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# SOCIETY FOR PROMOTION OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT

Annual Report 2022-23

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SOCIETY FOR PROMOTION OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT  
14-A, SPWD Building, Rouse Avenue Lane  
Vishnu Digamber Marg,  
Near ITO, New Delhi 110002

## **GOVERNING BOARD**

**(As on March 31, 2023)**

The Governing Board provides guidance and direction for SPWD's efficient functioning based on a periodical review of programmes and activities. The Governing Board, comprising the following members, met three times during the reporting year.

Lt. Col. Gautam Das (Retd.), Chairman and Executive Director

Shri Vijay N. Patil	Member
Shri Ved Arya	Member
Shri Apoorva Oza	Member
Shri G. Bhaskar Rao	Member

## **MEMBERS**

**(As on March 31, 2023)**

Founder	18
Individual Life	64
Individual Ordinary	11
Institutional Life	22
Institutional Ordinary	16
Corporate Life	7
Corporate Ordinary	0
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<b>Total</b>	<b>138</b>

## **SPWD MISSION**

**To prevent, arrest and reverse degradation of  
life support systems,  
particularly land and water  
so as to expand  
livelihood opportunities  
in a sustainable  
and equitable manner  
through people's participation**

## THE ORGANIZATION

Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development (**SPWD**), a national Non-Government Organization (NGO) has been playing a catalytic role in reversing the process of degradation of land and other related natural resources in partnership with grassroots NGOs and community institutions. SPWD's focus is on obtaining knowledge from the grassroots level and influencing the larger systems, policies and programmes of the government as well as other concerned agencies. Our broad organizational strategies are –

To develop and strengthen partnerships with compatible NGOs and grassroots institutions to

conceptualize, facilitate and promote region and location specific measures for reclamation of degraded land, water and biomass resources, and enhancement of their productive potential; Promote linkages between resource institutions, partner NGOs, policy-makers and other relevant agencies for sharing knowledge, technology and experience for natural resource regeneration and management, in a sustainable manner; and Document and disseminate lessons from field interventions for the benefit of different stakeholders and use them for awareness raising and advocacy for legal, policy and procedural reforms.



## Foreword

Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development (SPWD's) approach to regenerate degraded landscapes and ecosystems is indeed valuable for helping rural communities adapt to climate change and improving their overall well-being. The work of the SPWD encompasses five broad themes, with the ecosystem being the central focus. These themes are:

### **Regenerating Landscapes and Ecosystems:**

SPWD focuses on restoring degraded landscapes and ecosystems, such as forests, wetlands, and grasslands, through ecological restoration techniques. This involves activities like afforestation, reforestation, soil and water conservation, and biodiversity conservation. By restoring ecosystems, SPWD helps enhance their resilience to climate change impacts and promotes sustainable resource management.

**Livelihood Opportunities:** SPWD recognizes the importance of livelihood diversification and income generation for rural communities. SPWD creates opportunities for sustainable livelihoods, such as agroforestry, sustainable agriculture practices, and non-timber forest product-based enterprises. These initiatives help reduce the dependency on climate-sensitive livelihoods and provide alternative income sources.

**Improving Agricultural Practices:** SPWD supports rural communities in adopting climate-resilient agricultural practices. This includes promoting organic farming, agro-ecology, conservation agriculture, and

efficient irrigation techniques. By integrating sustainable agricultural practices, SPWD helps improve food security, increase crop productivity, and enhance the adaptive capacity of farmers.

**Empowering Women:** SPWD recognizes the critical role of women in natural resource management and community development. It promotes gender equality and women's empowerment by facilitating their active participation in decision-making processes, providing training and capacity-building opportunities, and supporting women-led enterprises. Empowering women contributes to the overall resilience of communities and fosters more inclusive and sustainable development.

**Enhancing Health, Sanitation, and Nutrition:** SPWD understands the interconnectedness of ecosystems, human health, and nutrition. It promotes access to clean water, sanitation facilities, and improved healthcare services in rural areas. Additionally, SPWD promotes sustainable agriculture practices that improve nutrition and promote food security. By addressing these aspects, SPWD contributes to the overall well-being and quality of life in rural communities.

By integrating these themes into their work, SPWD adopts a holistic approach that addresses the multifaceted challenges of climate change adaptation, sustainable livelihoods, gender empowerment, and community well-being. This approach recognizes the importance of healthy ecosystems as a foundation for sustainable

development and resilience-building in rural areas.

## Western Region

Three states viz: Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra were studied and status papers were prepared with reference to status of Commons particularly for land.

Common pool resources, popularly known as “commons”, are those resources which are accessible to the whole community or village and to which no individual has exclusive ownership or property rights.

Common property resources (CPRs) can be broadly defined as those (non – exclusive) resources in which a group of people have co-equal use rights. In the context of Indian villages the resources falling in this category include community pastures, community forest, waste lands, common dumping and threshing grounds, watershed drainages, village ponds, rivers, rivulets as well as banks and beds. Even when the legal ownership of some of these resources rests with another agency (e.g. waste lands belonging to the revenue department of the state), in a de facto sense they belong to the village communities. The first three of these of the resources mentioned above, being large in area and major contributors to rural people’s sustenance, are more important.<sup>1</sup>

These lands are the common resources used by the community without any exclusive individual ownership or access rights. In Rajasthan, the introduction of the

land reforms in the 1950s disrupted traditional arrangements that protected and regulated the use of common property resources

(CPRs), particularly those aspect of key importance to livestock production.

Common land is a crucial source of livelihood for rural households providing wide ranging contribution to the village economy from food, fodder, timber to farming system, animal husbandry, resource conservation and recharge of ground water. We can also conclude that commons serve as social security for the small and marginal farmer’s. CPRs have several functions as their contribution to the people’s income to income generation and asset accumulation are numerous. However, being part of the routines, they are seldom recognized and recorded. This sort of invisibility of CPR contributions is more pronounced in the case of long-term social and ecological processes characterizing arid and semi-arid tropical regions of India.

Around 26 percent of India’s land mass (180 million hectares) can be classified as commons (Chopra and Gulati, 2001). In addition to meeting livelihood needs of rural population (\$5 Billion annually, Beck and Nesmith, 2001), these resource systems serve critical ecological functions and services by contributing to carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation, hydrological supplies and act as buffer zones or corridors to biodiversity rich areas.

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<sup>1</sup> Jodha N S; Rural common property resources – contribution and crisis; Lovraj kumar memorial lecture at SPWD; 16th May 1990.

In spite of these vital services, commons have faced neglect due to un-favourable usage rights and weak institutional arrangements for local management and governance leading to widespread degradation. More than 84 per cent of the rural poor depend on the commons for fuel, fodder and food. Commons act as a safety net and provide the base for agriculture and livestock production systems.

But over the last 30 years, commons have declined by 31 to 55 per cent. Commons and community ownership don't feature in the official vocabulary of land use, and there is a trend towards decentralization of powers to the lower tiers of governance. While area under grazing and common lands saw a decline between 2005 and 2015, croplands increased, according to a report India presented to UNCCD. India lost 31 per cent, or 5.65 million hectares (mha), of grassland area in a decade, showed data the Union government presented to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) during the ongoing 14th Conference of Parties (COP). The total area under grasslands reduced to 12.3 mha from 18 mha between 2005 and 2015. Grasslands in the Aravalli range in Rajasthan underwent severe degradation. Other states where land has been severely destroyed include Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh, it added. Loss of grazing land can be attributed to two kinds of drivers — direct and indirect. Overgrazing, poor management and deforestation are the direct drivers and conversion of pastures

into croplands through encroachment, diversion and allotment driven by increasing population pressure are the indirect drivers.

The country also lost around 19 per cent of its common lands during the same period, according to the report. The area under common lands decreased to 73.02 mha from around 90.5 mha between 2005 and 2015, it added. Common lands include the grazing grounds, some forest land, ponds, rivers, and other areas that all members of a rural community can access and use. They provide food, water, fodder, firewood and livelihood to rural communities, while also helping recharge groundwater and maintain the land's ecological balance.

Around 4.74 mha of grazing land was diverted as agricultural land across the country. A lot of common land also met the same fate — 29.11 mha of common land was diverted for croplands in the decade, added the report. Industrialization and conversion of common lands for non-agricultural purposes became a major cause for the decreasing size of common lands.

During the same period, area under cropland saw nearly an 18 per cent increase to 134.5 mha from 113.6 mha. But even as these lands are being lost to agriculture to feed the growing population, it is worrying to note that their productivity has also declined. Productivity of at least 26 mha of land has decreased and of this, close to 0.8 mha was grazing land and 5.9 mha common lands. Declining productivity of grasslands also means poor quality of fodder for livestock.

In September 2019, the Government of India pledged to restore 5 million hectares of degraded land by 2030. The management and governance of commons to the lowest tier is required to enable community institutions to assert their claims and develop their own rules and regulations for governance. These rules and regulations must have appropriate tenure arrangements which restrict the annexation of commons for other purposes. Annual plans must be made for the commons for long-term action plans grounded in ecological restoration. The Forest Rights Act and several other policy initiatives such as the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) provide the much needed investment for securing the commons.

Statistics published by the Ministry of Agriculture indicate that around 70% of the goat and sheep in the country are reared by small and marginal farmers and landless labourers (refer in the table below), and this is corroborated by field findings. Small ruminant rearing is therefore a priority livelihood activity for resource poor farmers, and is often a key support activity for other livelihoods.

- Loss of designated grazing lands, closure of forest areas, and diversion of common lands for other purposes has intensified pressure on available resources, leading to their degradation.
- There has been an erosion of synergies between agriculture and animal husbandry due to interplay of various

factors, making small holder rearers' livelihoods more vulnerable.

- Reduction in grazing lands, encroachment of common lands, and increasing industrialization have adversely affected small ruminant rearing, which used to be a highly productive low-input system dependent on these lands for fodder and grazing resources.

**Table - Distribution of small ruminants according to size of holding – all India (2006 – 07) (Millions)**

S.N.	Category of Holding	Number of Livestock / Poultry		
		Sheep	Goat	Poultry
1	Marginal (< 1 ha.)	27.55	54.81	142.35
2	Small (1 – 2 ha.)	14.77	18.77	41.33
3	Semi Medium (2 – 4 ha.)	10.13	12.88	24.78
4	Medium (4 – 10 ha.)	5.61	7.53	9.16
5	Large Farmers (> 10 ha)	2.39	2.74	4.05
	<b>All</b>	<b>60.4</b>	<b>96.7</b>	<b>221.6</b>

### Rajasthan

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### Rajasthan Chapter

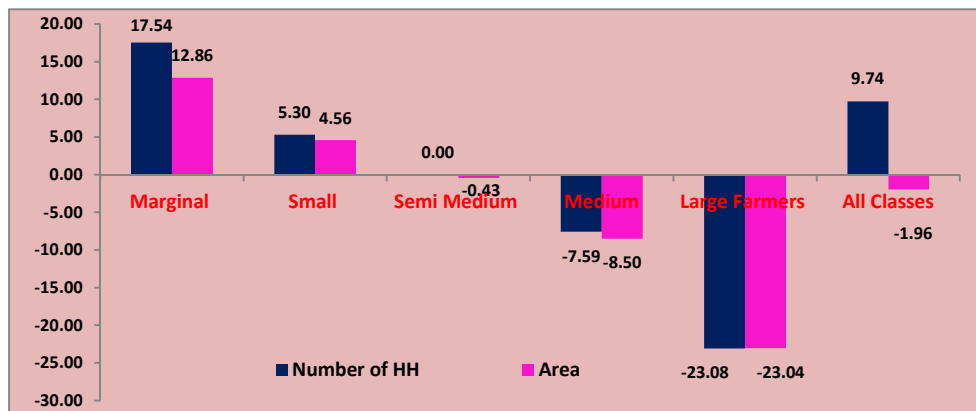
If we look at the data at state (Rajasthan) level for land-use, nothing much has changed over the period of ten years. If we also look at the livestock population over the same period of time, the real problem will arise of grazing pressure over available common lands. The goat and buffalo population has increased whereas sheep and cow population has shown decreasing trends. The buffalo is not dependent of open grazing but goat and other cattle need common lands to graze. The commons have lot of problems to maintain their productivity.

Land Use	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Forests	8.03	8.05	8.05	8.03	8.04	8.05
Area Under non agriculture uses	12.48	12.47	12.47	12.72	12.73	12.76
Permanent pastures and other grazing lands	4.94	4.94	4.94	4.87	4.88	4.86
land under misc. tree crops and groves	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.07	0.08
Culturable wasteland	12.12	11.67	11.67	11.18	11.17	11.04
Fallow lands other than current fallows	5.91	5.39	5.39	5.79	5.81	6.14
Current fallows	5.45	4.09	4.09	4.35	5.08	5.22
Net area sown	51.01	53.31	53.31	53.00	52.22	51.85
Total geographical area	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Common lands	48.99	46.69	46.69	47.00	47.78	48.15
Agriculture lands	51.01	53.31	53.31	53.00	52.22	51.85
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

### Rajasthan – status of Land holding

Sl. No.	Category of Holding	2015-16		2010-11		% variation	
		Number of HH	Area	Number of HH	Area	Number of HH	Area
1	Marginal (< 1 ha.)	697	316	593	280	17.54	12.86
2	Small (1 – 2 ha.)	278	390	264	373	5.30	4.56
3	Semi Medium (2 – 4 ha.)	170	468	170	470	0.00	-0.43
4	Medium (4 – 10 ha.)	73	420	79	459	-7.59	-8.50
5	Large Farmers (> 10 ha)	10	157	13	204	-23.08	-23.04
<b>All Classes</b>		<b>1228</b>	<b>1751</b>	<b>1119</b>	<b>1786</b>	<b>9.74</b>	<b>-1.96</b>



The above data and graph indicate significant changes in land ownership and distribution over the ten-year period.

**Increase in small and marginal farmers:**

The number of small and marginal farmers has increased by 17.54%. This suggests that marginalization has increased over the years along with more individuals have entered or remained in the agricultural sector, potentially indicating a shift towards smaller-scale farming practices.

**Increase in area for small and marginal farmers:**

Along with the increase in their numbers, the total area owned by small and marginal farmers has also increased by 13%. This implies that the additional small and marginal farmers have acquired more land.

**Decrease in medium and large farmers:**

In contrast to the rise in small and marginal farmers, the number of medium and large farmers has decreased by 30% collectively. This could indicate a trend of consolidation or a decline in the number of farmers with larger land holdings.

**Decrease in area for medium and large farmers:**

Corresponding to the decrease in their numbers, the total area owned by medium and large farmers has decreased by 31%. This implies that the remaining

medium and large farmers have either sold or reduced their land holdings or fragmentation of land has played a crucial role in both the cases as reducing farmer's numbers and simultaneously decreases in land area.

**Status of Commons in Rajasthan**

Rajasthan is a large state in western India known for its arid and semi-arid regions. Common land, also referred to as common property resources, includes grazing lands, community forests, water bodies, and other resources that are collectively owned or managed by communities.

Historically, Rajasthan has had a significant reliance on common land for various purposes, such as livestock grazing, fuel-wood collection, and traditional practices. However, factors like population growth, urbanization, changes in land use, and policies have impacted the status of commons in the state.

Some key aspects that have been addressed in the status papers on commons in Rajasthan are:

- 1. Identification and demarcation:** One aspect of studying the status of commons is identifying and demarcating common land areas to gain a comprehensive understanding of their

2. extent and distribution across the state. This could involve mapping and surveying common land resources.
3. **Encroachments and illegal conversions:** Encroachments and illegal conversions of common land for other uses, such as agriculture or infrastructure development, might be a concern. The status papers may have examined the extent of such encroachments and their impact on common land resources.
4. **Grazing and pastoral systems:** Rajasthan has a substantial pastoral community that depends on common grazing lands for their livestock. The status papers might have assessed the condition of these grazing lands, their carrying capacity, and the challenges faced by pastoral communities.
5. **Land Banks for Bio-fuel Production:** Bio-fuel policy is one of those highly enthusiastic policies under which most of the village common lands were put under bio-fuel production. The state had designated nodal agencies for promotion of *Jatropha* and bio-diesel in the state of Rajasthan. These included the land resources cell of Rural development Department to coordinate over all implementation, Department of Watershed and Soil & Water conservation, Joint director, Oil seeds, Department of Agriculture and ARAVALI NGO for implementation by non-governmental agencies.
6. **Rajasthan Solar Park Development:** In order to promote generation from solar energy, the Government of Rajasthan has issued the Rajasthan Solar Energy Policy, 2011 vide notification No.F.20 (6) Energy/2010 dated: 19.4.2011. As per clause 5.4, the Rajasthan State will develop Solar Parks of more than 1000 MW capacity in identified areas of

Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Barmer districts in various stages. Now in the shadow of many upcoming solar projects, local communities, which are mostly landless and marginalized, demand titles over the lands and compensation if they are displaced. They say that the land belongs to them because they use it. In the absence of a legal framework to resolve these disputes, conflicts rage on. The problem is now showing up more prominently in the government's bid to promote solar parks because they need large tracts of land.

7. **Invasive Growth of Species in Commons:** Since commons are the most ignored lands, lying vacant and always available for degradation, having least management - this status of commons allows invasive growth of species like *Prosopis juliflora*. It has shown itself to be a very aggressive invader, especially in frost-free arid and semi-arid natural grasslands, both in its native range and in particular, where introduced. With Invasive in nature they also do not allow other species to grow around and hence, commons loose grasses. This situation persists in every-where in the commons



in Rajasthan.

8. **Sand Mining and Mining Dumps:** One more human activity cause the degradation of commons and do not

allow any biomass to grow over. These activities are sand mining and mining dumps. The in-stream sand mining transformed the riverbeds into large and deep pits; as a result, the groundwater table dropped leaving the open wells on the embankments of these rivers dry. Bed degradation from in-stream mining lowered the elevation of stream flow and the floodplain water table which in turn eliminated water table-dependent

machinery and transportation vehicles. Increased riverbed and bank erosion increased suspended solids in the water at the excavation site and downstream. Suspended solids may adversely affect water users and aquatic ecosystems.

**9. R & R (Rehabilitation and Resettlement):** Though the state has R&R policy but the main issue is the land. In all such displacement, families offered by cash at first and Cash and land at



woody vegetation in riparian areas, and decreased wetted periods in riparian wetlands. Mining and dredging activities poorly planned stockpiling and uncontrolled dumping of overburden and fuel spills caused reduced water quality for downstream users and aquatic life. These activities negatively impair the environment. Sand mining activities in the streams have an impact upon the river's water quality. Impacts include increased short-term turbidity at the mining site due to re-suspension of sediment, sedimentation due to stockpiling and dumping of excess mining materials and organic particulate matter, and oil spills or leakage from excavation

second level. The R&R policy of the state is based on the principal that the population affected by the project maintain their former standard of living, if not improve the same. Now the issue is from where these lands will be made available for the displaced families. And these displacements are often done for either dam construction or in the name of Tiger reserves or for road – highways construction or in the name of power project, whether it is SEZ demarcation or any industrialization development etc. The best solution for these R&R is common lands.

**10. Urban Expansion:** Land is becoming scarce more and more as a resource and

this is particularly true to the land available for primary production of biomass or for conservation related purposes. Competition for land among different uses is becoming acute and conflicts related to this competition more frequent and more complex. This competition is often most apparent on the peri-urban fringe, where the continuing pressures of urban expansion compete with agricultural enterprises, and with recreational demands. Such situations frequently lead to rapid increases in the economic value of land, and land tenure becomes an important political issue. Recently the state government has announced that villages which have been included in the urban limits, the common lands specially the pasture lands have been encroached by people in the past will be converted to

residential categories (pattas will be issued on these).

**11. Traditional rights and governance:** The papers might have explored the traditional rights and customary governance systems associated with common land in Rajasthan. This could include examining the role of local communities, traditional institutions, and customary practices in managing and regulating common resources.

**12. Legal and policy framework:** The status papers may have analyzed the existing legal and policy framework for common land in Rajasthan, including acts, regulations, and government initiatives aimed at protecting and managing common resources.





## GLF – 2022 (Global Land Forum)

The **International Land Coalition (ILC)** hosted the Global Land Forum (GLF) at Amman, Jordan (23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June'2022). More than 800 participants, speakers, and experts representing 78 countries came together to discuss critical issues related to Decentralization, Climate Change, women's land rights, land data, Rural youth, Partnership building, Peace building and tenure security, food systems and other topics. Discussions were taken place about reminded everyone that big crises, such as the global food and climate crises, cannot be addressed in isolation.

This is also the first Global Land Forum under ILC's Strategy 2030. The theme '**pathways to climate solutions**' reflects the urgent global crisis we are in, as well as the belief are that land rights are central to mitigating, and adapting to global heating. Strategy 2030 takes the work for land rights squarely into the global challenges of addressing the climate and environmental crises, overcoming extreme inequality, building sustainable food systems, and protecting democracy and civic space.

**SPWD** participated in this event and also participated in the ASIA land Forum Meeting at Jordan.



## Eastern Region

**SPWD** (Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development) has been working in eastern India, particularly in Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, and parts of Chhattisgarh, to address the degradation caused by overexploitation of natural resources such as forests, water, and land, as well as the introduction of modern agricultural practices. The organization has adopted a multidimensional approach since the late 1990s to improve food security in the region and reduce poverty.

To tackle the challenges in the region, SPWD has implemented various actions that encompass the entire range of livelihoods dependent on natural resources. One of the key focus areas has been addressing land-use challenges in "wastelands" found in forests, agriculture, and common lands. These wastelands refer to areas that have suffered degradation or are unproductive due to various reasons.

SPWD has identified these wastelands and implemented projects aimed at their restoration and sustainable management. The organization has developed replicable models of resource conservation, which not only help in conserving the natural resources but also support the livelihood security of the poor and marginalized communities in the region.

Through these projects, SPWD has been able to improve land-use practices and rehabilitate degraded areas. This, in turn, has contributed to enhancing agricultural productivity, protecting forests, and

conserving water resources. By adopting a holistic approach and addressing the interconnected challenges of resource degradation, poverty, and food security, SPWD has been working towards sustainable development in eastern India.

SPWD has been implementing an integrated farming system approach in its efforts to generate additional incomes for farmers in eastern India. This approach combines various agricultural practices, such as crop cultivation, livestock rearing, fisheries, and agroforestry, in a synergistic manner to maximize productivity and income.

By adopting an integrated farming system, farmers can diversify their income sources and reduce risks associated with relying solely on a single crop or activity. This approach not only increases overall productivity but also enhances the sustainability of farming systems by optimizing resource utilization and promoting ecological balance.

Research has indeed shown that integrated farming systems can be a reliable way to achieve higher incomes for farmers. The integration of different agricultural activities creates complementary relationships that lead to improved productivity and profitability. For example, crop residues can be used as feed for livestock, livestock manure can be utilized as organic fertilizer for crops, and fishponds can serve as a source of irrigation water for fields.

To support the implementation of integrated farming systems and facilitate higher crop and water productivity, investments in physical and financial infrastructure are crucial. SPWD recognizes the importance of developing agro-processing units, rural warehouses, cold storages, and cold chains to enable farmers to add value to their produce, reduce post-harvest losses, and access better markets. Additionally, the establishment of financing

institutions and mechanisms can provide farmers with the necessary capital and credit for investment in integrated farming systems.

By investing in the development of physical and financial infrastructure, SPWD aims to create an enabling environment that empowers farmers to adopt integrated farming systems and improve their incomes sustainably.

### **Climate Resilient Farming System for Improved Livelihoods of Tribal Families in Purulia**

In the context of the arid region and recurring droughts in the area, the water crisis is a significant challenge for the villages. Insufficient water availability poses a major obstacle to agricultural productivity and profitability, as farmers are unable to fully harness the potential of their land due to the lack of water resources.

To address this issue, SPWD recognizes the importance of establishing water infrastructure at the village level. The establishment of such infrastructure aims to ameliorate the water crisis that communities have been facing year after year.

Water infrastructure can include various measures and technologies to enhance water availability and management. These may include the construction of rainwater harvesting structures, such as check dams, ponds, and percolation tanks, to capture and store rainwater during the monsoon

season. This stored water can then be utilized for irrigation during dry periods, extending the cropping season beyond the kharif season.

Additionally, the implementation of water conservation techniques like drip irrigation and sprinkler systems can optimize water usage and reduce wastage. These methods ensure that the available water is efficiently delivered to crops, maximizing crop yield while minimizing water requirements.

By establishing water infrastructure at the village level, SPWD aims to alleviate the water crisis and enable farmers to overcome the limitations imposed by water scarcity. This intervention can help in diversifying cropping patterns, enabling farmers to cultivate additional crops beyond the kharif season and enhancing the profitability and sustainability of farming practices in the region.

**Water Resource Development in order to increase water availability**

**1. Construction of water infrastructure**

Establishment of water infrastructure at the village level helps to ameliorate the problem which they have been facing year after year.

**2. Small water pump distribution (to help second crop cultivation)**

Sl no	Name Equipment	Village	Quantity	Group name	Total Members
1	Small Water pump	Shushnidih	1	Dharti Ayo Kishan Dal	17
2	Small Water pump	Damrughutu	1	Jamit Kishan Dal	22
3	Small Water pump	Shushnidih	1	Shushnidih Sampad Dal	12

**3. Establishment of resource groups**

SPWD has undertaken the formation of resource groups at the village level through a process of mobilization and meetings. The objective is to empower and engage community members in the development work within their villages. Mobilization efforts involve reaching out to individuals and encouraging their participation in the resource groups. To ensure the effective functioning of these resource groups, capacity building programs have been conducted. The members of these groups are provided with training and skill development opportunities through these programs. The capacity building initiatives aim to enhance the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the group members, enabling them to actively contribute to the

Three small water pumps have been distributed to the groups to encourage and ensure second crop cultivation by using the water from the wells. In absence of the pump they are unable to irrigate the patches in which they have been cultivating crops. These pumps have been able to transfer positive encouragement for taking crops in water scarce time of the year.

development process. Meetings are organized to inform and educate the group members about their roles and responsibilities. These meetings serve as platforms to discuss and formalize the vision and objectives of the resource groups. By establishing a clear vision, the groups are able to work cohesively towards common goals and drive the development initiatives at the village level. The strengthening of these resource groups is an ongoing process. Capacity building programs and regular meetings are organized to further enhance the skills and knowledge of the group members. These initiatives provide opportunities for continuous learning and development, ensuring that the groups are equipped to take on

responsibilities and effectively carry out development work within their villages. By mobilizing, capacity building, and strengthening the resource groups, SPWD aims to create a sense of

ownership and empowerment among community members. This approach fosters local leadership and facilitates sustainable development efforts driven by the community itself.

Resource Group Details									
SI No	Village	Name of Group	Total Members	Male	Female	ST	SC	OBC	Gen
1	Aashniya	Aasniya Sampad Dal	18	14	4	98	28	23	1
2	Chhakudih	Chhakudih Sampad Dal	11	0	11				
3	Damrughutu	Damrughutu Reasource Dal	12	8	4				
4	Dhadhkidih	Dhadhkidih Sampad Dal	14	1	13				
5	Sunadih	Sunadih Sampad Dal	12	1	11				
6	Hatinada	Hatinada Saampad Dal	12	2	10				
7	Narandih	Narabdi Sampad Dal	12	6	6				
8	Shiyalgara	Shiyalgara Sampad Dal	12	3	9				
9	Shushnidih	Shushnidih Sampad Dal	12	6	6				
10	Majhidih Tatuara	Tatuara Sampad Dal	13	2	11				
11	Gopinathpur	Gopinathpur Sampad Dal	14	2	11				
12	Behragora	Behargora Sanoad Dal	10	2	11				
<b>Total</b>			<b>152</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>85</b>				

### Climate Resilient Farming

#### (1) Establishment of Farmers Groups and Community Resource Persons

In the last one year total 48 farmers groups within 12 villages were established. Total 1177 people are involved in farmers group out of which 776 are women and 401 are men. These Farmers Groups are the central institution for the implementation of agricultural activities at village level. The farmer's group were formed to take up all form of agriculture activities at the village level. Discussion of farming and learning platform for the agronomic practices at the village level was one of the main objectives of these groups formed at the village level. Changing the form of farming

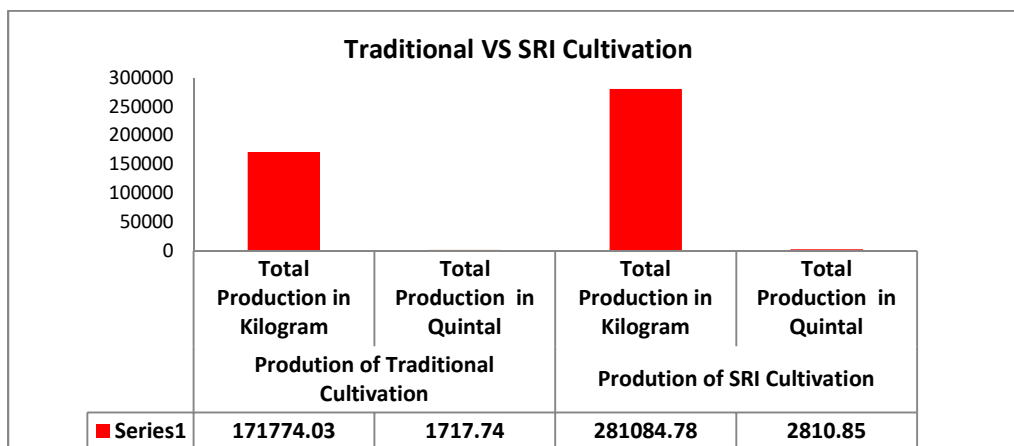
which the farmers were practicing is being transferred through these groups. Meetings and trainings at the village level were organized to upgrade the members of the farmers group.

#### (2) Improved Rice Cultivation

Paddy is the major crop which is being cultivated by the farmers of the area. It has been found that the production and productivity of paddy was decreasing due to the traditional form of cultivation. In order to bring change / increase in the production and productivity of paddy, SRI and DSR technique has been introduced in the villages. Total 409 farmers took SRI method of cultivation and 15 took DSR form of cultivation.

Famers Details		SRI		DSR	
SI No	Name of Village	No. of HH	Area in Acre	No. of HH	Area in Acre
1	Asaniya	22	7.3	1	0.20 Acres
2	Behragora	10	2.79	1	0.15 Acres
3	Hatinada	36	4.58		
4	Shiyalgara	31	6.53	3	0.47 Acres
5	Chhakudih	37	46.78	2	0.35 Acres
6	Dhadhkidih	39	9.2		
7	Narandih	30	9.27	3	0.55 Acres
8	Baragari	14	2.9	2	0.30 Acres
9	Gopinathpur	31	21	2	0.40 Acres
10	Damrughutu	23	5.61		
11	Tatuara	47	11.77		
12	Shushnidih	40	10.16	1	0.165 Acres
Other Villages		<b>33</b>	<b>15</b>		
<b>Total</b>		<b>401</b>	<b>152.89 Acres</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2.57 Acres</b>

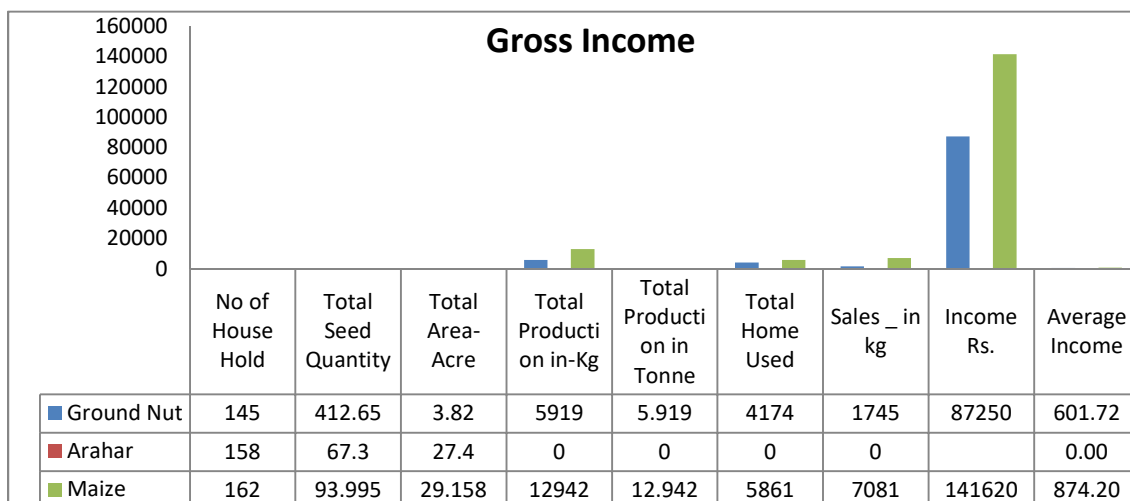
Traditional VS SRI Cultivation						
Land & Farmers Details		Production of Traditional Cultivation		Production of SRI Cultivation		Benefits (Qtl)
No of Farmers	Total Land	Total Production (Kg)	Total Production (Qtl)	Total Production (Kg)	Total Production (Qtl)	
409	154.35	171774.03	1717.74	281084.78	2810.85	1093.11



### (3) Improved Upland-Cultivation

These uplands were kept fallow throughout the year. The rolling topography of these land types facilitates the process of taking the upland crops in kharif season. The upland cultivation have been taken up by transferring the process to be followed while taking these crops at

the field level for this SPWD organized regular meeting and training for the farmers groups and this year we cultivated in **87.308 acre** land within **12 villages** by taking groundnut in 3.63 acre, Maize in 29.31 acre, Pigeon-Pea in 54.37 acre and Millets (Bazra, Maruya) in 1.00 acre.



#### (4) Kitchen & Forest Gardens

Kitchen gardens have been established with 206 families. Different crops have been grown so that supply of the production could be meeting out to the requirement. The primary focus of these gardens was to establish the supply of the nutrient requirement of the farm families. In the kitchen garden bio-inputs and biomass were used by proper planning on land where these crops are grown. Along with modification in the cropping practices trees were also planted around the boundary. The nutrition garden model is effective in providing nutrient to the villagers. The Forest garden (food forest) has been established in three patches (combined) along with individual plots. Mixed approach has been taken up because the combined patches are those patches where benefits sharing agreement was done by the villagers. All the

precaution has been taken in these patches to avoid mortality and grazing. Three sets of fencing viz Cattle proof trench; Bund and Shade Net fencing has been done.

#### (5) Production and application of organic fertilizers

More than 250 HH has been promoted by giving them bio fertilizer to cover 50 acres of land in the year 2022. 20 vermicomposting pits have been finalized with the size specifications as 10 feet long, 8 feet width and 2 feet depth and they can produce 300-400 kg of organic fertilizer in a cycle of 90 days.

Keeping regular kitchen waste in the Decomposer and collecting lichen to be used in their farm and also keeping the solid part to get converted to compost. This is being promoted among 33 farmers in the first phase.

Cow urine, cow dung and leaves and other biomass that are readily available in the village have been

used for liquid compost. 20 units of liquid composting is being established.

#### (6) Plasticulture

Plasticulture refers to the practice of using plastics to cover the soil in agricultural using mulch foil in the kharif and rabi season. This practice has been taken up in two villages.

#### Crop Insurance:

Due to failure of crops in the kharif season the crop insurance has been in two panchayats.

### Organization and market Linkages

#### (1) Formation of Farmer Producer Company (FPC)

In all the project villages, farmers group have been formed so that they work for the advancement of farming at the village level. Strengthening of these groups is in the process to form a common platform of these FPCs at cluster level.

Crops Insurance Kharif Season -2022					
Farmers Details according to GP.					
Ropo Panchayat		Ghaghra Panchayat		Shidhi Panchayat Panchayat	
Name of Mouza	Total	Name of Mouza	Total	Name of Mouza	Total
(006) DAMDBERA	18	(043) HATINADA	11	(006) DAMDBERA	330
(007) RAREKCHA	4	(040) SUSHNIRI	89	(007) RAREKCHA	37
(010) Ekduyar	61			(010) ANKRUAR	11
(011) PIRI	130			(011) PIRI	11
(012) ASONYA	46			(012) ASONYA	1
(014) CHIRKAMU	92			(014) CHIRKAMU	4
(015) BOROMALKA	19			(015) BOROMALKA	3
(026) GOPINATHPUR	10			(026) GOPINATHPUR	41
(027) CHOKUDI	21			(027) CHOKUDI	7
(032) NARANDI	2			(032) NARANDI	41
(040) SUSHNIRI	3				
(043) HATINADA	123				
<b>Total</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>1115</b>	

## Case Study

Case Study of - Kanai Singh & His wife Dhaniya Singh  
Behragora Village  
Ropo – Panchayat , Joypur - Block



Kanai Singh 60 year old fighting with financial difficulties and now he found a way of earning and supporting his family.

### Social Background:-

Kanai Singh is from Behragora village which is inhabited by tribals. The village falls in Ropo G.P of Joypur Development Block, Purulia district. He and his family primarily depend on agriculture and livestock-based livelihood. He has four daughters (daughters are married) and a son his name is Rajen Singh and he was dropout from class six. Rajen married 2 year ago and now he stays in another state and he works as labour in the construction field.

### Beneficiaries History:-

Kanai Singh was totally dependent on daily wage labour and agriculture work for earning his livelihood. He cultivated hybrid Brinjal, Tomato, Potato, Bottle Gourd, Chilli and many vegetables in traditional way and used chemical fertilizer, chemical pesticide to produce maximum production for more income. With an urge for more income, he was employing methods which resulted in deterioration in the quality of soil. Moreover he did not know how to restore the soil health. With time, he was having losses which he could not understand and employed methods which resulted in degrading the soil.

### Major achievement:-

When SPWD started work in their village with group formation, a farmers group was formalized in his village and conducted regular meeting to transfer the knowledge set for improving the soil condition for getting higher productivity and production. They have been mobilised for environment friendly agriculture and how that can transfer benefit to farm family and also how that can fetch them with more income.

We provided regular basis field level training for: -

- Organic farming and its need
- Bio Input preparation and its application
- Plastic culture for reaping more benefit
- Integrated farming practice and importance.

After that he started a nutrition garden with 10-15 crops by using organic fertilizer. He showed interest for taking non chemical form of farming in his field for that we transferred the input preparation method with him and thereafter he took this practice and taking forward. He was having recurring losses in chemical form of farming both in terms of income and health of his family. Bio Input like Matka Khad, Oshadhiya Matka Khad, Amrit Jal, Bio Dung, Vermicomposting, Kitchen waste, etc. has been established by him. SPWD supported a vermicomposting plant for producing solid compost for speeding the process for improving the soil condition and also concretization of his cow shed has been done – now he regularly collects cow urine (5 liter) and cow dung (10-15kg) and produces vermin-compost per cycle 300 – 400 kg, produce Matka Khad and Azolla. Second quarter we provided him a vermicomposting plant, in the first cycle the vermin-pit produced 300 kg vermin-compost and he used compost in his kitchen garden and maize farm.

Regularly he is using these inputs and applies in the field:-

- Matka Khad
- Oshadhiya Matka Khad
- Amrit Jal
- Kitchen Waste
- Vermi-compost



Crops:- in the year of 2022 (Kharif Season)							
Sl. No.	Name of vegetables	Area (Acre)	Total Production (Qtl.)	Consumption	Sell	Rate (Rs.)	Income (Rs.)
1	Bitter Gourd	0.01	0.80	25%	75%	20	1200
2	Tomato	0.04	3.50	25%	75%	15	3945
3	Brinjal	0.03	1.50	25%	75%	15	1695
4	Maize	0.04	5.60	25%	75%	20	8400
5	Ground Nut	0.03	0.60	25%	75%	50	2000
<b>Total income from crops cultivation</b>							<b>17240</b>
livestock							
Sl. No.	Name Animals	Total quantity Selling		Cost earned from Selling (Rs.)			
1	Hen	4		1200			
2	Duck	4		1200			
3	Goat	1		4500			
<b>Total income from livestock</b>				<b>6900</b>			

From crops cultivation in kharif season he has earned Rs. 17240/- and Rs.6900- from livestock. In the Rabi season he has started cultivating different types of crops like – Potato, Brinjal and Tomato etc.

**SPWD TEAM**  
**(As on March 31, 2023)**

**PROGRAMMES**

S. No.	Name	Designation
1	Mr. Pramod Tyagi	Executive Director (30/6/2022)
2.	Mr. Juned Khan Komal	Programme Director
3	Mr. Sanjay Kumar	Sr. Programme Officer
4	Ms. Anita Sood	Sr. Programme Executive (30/6/2022)
5	Ms. Promila John	Sr. Administrative Executive
6.	Ms. Alpna Sharma	Sr. Programme Executive
7.	Mr. Sachin K. Dubey	Executive Accountant
8.	Mr. Ramesh Chand	Office Assistant and Driver

**Projects**

S.No.	Name of Staff	Project Designation	Project
1	Sanjay Kumar	Project Coordinator	KKS
2	Sachin Kumar Dubey	Accountant	WHH/WWF
3	Sanjay Kumar Singh	Project Coordinator	WHH
4	Vinod Kumar	Co PI /Watershed Expert-WHH	WHH/WWF
5	Shashi Xaxa	Project Coordinator	WHH
6	Ruhidas Kumar	Field Facilitator	KKS
7	Ganesh Mahato	MIS	KKS
8	Nihar Kumar Mahato	Technical Expert	KKS
9	Manju Majhi	Field Facilitator	KKS
10	Phalguni Hasda	Field Facilitator	KKS
11	Dulal Chandra Mahato	Field Facilitator	KKS
12	Pravati Roy	Field Facilitator	KKS
13	Malindra Soren	Field Facilitator	KKS
14	Birbal Lohra	Driver	KKS
15	Nishi Khalkho	Office Assistant	GEN
16	Chhalimuddin Sekh	Watershed Expert	WHH
17	Tuhin Subhra Mukherjee	Cluster Coordinator	WHH
18	Ashish Kumar Dutta	Cluster Coordinator	WHH

19	Sohan Pandit	Coummunity Resourse Person	WHH
20	Rajkumar Pandit	Coummunity Resourse Person	WHH
21	Natva Hembrom	Coummunity Resourse Person	WHH
22	Manjhi Tudu	Coummunity Resourse Person	WHH
23	Paul Murmu	Coummunity Resourse Person	WHH
24	Thomas Soren	Coummunity Resourse Person	WHH
25	Dipak Tudu	Coummunity Resourse Person	WHH
26	Ajay Khalkho	Coummunity Resourse Person	WHH
27	Shani Malto	Coummunity Resourse Person	WHH
28	Subhash Lohra	Field Animator	WWF
29	Karamdev Singh	Field Animator	WWF
30	Usha Devi	Coummunity Resourse Person	WWF
31	Bineshwar Singh	Coummunity Resourse Person	WWF
32	Basant Yadav	Coummunity Resourse Person	WWF
33	Shiv Mochi	Coummunity Resourse Person	WWF
34	Dilkeshwar Singh	Coummunity Resourse Person	WWF

## List of Acronyms & Abbreviations

AH	Animal Husbandry
AISD	Asian Institute for Sustainable Development
AKM	Aajeevika Krishi Mitra
APSAC	Andhra Pradesh Space Applications Centre
ASCI	Agriculture Skill Council of India
BAS	Birsa Aajeevika School
BGRF	Backward Region Grant Fund
BTRT	Block Technical Resource Team
CBO	Community Based Organization
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CFC	Cluster Facilitation Centre
CFT	Cluster Facilitation Teams
CFR	Community Forest Rights
CGARD	Centre for Geo-informatics Application in Rural Development
CMSA	Community Managed Sustainable Agriculture
CRP	Community Resource Person
DCF	Deputy Conservator of Forest
DD	Deputy Director
DLO	District Level Officer
DPR	Detailed Project Report
DSR	Direct Seeded Rice
DSS	Decision Support System
DTRT	District Technical Resource Team
EB	Environmental Benefits
EE	Executive Engineer
FD	Forest Department
FFS	Farm Field School
FRA	Forest Rights Act
FRC	Forest Rights Claims
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GIZ	Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GoI	Government of India
GP	Gram Panchayat
GPS	Global Positioning System
GRS	Gram Rozgar Sevak
HDPE	High Density Polyethylene
HVVS	Hanuman Van Vikas Samiti
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
INRM	Integrated Natural Resources Management
ISRO	Indian Space Research Organization
JD	Joint Director
JSLPS	Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society

JTA	Junior Technical Assistant
KKS	Karl Kubel Stiftung
LEISA	Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture
MIS	Management Information Systems
MJSA	Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan
MKSP	Mahila Kisan Shashaktikaran Pariyojna
MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MoRD	Ministry of Rural Development
MWC	Mission Watershed Conservation
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NRLM	National Rural Livelihoods Mission
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NRSC	National Remote Sensing Centre
NTRT	National Technical Resource Team
OBC	Other Backward Castes
PS	Prayatna Samiti
PMAY	Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana
PMSKY	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Vikas Yojna
PoP	Package of Practices
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PRI	Panchayati Raj Institution
PSB	Phosphate Solubilizing Biofertilizers
RS	Remote Sensing
SBM	Swacch Bharat Mission
SC	Scheduled Castes
SCI	System of Cotton Intensification
SE	Superintending Engineer
SHG	Self Help Group
SIRD	State Institute of Rural Development
SMI	System of Millet Intensification
SPWD	Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development
SRI	System of Rice Intensification
ST	Scheduled Tribes
STRT	State Technical Resource Team
SWI	System of Wheat Intensification
TNA	Training Need Assessment
VC	Value Chain
WHH	Welthungerhilfe

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Sir Dorabji Tata Trust

### **NGO partners**

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Multi Art Association  
Jan Astha  
Hanuman Van Vikas Samiti  
Jagran Jan Vikas samiti  
Prayatna Samiti



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