

State Level Consultation  
on  
Evolving Strategy to  
Enhance Food Security and  
Livelihood Options  
in  
Jharkhand

6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. 05  
Capitol Hill  
Ranchi, Jharkhand

## INTRODUCTION

Food security in India has recently been more alarming than ever before. Increasing pressure on land, environmental degradation, more frequent occurrence of natural calamities like flood, drought, earthquake cyclone and resource differential between rich and poor have worsened the scenario. In the newly formed state of Jharkhand the situation is even more serious. Despite availability of huge natural resources more than 50% of the population in the state lives below poverty line. The state is one of the lowest in ladder of development indicators. As per the world food program mapping, Bihar and Jharkhand are listed as the most insecure in terms of food and nutritional security. According to National Sample Survey II, about 2 percent of population suffer from acute and chronic hunger and 10 percent from seasonal food insecurity. Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for the people of state. About 70% of people are depended on small farmlands less than 1 hectare in size. Stabilising agriculture for small and marginal farmers along-with looking for livelihood options in the state is one of the greatest challenges.

A two-day state level consultation on evolving strategy to enhance livelihood options in Jharkhand was organised on 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2005 at Hotel Capitol Hill, Ranchi. The consultation pondered on:

- Issues, options and possibilities of sustainable livelihoods and civil society's declaration for addressing them in the state.
- Opportunities and possible linkages with Government programmes.
- Financial advocacy among CSO partners regarding formulation of linkages.
- A roadmap for improving food security and livelihood in the state.

### Workshop Structure

The consultation was structured to facilitate two way communication process among the participants. It engaged experts and practitioners from Government, academia, technical and financial organisations and institutions, civil society organisations and partners and media. Sharing of perspective was held in seven sessions on key issues and livelihood options in context of Jharkhand. After sharing of views and perspective by the experts the house was left open to the participants for open discussion and Question-Answers. The workshop was structured towards:

- Highlighting key issues and concern related to livelihood options in the state.
- Facilitate dialogue and in depth group discussion between experts, CSOs and partners.
- Help delineate priority issues related to livelihood to be addressed in the short term and long term.

## **DAY I**

### ***Session I : Inaugural Session:***

#### Welcome Address

Mr. Sharad Tiwari, State Anchor, Welcomed the chief guest of Honour, Excellency Governor of Jharkhand, Hon'ble Syed Sibte Razi along with the distinguished speakers, guests and participants. He gave a brief insight about framework of PACS programme, scale of operations and key strategies. After the welcome address the workshop was ceremoniously inaugurated by lighting of the lamp by the Governor Syed Sibte Razi on this occasion the Governor also released a poster developed for the consultation. Dr. A.K. Basu chairperson, NAB, released a book called 'Hastchhep' highlighting some of the best practices at community level.

In his inaugural address, Mr. Sibte Razi praised the efforts of PACS programme and called it a movement for empowering & entitling the poor and marginalised. He stressed on the need and access of basic amenities like health, education, housing, food security and livelihood by the poor. Mr. Razi reiterated that the state could not fight against problems of hunger and poverty alone but in collaboration and help of NGO's. Hunger is not question of any one individual community or society but of the whole world. Mr. Razi said that state Government is committed to provide food security to the people and would be willing to provide every kind of support to PACS partners in achieving so.

In his keynote address chairperson, NAB, Dr. A.K. Basu highlighted some of the achievements of NGO sector. He said that the two best KVKS of the country run by NGO's are present in the state. The first ten Block level Technology Resource centres run by NGO's are in Jharkhand. About 472 people from different organisations have worked together to build the most extensive database for Agriculture and Horticulture. PACS has the commitment of reaching the poorest and marginalised by enhancing Management competencies of CSOs. Jharkhand is undergoing a serious drought situation in the current year and some parts have been experiencing drought for the last 5 years leading to hunger, food insecurity and mass exodus. To combat this threat, Dr. Basu made two proposals in context of the state.

1. Establishing in every Panchayat one women enterprise in charge of PDS. Women from SHGs to be given responsibility for food for different programmes like Antodaya, Annapurna, Food for work.
2. Skill building of human capital to provide livelihood opportunities and security. Dr. Basu drew attention of the house to President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's idea of "Chota Nagar" of Small Township per 20 villages for infrastructure–development would also not only boost food production but also help in Judicious food procurement and distribution in rural areas. Development of each township would take about five years but it would generate employment for the rural masses and help in containing migration from distress areas.

Ms. Kiran Sharma, Programme manager, PACS giving vote of Thanks, emphasised on the possibility of exploring handing over of public distribution system to women to overcome

problem of food insecurity in the state. She proposed that the state government in handling of drought relief work could use the strong network of SHGs under PACS programme.

### **Session II - Perspective Building: Livelihood**

The first day plenary sessions help to provide perspective on Farm Based animal husbandry, dairy, poultry, piggery and integrated farming.

Dr. Ramesh Sharan, eminent economist shared his views on poverty, entitlement and food security status in Jharkhand. He shared that incidence of poverty is very high in the state although the conventional estimates of poverty are not available currently. The data from BPL survey by the govt. and micro studies clearly indicate high incidence of poverty in the state along with being one of the most food insecure states in the country. As per the BPL survey (1997-2002) of about 3.77 million rural families in the state 2.32 million families live below poverty line. Reduction in poverty in the state has been very low in comparison to the national trends, perhaps lowest when compared to the national trends. The peculiar trend & feature is that the incidence of poverty is much higher in tribal specific population (TSP) areas as compared to non-Tribal specific population areas.

#### **Spatial Distribution of Poverty in Jharkhand..**

<b>Percentage of BPL</b>	<b>Districts</b>
80% And Above	Gumla, Simdega W. Singhbhum, Latehar,
70-80%	Lohardaga, Seraikela Kharsawan,
60-70%	Ranchi, Dumka, Jamtara
50-60%	Deoghar, , Pakur, Sahebganj, Garhwa,
40-50%	Giridih, Koderma. Godda Hazaribagh, Giridih
Below 40%	Bokaro(36.22%), Dhanbad(8.3%), Deoghar

*Source :Annual Report 2004-05 ,Department of Food, Civil Supplies and commerce, Government of Jharkhand pp50*

Dr. Sharan suggested that the solution to the endemic poverty in Jharkhand is not an easy task because this is the result of long historical process. For ameliorating the situation a multipronged strategy is required, some of which are listed below

- Decentralization of government programmes to PRI's immediate constitution of Gram Sabhas giving them effective control over minor forest products, minor minerals, land and water resources as given in PESA, (1996).
- Development with low displacement, proper rehabilitation policy and working for partnership models.
- Effective implementation of irrigation programme, completion of incomplete programmes with people's participation.
- Emphasis on horticultural products, afforestation and joint forest management.
- Raising the productivity of of agriculture
- Land reforms, distribution of land to the landless.

- Skill up-gradation and training in new emerging areas especially in marketing, advertisement, computer etc. as well as maintenance of consumer durable etc. to link people to the industrial development
- Enhancing overall economic opportunities through enacting proper investment.
- Mapping of poverty and vulnerability in Jharkhand and have area specific programmes
- Ensuring the entitlements created by the state reaches the poor that includes food and nutrition related programmes, employment generation programmes and various extension activities

Mr. Shailen Jha from Praxis shared the major findings of Action Research on Participatory livelihood Assessment in Jharkhand. The Assessment study was undertaken across 18 districts of the state with objective of understanding the livelihood situation. The Study carried in depth analysis about the types of livelihoods practiced as well as the challenges and prospects pertaining to each one of the activities. Key findings of the Research for different livelihood options are as follows:

### **Agriculture**

- Improved irrigation facilities such as lift irrigation, improving perennial water sources, deepening of ponds, improved outlets system of ponds
- Capacity building for improved agriculture practices
- Accessibility to loan facilities
- Cold storage facilities
- Promotion of organic farming, Vermicompost, FYM
- Treatment of traditional seed
- Promotion of double cropping with emphasis of cash crop
- Promotion of herbicide instead of insecticide
- Technology for rain fed agriculture
- Safety measures to be developed for crop protection
- Information sharing on area specific crop production
- Crop insurance – during diseases infection /drought year

### **Wage**

- Recognition of traditional occupation
- Employment opportunity in the village
- Fixation and effective implementation of minimum wage for different types of wage
- Organizing/Associating unorganized sector and its registration
- Encouragement of professional education
- Fixation of working
- Health facilities

### **Handicraft**

- Modernization of traditional business
- Training

- Capital
- Promotion of bamboo cultivation on large scale
- Marketing strategy to be developed
- Balanced cost of production and sale price

### **Forest**

- Encouraging traditional system
- Govt should purchase forest produces
- Mahua tree should be free from contractors
- Promotion of Cooperative for better marketing
- Training on process and packaging for different types of produces
- Capital support for wholesale marketing jointly
- Formation of Van Suraksha Samittee with support from Gram Sabha
- Establish coordination between Van Suraksha Samittee, Gram Sabha and Forest Dept
- Initiation of plantation programme
- Forest produce sell centre should be opened up for getting fair pricing

### **Animal Husbandry**

- Promotion of piggery and proper training
- Capital support
- Marketing support
- Fodder availability
- Commercialization
- Introduction of technologies for improved animal husbandry practices
- Improved veterinary services
- Breed improvement
- Training of taking care to livestock
- Provision of cattle shed
- Promotion Artificial Insemination

### ***Session III: Farm Based Livelihood***

The third session discussed on farm based livelihood options in the state. Livelihood being the critical determinant factor for the well-being. Therefore it needs to be assessed in a more holistic manner for addressing the problem of poverty and food insecurity.

Dr. R.P. Singh 'Ratan', Chairman, Department of Extension Education, Birsa Agriculture University, Ranchi discussed scope for enhancing Food security and cash income in Jharkhand. Agriculture is not only the most important means of livelihood but sole supporter of life and single pillar for sustaining the culture and values of the rural people. He emphasised that the need of the hour is to bring about rapid transformation in agriculture sector to overcome eradication of rural poverty, hunger and food insecurity. Giving facts & figures about agricultural scenario in the state he pointed about how mismatch between

technology and socio-economic environments of small and marginal rainfed farmers have proved to be a constraint. Dr. Ratan explained about potentialities of development of horticulture as an important livelihood option in the state as the agro-climatic conditions are ideal for Horticulture enterprises in vegetables, fruits, flowers, medicinal and aromatic plants along with preservation of fruits and vegetables.

Key aspects to be noted in this respect are:

- Promotion of floriculture as a livelihood option since the climate for rose cultivation is ideal.
- Promotion of mushroom cultivation.
- Promotion of cultivation of medicinal plants and establishing market linkages for them as Jharkhand is known for hundreds of medicinal plants and a part of tribal economy is based collection and selling them.
- Processing of food and vegetable units as a large of surplus of these get wasted.
- Organising farmers into cooperatives
- Capacity building of farmers supported by adequate credit and infrastructure facilitates
- Development of agro-processing units with modern packaging.
- Establishment of specialized training centres for human resource development.
- Technology transfer through farmer participatory methods and approaches.
- Develop appropriate dry land technologies and its transfer to the farming community.
- Creation of additional facilities for irrigation and need for well planned rainwater management on basis of integrated watershed approach.
- Crop diversification and adoption of alternate cropping system.

Dr. D.K. Saxena, Joint Secretary, Department of Agriculture, presented Agriculture policies and schemes – issues and scope for enhancing food security and cash income. He said that Agriculture is the main source of livelihood but only 30 percent of the geographical area is under cultivation. The agriculture production and productivity in the state is far below the national average. The total food production is 22.07 lakh tones against the requirement of 45.98 lakh tones, accounting to a deficit of 23.91 lakh tones (52%), one of the main reasons for prevalent food insecurity. Discussing agriculture policies and schemes, Dr. D. K. Saxena suggested that since agriculture is the prime source of livelihood for the rural households it is important:

- to introduce measures to increase productivity and output.
- Rationalization of area,
- Introduction of multi cropping system,
- Establishment of marketing linkages,
- Agriculture insurance
- Measures for rainwater harvesting
- Need for development of private and public partnership.

Mr. Sibendu Kumar, Director Horticulture and Agro forestry research programme (ICAR), Research complex for Eastern Region, Plandu discussed about "Horticulture as a source of food security and livelihood status, issues and potential in Jharkhand. Horticulture crops have

played an important role in diversification of land use for better utilization, improvement in productivity, increase employment opportunities, better economic return and nutritional security worldwide. As the state of Jharkhand is endowed with climatic conditions conducive for successful cultivation of a diversity of horticultural crops, the available resources hold promise for livelihood options. Mr. Kumar focussed on the following issues for urgent attention:

- Need for collaborative and integrated support from all stakeholders of development.
- Watershed approach for horticulture
- Generation of authentic and accurate database on horticulture.
- Appropriate seed and nursery policy
- Rejuvenation and area expansion with quality planting material
- Promotion of multitier cropping system
- Adequate post harvest management
- Operationalization of Agri Export Zone for vegetable
- Promotion to primary processing at community level, and
- Promotion of private sector investment

Mr. Mihir Sahana from BASIX discussed about Promotion of vegetable Sub-sector as a livelihood option. He gave a brief background of BAXIS's operations in Jharkhand. BASIX operates in 7 sub-sectors- paddy, vegetables, dairy, fishery, tasar, metal work and Lac. It has been working since 2002, with over 4000 poor households engaged in agriculture, dairy, lac, tasar and non-farm micro-enterprises; in Ranchi, Hazaribagh and Deoghar districts, just started in East Singhbhum. Recently it offered credit with 4 crore for life and crop insurance. He highlighted on highs and lows of Vegetable Sub Sectoral intervention as livelihood option.

Any Livelihoods for the Poor in Vegetables?

- Large and growing market demand – local, metro and even export
- labour Intensive- create wage employment
- High Yield compared to cereal crops
- Regular cash flow/income
- Year round cultivation possible with water
- Infrastructure available
- Suitable for small and marginal farmers as it is labour intensive

Vegetables: Features

- Highly perishable
- Harvest over a short time
- Demands immediate disposal
- High moisture content
  - Dried up – Looses weight, poor appearance
  - Attract insects
- Need storage facility

Vegetable Sub Sector Major Components Cultivation

- Input supply

- Extension Services

#### Processing

- Value addition – sorting, grading
- By-Product Making- Dried vegetables

#### Marketing

- Fresh vegetables
- By-products

#### Weak links of fresh produce sector

- Lack of customer focus- Little interest/control of what happens beyond farm
- Excessive number of marketing intermediaries- Leads to cost additions and multiple points of handling; with little value addition
- Huge amount of wastage – wastage levels estimated at 25-30% in fruits and vegetables
- Almost all the genera still far behind their full genetic potential for productivity
- Outdated technology and production processes – Lack of new varieties, lower mechanization
- Disincentive for the producer-farmer- Only 25% of the end user price reaches the producer

#### Bottlenecks

- Credit: constraint for production and marketing both
- Irrigation: Limited to few pockets, Cost of irrigation high
- Multiple layers of middlemen: without any value addition
- Distribution system with high leverage points
- Lack of storage at both production and terminal points
- 'Not so advance' skills of production
- Low quality inputs – seed
- Farmer' mindset: No collective effort, No clear understanding of the Commission Agent's role.

### ***Session IV – Animal Husbandry, Dairy, Poultry, Piggery and Integrated farming.***

Livestock continue to be the second largest source of livelihood after agriculture in the state. Livestock makes multifaceted contributions to socio-economic development. However, in the mixed crop livestock systems, its importance goes beyond direct food production function. It supplies drought power and organic manure to crop sector, and hides, skins, bones, blood and fibre to the industries. Thus by being as an important means of income and employment for these households, livestock helps in alleviating poverty and smoothen income distribution.

In this session, Dr. Seba Palit, expert in livestock management, elaborated on potentials of livestock in Jharkhand. She discussed on the some of the problems for low productivity in dairy farming and why it is still not taken up as livelihood option.

- Lack of own capital
- High price of crossbred
- Lack of veterinary faculties

- High daily maintenance costs
- Non-availability of green fodder.
- Improper marketing facility

She shared that animals are kept on secondary basis to supplement the agriculture income or aiding farm activities. Therefore there is:

- Need to bring a change in the approach towards livestock as livelihood option.
- Livestock can be seen as a major source of livelihood for hundreds of landless, marginal and small poor landholders.
- Efforts required for making livestock production more profitable.
- Integrating livestock fish crops and livestock fish farming Dr. Palit suggested the following as the role of CSOs and other PACS partners in promoting livestock as can livelihood option in the state.

Key aspects regarding role of CSOs in PACS programme for promoting livestock

- Conduct livelihood-planning exercises with rural people under the aegis of SHGs. These would generate resource and livelihood inventories, potential for household, group and village level plans. Plans would cover a range of potential activity such as Dairy farming, Pig farming, Poultry farming, etc.
- Linkage-Backward and forward linkage of groups. Linkages with ongoing poverty alleviation schemes and livestock activity.
- Organising village level workshops for preparing action plans by SHGs.
- Training, skill building, perspective building and exposure of assisted rural poor to techniques of improving natural resource management covering sustainable agriculture practices, fodder development, animal husbandry.
- Capacity building of SHGs especially women leaders to take up livestock activity.
- Input supply.

The second speaker of the session Mr. Soumen Biswas from Pradan spoke on Considerations in scale up of livelihood Initiatives in Jharkhand with special reference to off farm sector. Livelihood requires assets, assurances abilities, access and initiatives. He said that in context of off farm and service sector activities the following considerations should be kept in mind.

- Returns vis-a -vis farm sector
- Regularity of cash flows
- Negotiations with the market
- Minimum required return to attract the poor.
- Limitation of market size
- Direct linkage with market in service sector.

He focussed on social mobilisation, area saturation, social, technical and institutional fit as essential pre-requisites for off-farm sector.

Mr. Shiv Narayan Sahu, an entrepreneur from a village of Ormanjhi Block shared his experiences about how he started as a very small marginal farmer with a very small credit

from the Bank about one and a half decade ago. Today he has engaged about fifty people in his farm activities. He organised trainings for farmers to be able to become self-sufficient. Later from single crop of Paddy he started sowing Rabi and then diversified into growing of vegetables.

## ***Day II***

The second day helped to provide a perspective on Forest based livelihood options, Micro finance and linkages of SHGs.

### ***Session V: Forest Based livelihood***

Mr. Vishnu Kumar, Principal Secretary, Department of forest and Environment Government of Jharkhand discussed "Policies related to forest as a source of livelihood". Forest has been a major source of livelihood for the tribal people for centuries. With passage of time the forest cover has been slowly diminishing. Forest Cover is necessary for both environmental and ecological balance. Government is also committed to the cause for protection of forest cover. He discussed about the measures undertaken by the govt. for protection of forest cover and its up gradation social forestry and joint forest management.

Mr. R. Ramani, Chairman, Lac Research Institute, Namkum discussed about Lac as forest based as livelihood option in the state. Lac is a product of commerce derived from a specialized group of plant bugs commonly known as lac insects; they thrive on specific trees called lac hosts. Lac is a source of three basic materials, viz., resin, dye and wax. Appropriate interventions should not only reduce poverty but also lead to enrichment of natural resources base. So, the policy makers and planners should take stock of the prevailing scenario of the state to develop sound strategies to address livelihood issues.

#### **Importance Of Lac Cultivation**

- Lac cultivation forms an important avocation for lac growers, especially the tribals.
- Lac cultivation is simple, does not need any large investment and requires only part-time attention. Attractive income support to resource constrained tribal lac growers, next only to paddy.
- Also helps in waste land utilization and ecosystem development with economic returns
- Lac is source of non-toxic, ecofriendly materials with a great future due to growing demand for sage natural sources.

#### **Lac For Livelihood**

- With more than half of the population of the state living below poverty line, livelihood enhancement of especially rural population is of prime importance.
- Lac could be used as an important tool for strengthening the rural economy.

Lac cultivation has several advantages.

- The returns very impressive
- Good price and demand
- The farmers of the Jharkhand have been doing lac cultivation for generations
- Lac cultivation operations do not interface with his agricultural activities.

- Besides, lac acts as an insurance crop, particularly during failure of adequate monsoon rains.

Lac For Livelihood

Paddy forms an indispensable part of tribal agriculture

Paddy provides lac growers food security; lac provides him income security.

### ***Session VI: Micro Finance and Livelihood in Jharkhand.***

Self Help initiatives in Jharkhand have gained roots, expanded to its remotest areas. With passage of time the number of actors facilitating the promotion of self-help groups has increased. Government departments, banks, NGOs all are engaged in their promotion. Promotion of Micro enterprises and various income generation activities is an important thrust area of SHGs. Micro credit through SHG has proved to be one of the most effective modes of making available credit to the rural poor. Mr. A.P. Das, AGM, NABARD spoke on 'Micro Finance-status, issues and challenges in Jharkhand. He presented an overview of Micro-credit in the state. Micro credit through SHG, Bank linkage programme has gained acceptance in last 2-3 years though a comparatively slow growth in horizontal spread across the state. However the present level of coverage under NABARD of the estimated poor families is only about 15%. He stressed that in such a scenario the scope for expansion of the micro credit is still untapped to a large extent. NABARD has all along advocated financing SHG as a sound business proposition for Banking sector, a process of grassroot level institution building for NGOs and future multi-delivery platform for development initiatives for development by the Govt.

In spite of obvious benefits of the programme, there are still large areas of concern, which need to be addressed before SHG financing can be brought into the mainstream credit activity of the banks.

He discussed in brief, review of the issues and feasible strategies to overcome problems related to linkages of SHGs.

- Promotion of SHGs and making them eligible for credit for linkages with Banks.
- Promotion of Micro credit by concentrating efforts to broaden the livelihood options by introducing Crop diversification and promoting off farm activities.
- Promotion of linkage of SHGs in districts of Bokaro, Dhanbad, Garwah, Jamtara, Latehar, Pakur, Saheganj and Simdega to stop regional disparity.  
(Geographic movement of SHGs has been largely limited a few districts)
- Emerging role of micro financing institutions (explore possibility of bulk leading to well rated MFIs and enhance their branch outreach)

Ms. Minakshi Sharma, ICICI, Mumbai made a presentation on ICICI Bank "Partnership with Micro finance institutions". She said that the vision of the Bank is to increase the access "All Financial services" to the poor in rural India in a viable and sustainable manner. ICICI Bank and the CSO may work together for extending credit facilities to the SHGs/JLGs of poor women.

She explained about how the CSOs and partners can take advantage of the proposed partnership model of the bank.

- The NGO would grade the SHGs/JLGs, originate loan applications from the high quality SHGs/JLGs, facilitate the necessary documentation as required by ICICI Bank and forward the loan applications to ICICI Bank with its recommendation.
- ICICI Bank would process the loan application and make disbursements to a special account opened for the purpose of the SHG loans.
- The NGO will have the mandate to withdraw sanctioned amounts from this Bank account and make the same available to SHGs/JLGs in their local bank accounts.
- The NGO shall monitor the performance of the SHGs/JLGs, enable the SHGs/JLGs to maintain accounts perhaps by deputing field staff for the purpose.
- The NGO shall maintain an MIS of all the loans disbursed by ICICI Bank to SHGs/JLGs under the NGO.
- The NGO through its staff shall work to ensure repayment of the ICICI Bank loans as per the repayment schedule provided by ICICI Bank.
- The NGO may levy a service charge from the SHGs/JLGs for the services provided by it to the SHGs/JLGs.
- The NGO shall provide ICICI Bank credit enhancement for the loans extended by it to the SHGs/JLGs
- The credit enhancement may be in the form
  - a. A guarantee secured by a fixed deposit or other investments.
  - b. The NGO may recover service charges from the SHGs/JLGs (say 5% of the loan amount sanctioned). These Service Charges would be held in a Trust & Retention Account with ICICI Bank. After the maturity of the loans, ICICI Bank would adjust the defaults in the SHG loan accounts from this account and then release the balance to the NGO, which will serve as remuneration for the services rendered by the partner.
  - c. The NGO may offer an Over Draft facility to the bank. The same shall be drawn upon by ICICI Bank in case of over dues on any repayment date during the partnership.
- The credit enhancement will enable ICICI Bank to offer a competitive rate of interest to the SHGs/JLGs promoted by the NGO.

Mihir Sahana and Rakesh Das from BASIX made a presentation on Linkages and micro finance Intervention in Ranchi by BASIX. BASIX'S objective of sub sector approach is of promoting livelihoods with financial services, Credit is necessary but not sufficient. The concept of DISHA highlight:

- Diversified Intensive Small Holder Agriculture (DISHA) is the central strategy for ensuring livelihoods and food security in Jharkhand.
- By diversifying from mainly paddy, to
  - Other cereals,
  - Pulses, oilseeds,

- Vegetables,
- Fruits,
- Fodder,
- Fuel wood and timber,

DISHA ensures each small holder makes optimal use of land and diversifies yield and price risks. DISHA will ensure that every small holder. Is food self-sufficient in terms of cereals and has nutritional supplements such as vegetable, fruit, milk and milk products, meat and fish.

Mihir Sahana and Rakesh Das stressed on

- Process of linkage for SHGs with BASIX.
- Providing technical support for production of vegetables.
- Formation of Farmer's group and club.
- Provide credit through different channels (Mainstream Financial Institutions and Micro Finance institutions)

### ***Session VII: Group work on development of road map for enabling livelihood in the state***

After the morning plenary the Participants were divided into five groups. The primary objective of the session was to facilitate discussion among participants in smaller groups to address the important aspects, components and key issues for formulation of framework for road map on livelihood options and strategy in the state. Each group worked on one aspect and component in the given format, followed by presentations.

Points for discussion

1. Thrust area within Sector
2. Geographical thrust (if any)
3. Key Supporting factors
4. Key Constraining Factors
5. Possible specific solutions
6. Potential stakeholders and their role
7. Time lines (if any)

The five groups were assigned following topics.

- Farm Based Livelihood (Agriculture based and Horticulture etc).
- Allied activities (Poultry, pig rearing, dairy etc)
- Farm Based Livelihoods
- Service sector (skill based)
- Livelihood rights and entitlements – issues related to realization and access.

### **Advisory panel's view and guidance on finalisation of road map of enabling livelihoods**

The concluding session of the workshop was interactive and participatory to work out to evolve strategy for enhancing livelihood options in the state. This facilitation prioritised some of the key concerns by experts.

Mr. M.K Mandal, Development commissioner, Government of Jharkhand, gave his input on livelihood options in the state based on presentations by different groups. He stressed that the focus of strategy for livelihood options in Jharkhand has to be people and area specific due to geographical diversity. Livelihood options should focus on drought fighting to overcome the problem of Hunger and food insecurity.

- Agriculture based and allied activities to be promoted side by side.
- Promotion of Forestry and Agriculture as both have an organic relationship.
- Need for evolving innovative practices with optimum resources for mass production.
- Need for development of entrepreneurship mode

Mr. A.K. Sarkar, Principal Secretary Agriculture, Government of Jharkhand in response to the presentation by different groups on livelihood options said that in context of Jharkhand for poverty reduction it is essential to understand the geographical and cultural variation of the state. Agriculture has been the primary source of livelihood but in context of the state it is essential to understand the problems related to it. For making agriculture an essential sustainable livelihood option he made the following suggestions:

- Promotion of crop diversification (Lac, Jowar, Wheat)
- Need for developing multi cropping system
- Promoting adoption of Horticulture as a livelihood option.
- Promotion of Hybrid seeds but at the same time also preserving indigenous varieties.
- Awareness generation for adoption of alternative livelihood options.
- Need for community to prioritise and choose the alternative livelihood option.

Dr. A.K. Basu, Chairman NAB, PACS said that sustainable livelihood is intricately linked with eradication of poverty. Conceptually livelihoods connote the means, activities entitlements and assets by which people make a living. It is a fact that in context of Jharkhand majority of the population derives its livelihood from agriculture. He suggested that for evolving sustainable options, it is essential to look beyond agriculture. He made the following suggestions.

- Promotion off farm and water management activities.
- Technology to be made community friendly and community to be encouraged for adoption of technology.
- Need for building human capacity for understanding and subsequently adopting alternative livelihood options.
- Promotion of tannery as a livelihood option.
- Livelihood strategy to focus on inclusion of poorest of poor.
- Need for looking beyond project mode for providing food security.