

ICAR Initiative in Integrated Watershed Management Project (IWMP)

IWMP is a centrally sponsored scheme under the Ministry of Land Resources, Department of Rural Development and Government of India. The main objective of IWMP project is judicious utilization of every drop of rainwater received, for domestic consumption, agriculture, horticulture, livestock rearing etc thereby attaining self sufficiency in drinking water, increase in employment opportunities, increase the standard of living etc. A holistic approach is envisaged in this programme. Unlike other watershed development projects here there is space for providing assistance to livelihood activities, assistance for enhancing production system and also provision for microenterprises. At the state level there is the State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA) under Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Tripura. ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Tripura Centre, Lembucherra has undertaken an initiative to implement Integrated Watershed Management project (IWMP) at the villages Fatikcherra, of Mohanpur RD block (West Tripura). This micro-watershed comprises of 400.1 hectare land, cover four villages and 684 households. A watershed committee has been constituted

Work Undertaken: After the finalization of work plan for the project , various training programme was conducted by ICAR. About 300 famers from the village under the selected microwatershed have been benefited from these trainings.

Training on “Watershed Management and Soil and Water Conservation” was conducted on 25th April 2013 at ICAR Tripura Centre. About 50 farmers from the four villages under the LoharnaNala (LU) micro-watershed have been educated in this programme. This training programme was mainly focused on providing the basic knowledge over integrated watershed managements, their components and need of people’s participation on making success of integrated watershed man-agement programme. Farmers has been also been explained the need of soil and water conservation in the area and to make aware with the activities being held under this project.

Role of composite fish farming and rural backyard poultry has been summarized as best alternative for improving the livelihood of poor farmers of the villages and possibilities of horticulture devel-opment, introduction of new varieties in the area have been explained for enhancing the production system of the region. They has been provide visits of different model watershed units with different farming components (Agri-Horti-Pisci system, Agri-horti-duckery-Pigery and Agri-Silvi-Horti-Pisci-Duckery etc), Composite fish farming units, Improved dairy techniques, Improved goat farming units, Improved poultry farming units and Green house units for off season vegeta-ble cultivation etc, of ICAR Tripura centre.

Establishment of improved orchards of Mango and Papaya: Initially total 12 numbers of mango orchards and 10 numbers of papaya orchards have been established. Under this activity, about 500 planting materials of improved mango variety

(Amrapali var.), about 850 planting ma-terials of improved papaya variety (Nanha Pusa var.) and fertilizers have been distributed among the farmers. Farmers were financially supported for making fencing of the orchards.



A farmer with improved mango orchard at village- Fatikcherra



A farmers with improved papaya orchard at Fatikcherra

Scientific mushroom cultivation: Two farmers from village Fatikcherra have been financially and technically supported for scientific mushroom cultivation. They have been provided the mushroom seeds and technical guidance from Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR Tripura centre.



Farmer Shri Babul Debnath, village Fatikcherra with the Improved mushroom house



Dr. M. Datta, Joint Director, ICAR, Tripura Centre visited site Scientific Mushroom Cultivation at Fatikcherra

Composite fish farming: Two Self Help Group (SHGs) and eight farmers from different villages under the watershed have been supported for improved composite fish farming. Technical guidance has been provided by Division of Fishery Science, ICAR Tripura Centre. Farmers have been given total of 5000 fingerlings, 300 kg khoils, 10 bag limes and 1 fishing nets etc.



A farmers receiving packet 500 fish fingerings (catla spp) at Fatikcherra, IWMP office.



Members of Dip SHG (East Bajalghat) after releasing the 1000 fish fingerlings at their ponds under IWMP project.

Improved goat production: Total of eight self help group (SHGs) were supported financially and technically for improved goat production technology. Under this, farmers of those SHGs have been providing total of 8 improved male goat kids (Bengal bari) and 40 improved female goat kids. They have been provided technical guidance for making improved low cost goat house (LCGH) from the Division of Livestock Production. A one day "Goat Deworming Camp" has been also conducted on the basis of door to door approach. This camp was headed by a expert of Division of Livestock Production, ICAR Tripura centre. About 60 farmers have been benefited from this camp.



**A farmers Shri Fulendra Sarkar (Bipadashani SHG) village-
with improved Goat House at Fatikcherra**



**A farmers with improved Goat House at
Noagaon**



Administered PPR injection

Scientific betel leaf cultivation: A farmer has been supported financially and technically to start the scientific betel leaf cultivation. He has been provided financial support for getting planting materials, fencing the field, making shades for leaves of plants.



**A farmer shri Indrajit Roy with scientific
cultivation cultivation**



A farmer with scientific beetle leabeetle leaf

Off season vegetable cultivation: Initially two farmers have been supported for off sea-son off season vegetable cultivation. They have been provided technical and financial support as seedlings of chili and cabbage, fertilizers, fencing of the fields etc.

The works of construction of improved farm ponds, renovation of existing water bodies, improved duck production, improved dairy establishment, vegetable cultivation, establishment of orchard of banana, sweet orange and many more are under the process. With the huge scientific interventions in agricultural developments the farmers of the region are much happy and ahead for development and growth along with the ICAR. In the upcoming days, this initiative of ICAR will bring the prosperity among the poor villagers and put the model works in front of them.