million live below poverty line.
- The Major challenges of the state are :
 - Literacy index enhancement.
 - Combating natural risks: drought, floods.
 - Agricultural production enhancement.
 - Strengthening forest based livelihoods using eco-friendly mode.

The solution lies in the very sincere use of joint forest management eco-development & Community based forest management

³ The tribe of Santhal pargana region of Jharkhand

⁴ A large populated tribe of eastern india

The third speaker of the session was Shri Nihar Mishra he said:

- Health of the mountain decides the wealth of the coast. Health of the coast is saved by assuring the livelihood of the mountain dwellers. In forest area forest provides livelihood for 8 months and agriculture is secondary. Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) plays a major role. The problem is marketing of NTFP but it is dictated by the buyers.
- In Orissa NTFP policy was passed in 2000 it ensured livelihood of the people. The Acts and laws are not actualized.
- Producers are turning to laborer. The traditional institutions are dying. Large scale migration is going on. It is the major concern and it demands for collectivization of producer.
- There is a need to facilitate economic institutions of the primary gatherers through which they would have greater access and control over their resources and would be able to control and direct their livelihood
- Cooperative would help the small and dispersed producers achieve the benefits of economics of scale, Enhance bargaining power, better understanding of market and increase resilience.
- The process should be Feasibility Study, Facilitating Emergence of Cooperative Institutions and Consolidation & Strengthening
- Physical, social and financial viability should be studied first and this feasibility report should be shared with prospective members, leaders & facilitators
- There is a need to intervene in the market. The community should be capacitated to benefit the economy of scale, build there capacity for tackling adverse situations.

DISCUSSION

- The issue of illegal transportation of timber with the help of Forest officials and Railways authority was raised. It was felt that if the forest is protected by the community then only the forest will exist.
- There is failure of government schemes since there continues to be starvation deaths in Jharkhand. It has linkages with forest degradation.
- NREGA is an important initiative and an opportunity to provide assured livelihood. It should be dovetailed for reclamation of degraded forest land as well as other commons.

SESSION V: LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCESS TO NATURAL RESOURCES

The speakers of the session were Prof. Himadri Sinha, Faculty, XISS, Ranchi Prof. Ramesh Sharan, Dept. of Economics, Ranchi University and Dr. Niraj from Sathee, Godda. The session was chaired by Prof. Anirudh Prasad of A.N. Sinha Institute, Patna.

Prof. Himadri Sinha in his presentation said:

- Do people have any control over these resources? Natural resource is a vast area. It can start from mining resource to any area.

- If communities do have control then what form of control they have over these resources. These factors need to be considered while designing the local governance of natural resources.
- Local control over resources: Forest policy guarantee rights as guaranteed under Khunt-katti and CNT⁵ acts. In CNT act we have khatian II in which all the village commons are well defined and rights of the villagers are well defined which may not be in the other states. Unfortunately that khatian II is largely bypassed and overlooked. Forestry in Jharkhand it is mostly de facto or partial right.
- India has indigenous forest management body but that suffers from legitimacy crisis. Although they have de-facto rights.
- In case of water people do make institution and arrangements but it suffers from legitimacy and many such arrangements that we know is episodic arrangements. For example we have seen water user association in watershed management. In lift irrigation management. These problems are coming up sometime it survives but dies down soon in most of the cases.
- Forms of local control– JFM village based committees by forest departments and traditionally managed forests. Both have their limitations one has unequal partnership, while the other is vulnerable to internal democracy.
- There is insufficient data on institutions (traditional as well as promoted) and it's various facets and creating database is important.
- More studies on institutional resilience needs to be conducted and shared.

The next speaker of the session was Prof. Ramesh Saran, he said:

- Since the conservation acts have come up the traditional rights of forest dwellers has been infringed upon. There is a need to recognize the usufruct right of the people.
- The forest bill and the PESA⁶ have given the community right over the minor mineral and forest produce but it has not been actualized.
- CNT has not been changed, forest act has not been changed, water use act not been changed. Basic objective of this is that the state becomes the controller of the resources. 2/3 of the water is controlled by the state. Since the state is faceless.
- State is a set of people starting from political to bureaucratic character. They are not accountable and it's not transparent. Whose livelihood is being promoted by NRM? Who is losing and who is gaining and what is percentage gain needs to be looked into it.
- Government is non participative and non transparent. The attitudinal change in government is very important.
- Example of Mantu Kusuma tanr, six people were reported to have died of starvation. Adjacent to that village 110 acres of forest land (barren) but forest department will not allow to cultivate the land and to plant trees because it belongs to the forest department land.
- Right to information could be used as an instrument to keep check on state
- There is institutional crowding in the rural area. In Jharkhand there is no PRI but here gram sabha is functional. One gram sabha is the traditional gram sabha and the other one

⁵ Chotanagpur tenecy act

⁶ Panchayat Extension in Scheduled areas

is the one promoted by the government. Then there are multiple organizations- Water user association, JFM committee, Farmers' committee this has to be avoided.

- Governance and institution: who governs these institutions? Who makes these laws is a very critical question. Since laws made by the British government was for colonial exploitation.
- For good governance it has to be good laws and traditional governance. Any institutions will sustain if it gives space to self interest of the stake holders.
- For good governance there has to be good rules, clearly defined property rights and an efficient State.
- 14.2% of the total geographical area is wasteland. NREGA is an opportunity for us. This could be used for reclaiming and regenerating wasteland provided rights over this wasteland is given to the community. Property rights of the community living there must be recognized.

Dr. Niraj has presented the situation of Santhal Pargana region of Jharkhand. Some of the points given by him were:

- The region of Damin-e-koh means "Flanks of the hill" was a part of Ang-pradesh in the Guptakal and later the part of Magadh kingdom
- In the year 1760 the British entered the region, the community also protested the invasion of British.
- In the Year 1855 Santhal Pargana was formed as new district from Bhagalpur and Birbhum and had been guided by Bengal land tenancy act till 1872
- 11 blocks of Santhal pargana covered an area of 1338 sq mile with 11788 acres of forest, the region had rent-free cultivation
- The traditional system of governance was co-opted by the British, and in the First act framed in the year 1886 called as Santhal police Rule(Yule's rule). In this act the powers were vested to Manjhi, Pradhan, nayab, sardar and Parganaits
- Parganait got the powers of police sub inspector till 1962. Each official was provided a stipend on a monthly basis and it continued till 1984.
- Since formation of Santhal Pargana till 1908 there was no restriction on land transfer but after the Khairwar movement under the leadership of Bhagirath Manjhi, land transfer was restricted.
- Still by the year 1935- 17040 acres of land were illegally transferred, rules were framed to strictly restrict land transfer
- The traditional law and systems had provisions of control over natural resources, conflict resolution, community justice system and land settlement
- The area has problem of soil erosion, shifting cultivation, shortening of cycle and gradual degradation of shifted patch, drought, land alienation, stone quarries and exclusion from the forest
- The traditional water sources are getting extinct.

- The local governance system has been disempowered, there have been large scale forced eviction and displacement.
- Leaders of the various regional political parties stated-
- Strict implementation of SPT act.
- Restoration of illegally alienated land.
- Gram Sabha especially in schedule area will be empowered.
- Village leaders will be recognized.
- Panchayat election in schedule area will be conducted as per PESA.
- Construction of Pond during drought situation (2003- 2004)
- Tribal forest bill and Tribal bills.
- NREGS – Convergence of all other employment generation programmers.
- Etc.
- Revitalization & Strengthening of Gram Sabha – the bungalows level traditional Governance system.
- Struggle to control over natural resources-NTFP, Minor minerals
- Restoration of land in any form.
- Creation of alternative support system at Gram Sabha level.(Grain bank, Gram Kosh, NTFP Co-operative)
- Alternative to shifting cultivation and regeneration of degenerated shifted patches - need socio-techno methods.
- Gram Sabha and bungalow level ,local natural resource based livelihood plan need to emerge and its linkages. (Restored land should be in center)
- Pressure creation on local govt. for the transparent implementation of projects/schemes.
- Lobbying to revert the anti people programmes and policies.
- Peoples response
- Revitalization of TGS in the 15 bungalows and more than 100 Gram Sabha initiated.
- Village plan with restored land centrally focused in 20GS.
- NTFP cooperatives initiated in 3 bungalows with 29 Gram Kosh.
- Initiatives of transparent operation undertaken through organizing social audit and public hearing.
- Restoration of alienated land through gram sabha initiatives.
- SALT technology applied to regenerate the shifted land through peoples participation.
- Preparation of draft state water policy.
- PIL filed to revive the powers to traditional leaders as per SPT Act.
- In Santhal Pargana record of rights have different types of provision.
- In the year 1855 Santhal Pargana was formed by including the district of Bhagalpur and Birbhum. In the year 1872 it was governed through the West Bengal tenancy law. In the year 1908, Khairwar movement was propagated under

the leadership of Bhagirathi manjhi. The Santhal Pargana settlement regulation act was framed

- According to one another law called sunset law: according to which if till sunset you are not depositing the tax then you will be removed from the land. The person who was the Pradhan used to get the benefit from this. Those people who could not pay the tax they were alienated from the land.
- Mr. John Pheliwad has demarcated the Damin-e-Koh area.
- In the section 27 it clearly restricts the transfer of tenancy. Then also the transfer of tenancy could not be restricted as there are too many loopholes.
- Till the year 1935 in a calculation 17040 acres of land were illegally transferred
- In the year 1935 Santhal Pargana enquiry committee was set up and submitted the reports under leadership of Russell.
- In the year 1949 SPT (supplementary) act was framed in which transfer of land was strictly restricted under section 20.
- In the year 1886 Santhal police rule (yule rule) come into effect. In Santhal police rule some more things were added. Parganaites were the sub police inspector. And to the village leader the natural resource control and distributions right was given. In clear words how the equitable distribution can be achieved.
- Rights of Paharias and Santhals were defined, there traditional institutions had the policing rights but now all these rights are only on paper
- The traditional rights have been violated by the government, industries and moneylenders.
- No tribal land can be transferred in the Santhal pargana area but still the people are being displaced.
- Massive soil erosion in the area due to fast depleting green coverage.
- Shifting cultivation, shortening of cycle and gradual degradation of shifted patch.
- Severe draught in alternative year.
- Shift in agricultural pattern.
- Massive land alienated and exclusion from the forest.
- The option is to strengthen the Gram sabha and make them aware of their rights.
- It is also important to challenge such land transfers in the court of law. Since they cannot pass the scrutiny of law.
- The concept of adverse possession still exists.

Finally the summing up of the consultation was presented by Shri Hardeep Singh, Programme Director, SPWD-Eastern Region.

Wastelands and Livelihoods

- Wastelands needed for livelihoods/ environment
- Cause: Natural and politico-economic

- Ownership/ Access (to land/ credit/ inputs/ institutions)/ Government policy impinge on it.
- Wastelands & Livelihoods - relative to space and time
- Wastelands as 'wasted' material resource or land producing low economic values
- Need to focus on particularities of wastelands in Eastern region.
- Extent of commonlands outside forests much less in eastern region
- Major categories of wastelands in the eastern region: degraded forests and land with scrub
- Varying estimates of wastelands by various agencies
- Need for simple management techniques to reverse wastelands
- Need for recording land rights and regulating tenancy
- Need for improved agricultural research and extension services
- Need to re-examine wastelands in terms of marginal farmers
- Need to move from project oriented focus to understanding of phenomenon of creation of wastelands

Degraded Lands and Livelihoods

- Tribal-Forest-Upland-Poverty nexus
- Skewed landholdings: landlessness of tribals; state owns more lands (75 %) while poor are deprived; Case of PTGs cultivable land about a fifth of total land area
- Tribal rights and access is highly limited and continuously eroding in spite of their long history of land settlement and land development. This could be the major cause of tribal poverty on Orissa.
- Can land development approaches alone ensure sustainable livelihoods?
- Community invests on public land; state considers it illegal. On the other hand public investment on land development has met with limited success.
- Shouldn't facilitation of rights and access to lands be an integral element of area based development approaches
- Mining: a problem not only in active mines but due to the overall infrastructural development in the area
- Flouting of mining rules by companies in pursuit of profit.
- Internal colonisation of the area: benefits from growth in service sector cornered by settlers
- Technology: upland/ medium land – processes involved in Sevabrata project
- Degraded forests: Problems of biotic pressure, edaphic degradation, composition of inferior species and low marketable output
- In Jharkhand five species of NTFPs need to be promoted: Sal leaves, sal seeds, lac, tendu leaf and tassar.

- Large scale acquisition of lands and huge investments by industry in Eastern India: displacement, loss of livelihoods, threat to ecology

Water and Livelihoods

- Various uses of water
- Agricultural water withdrawal leading to water stress in India (20-40 %)
- Water:
 - Is it right, need, commodity, commons or sacred
 - Who owns? state/ panchayat/ community in general under customary laws
 - Contradictions in Panchayat act and Irrigation act
 - Big dams vs. minor irrigation structures
 - People-centric policy or multinational centric policy
 - Indigenous technology vs. imported technology
- Need for river basin approach given the externalities emerging from watershed programmes
- Upstream-downstream implications of water resource projects and policies
- Baitarani study: information generation on basin scale, easy access to critical information, creation of platforms for basin negotiations
- Involvement of stakeholders in basin dialogues – a challenge
- Ecoservices to be paid for
- Coastal areas: Focus on fishermen communities livelihoods; disaster management
- MFRA and CRZA violated and government is acquiring lands along the coast for aquaculture, industry, SEZ and tourism thereby affecting the livelihoods of local people
- Community level contingency plan and improved disaster preparedness of the community

Forest and Livelihoods

- JFM resolution a non-starter; problems of forest regeneration; no sharing of protected resource; difficulties in permission for sale and marketing of forest produce and lack of authority at village level; lack of capacity building and organisational support mechanism
- Need to have radical change in working plans: PF wise and not FS wise
- Need to strengthen forest based livelihoods using eco-friendly mode; JFM; Ecodevelopment and Community Based Forest Management
- NTFP market: buyers monopoly; need for collectivisation to benefit from economy of scale and have enhanced bargaining power.
- Importance of having data on NTFPs and having their proper valuation (Study of Malhotra and Poffenberger)

- Need to recognise the fact that tropical forest are mostly mixed forests
- Microplans not made in consultation with people very often.

Local Governance and Livelihoods

- Do people have control over NR? What form? Factors to be considered while designing local governance of NR.
- Forests: De-facto and partial rights.
- Khatian II: Village commons and rights well defined
- Indigenous forest management suffers from legitimacy crisis
- Traditional institutions and conflict resolution mechanism better (Pancha, Madait and Bathan)
- Whose livelihood is getting promoted? State is faceless. Need to see who's gaining and who's losing?
- Institutional crowding in villages
- Need for multilayered institutional adaptation
- Need for innovative institutional mechanisms
- Need to emphasise on Governance issues while implementing village based programmes.
- Data on natural resources in the State unavailable.
- Ecological restoration through democratic village institutions.

The concluding statements were given by some of the participants.

Mr. Javed from, NEEDs:

The stress was on increase of awareness level by proper planning of the work through focus on management.

PR Choudhry: suggestive measures for policy advocacy

- PIL filing for mining cases
- Civil society personals interaction with peoples representatives
- Awareness of grass-root level workers
- Implementation of the grass root level activities with full proof awareness about the project.
- Region specific problem should be defined- (Prof. Quli)
- Media advocacy for wastelands and livelihood with the government. (Satish giriya, NBJK)
- People's voice should go to the planning commission (AAY Khan of AAA)

Chair: SPWD has good linkages with Ministry of Rural development and it can be taken forward with the concerned authorities.

Hiralal gupta: SPWD should come up with supporting some of the groups on the issue of wastelands. Dissemination of such workshops at district level is also required.

Arvind ji (LJK): Food security is an issue. How we can link it with livelihood. We can take up some model and on that basis we can talk with the government.

Dr. Diwakar: Agricultural aspect has been touched. The agro forestry aspect should be retouched

Mr. Prakash: Local self governance has relation with empowerment and it should be focused upon.

Executive Director, SPWD: This forum has provided an immense learning about the region. But coverage was less as a whole from the region rather more limited upto state level. The suggestions would be coming from region. Advocay doesn't just mean Government and donors but within NGOs it should be done. This consultation is the beginning and similar such consultation will be done in India to find the way ahead.

Chairman SPWD: We have a very wide range of variant natural resources, like land, water and forests. The Institutions like PRI can't be compared as the areas have several differences. Research has been done and data bases are there. Ranchi University and BAU are interested in Forest and land matters. In late 1980s also such interest was there. The Field research stations are there in several place along with Ram Krishna Mission. Pusa Agricultural University in Bihar, in Bengal Jadavpur University, OUAT in Orissa all are interested in working with the people on such issues. Particularly in the state of Orissa, on the issue of Land Rights the matters was just after Independence. The princely states were involved. Its unfortunate and shocking that CNT act and SPTA are on the paper. Land is going to the industry and such things happened in Gujarat and in Rajasthan too. There are state forum of Civil Society organizations in different state. In Gujarat it is initiated by VIKSAT. The Forest based working group is in Andhra but not in Jharkhand. In Rajasthan with SPWD support a forum called Prakritik Sansadhan Prabardhan Manch is exists. Why don't we think something like that here and in Orissa. The state level forum can be worked out to talk with some with Chief Minister, Government Department Forest Department etc. Sorting out legal issues and make people aware to get the benefit of that.

The vote of thanks was presented by Executive Director, SPWD and The Chairman SPWD has raised the common issues which came up during the discussions.

Consultation Programme Schedule

DAY- 1 (12-09-06)

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 10:00 A.M | Registration |
| 10:30 A.M | Welcome address by Executive Director, SPWD Inaugural address by Chairman, SPWD Self Introduction by the participants |
| 11:00 A.M-11: 25 A.M | Overview of the consultation – SPWD, Eastern region |
| 11:25 A.M – 11:40 A.M | Tea |
| 11:40 A.M – 1:30 P.M | DEGRADED LANDS AND LIVELIHOODS -MINING <i>SPEAKERS:</i> <i>1. Institute of Forest Productivity- Ranchi,</i> <i>2. Prof. Uday – RU,</i> <i>3. Mr. P R Chowdhry – Orissa</i> <i>4. Prof. S. P Sinha – SHRMS</i> <i>5. Mr. Mansa Ram SEVABRATA, Purulia, W.B</i> |
| 1:30 P.M – 2:30 P.M | LUNCH |
| 2:30 P.M- 4:00 P.M | WATER AND LIVELIHOODS <i>SPEAKERS:</i> <i>1. Mr. P R Chowdhry – Orissa</i> <i>2. Ms. Anita – SBA / LJK, Madhupur</i> <i>3. Mr. H. R Prakash, ARTIC, Srikakulam</i> |
| 4:00 P.M – 4:15 P.M | Tea |
| 4:15 P.M – 5: 30 P.M | FOREST AND LIVELIHOODS <i>SPEAKERS:</i> <i>1. Mr. A. K Mishra, CCF Planning, FD, GOJ</i> <i>2. Dr. SMS Quli, BAU, Ranchi</i> <i>3. Mr. Nihar, Vasundhra, BBRR, Orissa</i> |

DAY – 2 (13-09-06)

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 10:00 A.M – 11:15 A.M | LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCESS TO NATURAL RESOURCES <i>SPEAKERS:</i> <i>1. Dr. Himadri Sinha, XISS, Ranchi</i> <i>2. Prof. Ramesh Sharan, RU, Ranchi</i> |
|-----------------------|---|

11: 15 A.M –11:30 A.M
11:30 A.M – 1:00 P.M
1:00 P.M - 2: 00 P.M
2:00 P.M – 2:50 P.M
2:50 P.M – 3:00 P.M
3: 00 P.M

3. Dr. Neeraj, Sathee, Godda

Tea

-continued-

LUNCH

CONCLUDING SESSION

Vote of thanks

TEA



List of participants:

| Sl. no. | Name / designation / organization / Address | Tel. no. , email |
|---------|--|--|
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