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CANOPY

- magnifying green cover over red soil of Bankura North FDA

Regional Centre
National Afforestation & Eco-Development Board
(Ministry of Forests & Environment, Govt. of India)
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Bankura, known as "Jungle Mahal" for its long stretches of forest, was losing forest as a result of indiscriminate illicit felling till adoption of Joint Forest Management or JFM system in the Bankura North Forest Division in the state of West Bengal.

Bankura North Forest Development Agency (FDA) established on 3rd October 2002 and registered as a society under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, took up implementation of National Afforestation Programme (NAP) in right earnest and excelled particularly in afforestation work. In spite of irregular fund flow, series of plantations under different components of NAP have been created and the quality of plantations created under NAP is, in general, good to excellent with satisfactory survival percent of over 90%.

This good work was the motivating force to undertake the assigned work of "Documentation of case study on success and difficulties faced in implementation of Afforestation and Eco-development works under National Afforestation Programme in the state of West Bengal" in the Bankura North FDA.

The JFMC members of Bankura (N) FDA also demonstrated great innovation in creating assets under Entry Point activities like Drinking water facility, Community Hall, Approach Roads etc. These assets contributed greatly in improving their livelihood pattern and increased scope of income opportunities.



Frequent monitoring of activities is considered essential for efficient and successful implementation of any project programme and the Bankura (N) FDA took the matter of monitoring quite seriously. Monitoring of activities has been done rigorously by the superior officers at frequent interval which resulted in creation of some successful plantations and extraordinary EPA assets.

Besides, since, with the available fund, time bound activity like creation of plantation has to be undertaken urgently, in many cases creating assets under EPA had to be sacrificed although these assets could contribute greatly in improving livelihood pattern of JFMC members and increase their scope of income opportunities.

Performance of SHGs within the JFMCs under the FDA is hardly noticeable, creation of Village Development Fund is non-existent, and no concerted endeavor appeared to have been made to establish linkage with other line Departments for effective intervention to support income generation possibilities for the JFMC members.





For more information please contact:

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