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MICRO PLAN OF

# NATUNDANGA ECO DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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- Mr. Mangal Sing Teron, President, Natundanga EDC
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## CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

### 1. Defining Eco-development:

The term eco-development is used to describe an integrated, sustainable approach to environment and development. It is in the UN (1997) Glossary of Environmental Statistics as:

*"..... development at regional and local levels, consistent with the potential of the area involved, with attention given to the adequate and rational use of natural resources, technological styles and organisational forms that respect the natural ecosystems and local social and cultural patterns".*

Within the context of India's protected areas, eco-development as a strategy recognizes the traditional dependence of people on forest resources for domestic use as well as supplementing livelihoods and seeks to rationalise the demands of communities by facilitating alternative for resources and livelihoods. It is supposed that people would act rationally and utilize the resources sustainably so as to enhance the productivity of rural ecosystem. This entails promoting the adoption of alternative energy sources and resources for livelihoods, thereby reducing forest dependency. In essence eco development aims to strengthen nature conservation through participatory processes that empower local people to take responsibility for their socio-economic well being in ways that do not reduce the biodiversity capital maintained within the PAs.

Eco-development is a strategy for securing support from local communities and other stakeholders for protected areas management. Activities taken up under eco-development should provide a strong linkage between conservation and development; and they may include ecotourism and off-farm activities as well as providing specific alternatives to local biomass dependencies on protected areas.

Micro planning at the village level is the participatory process aimed at an inclusive identification and assessment of potential activities, including ecotourism, for promoting under the eco-development strategy. Such activities should strike a balance between conservation measures and income-generating initiatives. Often conservation measures can be realized in ways that also generate income and vice-versa. For example, villagers may be hired by the protected area management authority to augment fire control and anti-poaching patrols. The output of micro-planning is a plan, popularly called as 'Micro Plan', which explains in simple, plain language the physical, biological, socio-economic and cultural context of the village and its surrounds, together with the various activities proposed for addressing the threats to biodiversity and improving local livelihoods. The outcome of micro planning is likely to be most effective, if those members of a community most dependent of forest resources can be identified through an inclusive, transparent participatory process and prioritized for support in adopting alternative, income generating activities.

### 2. Micro-planning for purpose of eco-development:

Planning is an act of formulating a programme for a definite course of action. It is a blue print for a definite action within a time frame. Macro planning is a planning for mainstream development at macro level. Micro planning is a location specific planning or grass roots planning. Micro-level

planning (MLP) means detailed planning at a lower level, usually at or below a district, which takes into account the variations in the community.

Micro-planning is a term used to describe the inclusive process of engaging stakeholders in planning at a local level, usually at the smallest unit of community organisation, namely the village. It provides an effective participatory mechanism for planning eco-development within the context of protected area management. A micro-plan is the product of this process.

### 2.1. Key principles of micro-planning to be followed:

- **Micro-planning is not a one-off exercise:** Proper assessment of felt needs can evolve only in full consultation with all the stakeholders and that too through a multi-stage process.
- **Micro-planning requires patience:** Since villagers have their own prioritization of time and little initial understanding of the tools used during micro-planning, it is necessary for the facilitator to be very patient throughout the process.
- **Micro-planning requires ingenuity:** Sensitive situation may arise that requires a great deal of ingenuity to address, usually best resolved by one-to-one mediation.
- **Micro planning is by nature specific to the local context and cannot be replicated:** Since each village differs from others in terms of socio-economic and other parameters and hence is unique, therefore, cannot be replicated.
- **Micro planning is inclusive:** The strength of a micro plan is its inclusive, grass roots nature. It should represent the sum of the combined wisdom and aspirations of the entire village. Thus, the process of micro planning should reach out to each household to elicit relevant information.
- **Micro planning is never 'in your face':** It is essential that the facilitator is humble, respectful and mindful of the value of the time, privacy and life style of the villagers.

### 2.2. Micro-planning tools to be used:

- **Social mapping** – It is a group exercise which provides the physical, social and infrastructure information about the village as a whole. It is taken up in a participatory manner and gives a rudimentary sketch of the village as an entity, with each household marked on the map. The purpose of the map is to gain an insight into the existing resources of the village, as well to understand its social complexity.
- **Visioning exercise** – It is a group activity in which villagers share their dreams and aspirations for the future, then identify the main challenges and constraints to achieving their vision, and finally identify measures for removing the impediments in achieving their vision.
- **Households interviews** – This is one-to-one exercise in which the facilitator visits each household to gather basic household level information in an informal manner that is based on structured line of enquiry.

### 2.3. Steps for preparation of micro-plan:

There are two main steps in the process of preparation of EDC Micro-plans as mentioned below:

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**Step 1 –**

- ✚ Orienting the facilitation team
- ✚ Developing a common vision among the protected area staff and the EDC members
- ✚ Build the Micro-plan facilitation team.

**Step 2 –**

- ✚ Ice breaking
- ✚ Reaching out to each village
- ✚ Socio-economic profiling of the village
- ✚ Visioning with the entire village
- ✚ Assessing forest dependency
- ✚ Writing Micro-plan

## CHAPTER II: BACKGROUND OF THE KAZIRANGA TIGER RESERVE

KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK, legally notified as a National Park in the year 1974, is a name known worldwide for its success in the conservation history of one horned Indian Rhinoceros. It also provides a natural habitat for a number of rare, threatened and charismatic species. A symbol of dedication for the conservation of animals and their habitat, Kaziranga, with a National Park status represents the single largest protected area within the North-east Brahmaputra valley Biogeographical Province to provide long term viable conservation.

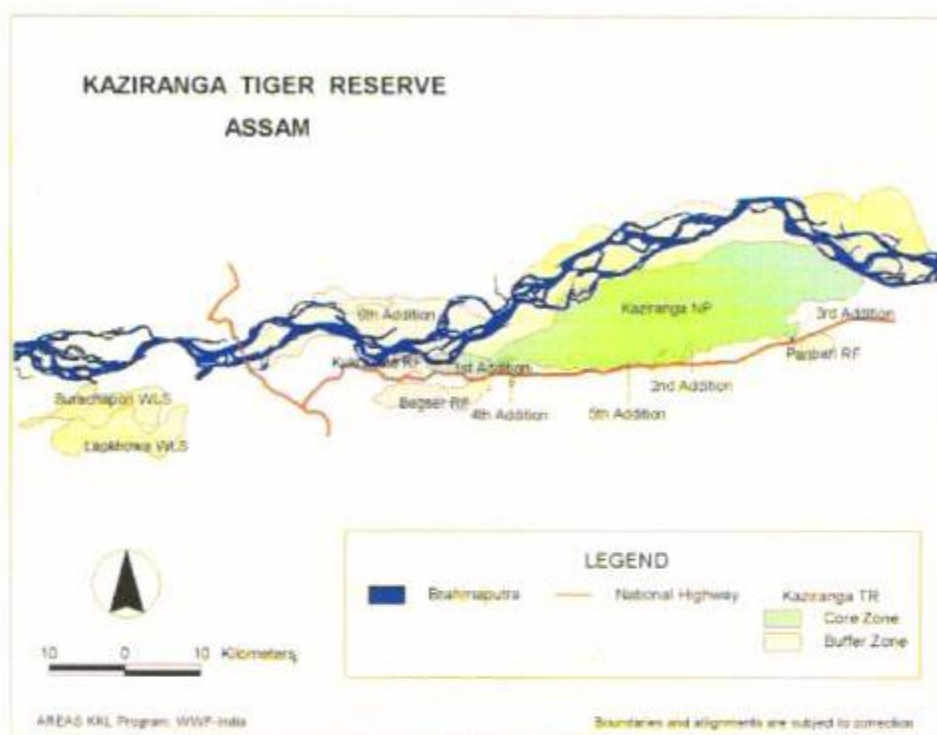
Kaziranga National Park lies between Latitudes 26°34' N to 26°46' N and Longitudes 93° 08' E to 93° 36' E. It is spread over the civil jurisdictions of Nagaon, Golaghat and Sonitpur districts in Assam with mighty Brahmaputra River on the north and verdant Karbi Anglong hills on the south.

Kaziranga National Park (KNP) is one of the most important protected areas in Assam. Spread over an area of 429.93 Sq.Km in the flood plains of Brhamaputra, it harbors the World's largest population of One horned Rhino with a population of more than 2003, Wild Buffalo (1431 Nos. in 2001) and the Swamp Deer (more than 800 Nos.) presently. Its conservation value was much recognized when it become one of the World Heritage Sites notified in India by UNESCO in the year 1985. The management history dates back to 1st June 1908 when it was first declared as a Reserve Forest. It was subsequently upgraded to a Game Sanctuary in 1916, a Wildlife Sanctuary in 1950 and finally a National Park in 1974.

Since then 6(six) areas have been proposed to be added to the existing National Park. Besides these the R.Fs. of Panbari (7.65 Sq.Km.) and Kukurakata R.F. (15.93 Sq.Km.) are also under the administration of Kaziranga National Park.

Some of the significant conservation values of Kaziranga National Park are enumerated below:

- The largest Undivided and Representative area of Brahmaputra Valley flood plain grassland and forest with associated large herbivores, avifauna and wet land values.
- The World's largest population of Indian one horned Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) Wild Buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*) Swamp Deer (*Cervus duvauceli ranjitsinghi*)





- High ecological density of Tigers (*Panthera tigris*)
- Significant population of Asiatic Elephant (*Elephas maximus*)
- The junction of the Australasia flyway and Indo-Asian flyway exhibits considerable diversity in avifaunal species.
- Provides an entire range of habitat from the floodplains to grassland to hill evergreen forest communities.
- Considerable Research, Education and Recreation values.

**Some of the major constraints that have been identified are:** Poaching and other illegal activities, domestic livestock grazing, Insect/ Pathological problem, Floods and erosion, invasion by weeds, Siltation of water-bodies and problems related to infrastructure and communication needs of the park. Heavy traffic on the NH-37, growing tourist pressure and the man-animal conflict are some of the problems of lesser magnitude now, with greater implications for the future.

### CHAPTER III: STEPS FOLLOWED TOWARDS MICRO-PLANNING

#### EDC MICRO-PLANNING PROCESS IN KTR

**Orienting the facilitation team:** This is the very first step of the EDC Micro-planning process in KTR, where the management staff along with the field staff (the member secretaries of the EDCs) of the KTR met with the EDC executive committee members and NGOs members in order to develop the Micro-plan for the existing EDCs.

**Developing a common vision among the protected area staff and the EDC members:** This is a desirable step for the protected areas which don't have management plans. Since the KTR has an existing management plan, therefore, this step was avoided. Nevertheless, the vision of the KTR was discussed during the orientation workshop among the participants. While different values of the KTR and its identified threats were discussed in the workshop. Opinions were invited from all the stakeholders to mitigate the threats.

**Build the Micro-plan facilitation team:** The Micro-plan process needs to be facilitated by a team trained in participatory processes and skilled in facilitation techniques. Members of the team should be available to see the entire process through to ensure consistency in approach and, for purposes of building trust, continuity. In the case of KTR, a number of experienced Forest Officers along with organisations like WWF-India, Laokhowa Buhrachapori Wildlife Conservation Society (LBCS), were part of the whole process from the very beginning.

**Ice breaking and reaching out to the people:** Entry into a village or household should always be undertaken in a spirit of humility, respect and patience in small groups and preferably including a lady. In case of KTR, after the initial discussion with the EDC members a general meeting was convened at the concerned EDC and the villages. All the villagers congregated where the facilitation team talked about the importance of EDC and its importance in realizing the goals of conservation. The importance of socio-economic profiling was discussed in detail in the meeting and was decided to do the socio-economic profiling of the village on a later date.

**Socio-economic profiling:** Members of the facilitation team split into small groups to visit each household in the village and elicit information on predefined parameters. Such visit also provide an opportunity to engage directly with the entire village at an individual level and therefore, gain a deeper insight into the livelihood concerns and issues of household members, while also accessing

the information that can help to consolidate the village social map and validate the assessment of the forest dependency and wellness ranking. In case of the KTR, as per the date fixed in the ice breaking meeting for socio-economic profiling a team was formed with the WWF members and volunteers from the EDC. An exhaustive questionnaire was prepared for the purpose and the team was given the requisite training how to approach the villagers and collect the required information for the purpose of Micro-planning. The team then entered into the village for socio-economic data collection.

**Visioning with the villagers:** In this phase of the work each and every person of the village was engaged. After compiling the data collected through the questionnaire, the findings were placed before the villagers for their information. The findings put light on household information, land holdings, sources of livelihood, livelihood skills, level of forest dependency, man-animal conflict, sources of energy, health issues and the like. Problem areas were almost defined, nevertheless, the villagers were asked if they wanted to add or omit some of them. Then suggestions were asked from the villagers for solving such problems. Alternative livelihood options were also discussed on the basis of the available village resources.

**Assessing forest dependency and wellness:** This is one of the most important steps in the process of preparing the Mirco-plan for an EDC. The ultimate objective of the EDC and its micro-plan is to reduce the dependency of the fringe people on the forest by providing them gainful livelihood alternatives inside the village. The villagers were asked, in the light of the findings of the socio-economic survey, to identify the forest dependent households or individuals on their own. The ultimate objective is to be able to target the most forest dependent and poorest households in the village for assistance. The criteria for defining forest dependent and wellness are as follows:

Categories	Criteria
<b>Forest dependency</b>	
<b>High</b>	Graze livestock, collect NTFPs, collect firewood and thatching materials for own use
<b>Medium</b>	Graze livestock, collect firewood and thatching materials for own use
<b>Low</b>	Collect firewood and thatching materials for own use
<b>Wellness</b>	
<b>Very poor</b>	Landless; no regular source of income; widow; separated women; orphaned children.
<b>Poor</b>	Marginal land holder; day-to-day (hand-to-mouth) living.

<b>Manageable</b>	Less land; barely enough for the year with no savings.
<b>Well off</b>	Enough land; well established; government service/ pensioners; running a good business; surplus food and money during the year.

**Writing Micro-plan:** The facilitation team worked closely with the EDC executive throughout the preparation of the micro-plan. The team wrote the plan and the draft plan was shared with the villagers for their approval. Though it was written in English it was discussed in vernacular medium for greater understanding of all the people of the village.

## CHAPTER IV: DATA SOURCE AND METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

**Methods of data collection:** For preparation of the Micro Plan both the Primary and secondary sources of data were consulted and extracted from the villages.

**Primary Data Collection:** The Micro Plan was prepared on the basis of primary data. To extract primary data various PRA (Participatory Rural Appraisal) techniques were used. Following are the brief discussion of the techniques of PRA that were used in the study and the criteria for selection of the sample for each technique.

For extraction of the information the Micro Plan preparation team adopted different PRA methods like direct observation, followed by time line, PRA mapping, SI (structured interview) and FGD. Prior information was given and the villagers were asked to assemble in a certain common place where they can be interviewed.

**Team composition:** PRA is basically a team work. The team comprises insiders and outsiders. The members from the outside interact with the insiders and jointly learn and achieve the desired outcome. For the present work the outside members were the KTR officials, WWF and LBCS members.

- 1. Direct Observation:** An understanding of the life and livelihoods of people as well as the resources of different kinds that support and sustain the livelihoods demands a direct observation of the livelihood opportunities and resources. The outsiders cannot have a better, deeper and more comprehensive analysis of the resources by just sitting and interacting with a group of people in a village. The need to leisurely walk in and around the village, walk through the fields, spend a great deal of time in directly observing the resources of various types, interact with the people on the basis of observation and learn gradually.
- 2. Time Line Analysis:** It should be noted that every village has a past and every past is full of events, incidences, happenings, experiments, etc. The past carries a great deal of experience along it and they need to be carefully studied. The best prophet of the future is past and therefore, there is a need to study the past. Time line is an important PRA tool which enables us to peep into the past.  
A time line is a key events, changes and landmarks in the past, presented in a chronological order. It is a way of charting trends, showing how past events led to the present situation and illustrating recurring themes.
- 3. PRA mapping:** Rural people are the natives of the area and have a clear perception of the area where they have been living for long. They possess the ability to represent their surroundings very accurately and diagrammatically irrespective of their literary status. People can easily transfer the picture in their mind into maps. Maps are very effective and immediate source of communication.

Mapping refers to maps made or drawn by the members of the community on paper or on the ground. It also entails building three dimensional models on the ground. It is a process by which information is presented in a spatial form.

4. **Structured Questionnaire:** Interviewing is one of the major methods of data collection. It is defined as a two-way systematic conversation between an investigator and an informant, initiated for obtaining information relevant to a specific study.

SI is a focused interview. The interviewer under this type attempts to focus the discussion on the actual effects of a given experience. For the present study a number of questions were designed carefully to extract the socio economic condition of the villagers. Each and every household was interviewed and the questionnaire was filled up by the interviewer who was trained up in this regard prior to the household survey.

5. **Focus Group Discussion:** It's basically a group interviews. There are a great many uses for focus group discussion in combination with other methods or even as an independent method of qualitative data collection.

Focus group discussion is basically a group interview. A moderator guides the interview while a small group discusses the topics that the interviewer raises. What the participants in the group say during their discussions is the essential data in focus group. In action research focus group discussion has almost become the sole method of data collection.

**Sample selection:** Since the objective of the study was to collect socio economic data of the village and also to know about various livelihood opportunities in the village, only young adult male and female and old age people were taken as sample. Children were not allowed to participate.

**Secondary Data Collection:** Secondary information was collected from the following sources:

1. Management plan of KTR,
2. Books and journals: Different reports, books and journals were consulted to get the knowledge to write the Micro Plan,

## CHAPTER V: BACKGROUND OF THE EDC

### PRELUDE TO THE NATUNDANGA EDC:

The Natundanga Eco Development Committee was established in the year 2008, Mr Mongal Sing Teron is its President. There is a general body and an Executive committee having placed Mr. K. Mahanta as its Member Secretary. One member of each household of the constituting villages is a general member. The executive committee is formed with 11 members who are selected or elected at the general meeting by the general members.

A brief profile of the villages has been given below.

### TIME LINE AND HISTORY OF THE VILLAGES:

#### Natundanga

Natundanga is a roadside village having passes the NH 37 towards its south. It is a village which is abode to 68 households of mainly Karbi and Tea tribal communities dominated by the former. It is a very old settlement in the area where all the people are living in peace and tranquility.

Natundanga is a very old settlement in the fringe of the KTR. Though, long back people practiced Jhum in the north side of the Kukurakata Hill it has been stopped now. Population then was also very low in the village as is recalled by some of the elderly persons of the village. Though, about 70-75 years back there were only 25 – 30 households now it has been increased to 68 households as a result of family expansion. Due to paucity of health and education infrastructure Malaria, Diarrhea and Pox was very much prevalent killing huge number of people several years back. The situation has been reversed now due to use of mosquito nets by the villagers, spraying of DDT, etc. Till few years back flood was also very common in the village but, it occurs very sporadically now-a-day. The flood now-a-day is sporadic and of less intensity because of two reasons as has been stated by the villagers – firstly, Brahmaputra has gone far and secondly, the rainfall has gone down significantly.

**Name of the village: Natundanga**

**Name of the Development Block: Kaliabor**

**Police Station: Jakhlabandha**

**Post office: Amguri**

**District: Nagaon**

**Village boundary: North: Kukurakata Reserve Forest (RF); South: NH – 37 and Bagser RF; East: Amguri Tea Estate and West: Rangalu village.**

Located at a distance of around 1 km from NH37 towards the North Natundanga is quite an old settlement that started in the area long before independence. All are Hindu people belonging to the ST category in the village. Agriculture is the prime livelihood activity of the villagers apart from the wage earning activities. The villagers are highly forest dependent and the degree of the man animal conflict is also high in the village.

## CHAPTER VI: MICRO-PLAN FOR NATUNDANGA EDC

1. **INTRODUCTION:** The Natundanga EDC was formed in the year 2008 under the Forest Development Agency programme of the Government of India.

Mr Mongol Sing Teron is the president of the EDC and Mr K. Mahanta is the Member Secretary. At least one member of all the households of the village is general member of the EDC. The EDC has been taking the cause of conservation and working for the betterment of the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve since its inception. The present Executive body of the Natundanga EDC is as follows:

<b>President</b>	: Mr Mangol Sing Teron
<b>Member Secretary</b>	: Mr K. Mahanta, Forester.
<b>Executive members</b>	: Sri Ajoy Teron
	Sri Gandhiram Singnar
	Sri Rajib Killing
	Sri Joysing Teron
	Sri Ayesha Tissopi
	Sri Bina Rongpharpi
	Sri Jonali Rongpharpi
	Sri Joshila Singnarpi
	Sri Bipul Teron

2. **LOCATION, ADMINISTRATION AND FACILITIES:** Some of the basic information of the Natundanga village has been furnished in the table below:

Sl no	Information	
1	Name of the village	Natundanga
2	Name of the EDC	Natundanga
3	Forest Beat/ Range	Buhrapahar
4	Post office	Amguri
5	Block	Kaliabor
6	Police station/ outpost	Jakhalabandha
7	Total household	68
8	Total population	337
9	Livestock population	436

Source: Household survey and PRA.

- 2.1. **Details of human population:** Natundanga is a tiny village having abode to only 68 households. All the households belonging to Karbi community and are Hindu by religion. The village is very sparsely populated having only 337 total populations. The family size is also very small, i.e., only 4.95 per household.

Populations of Natundanga village

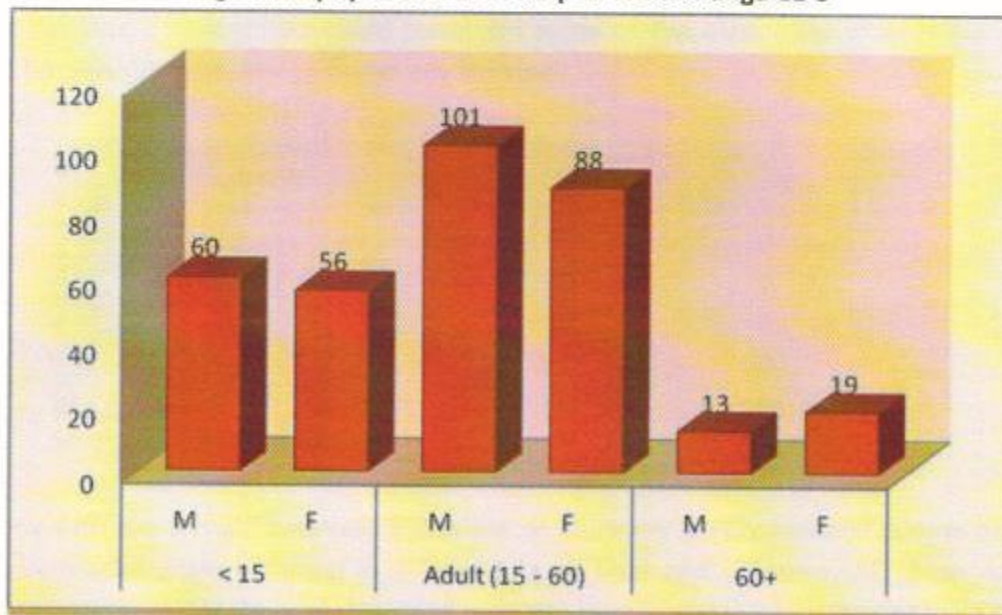
Category	TH	TP	< 15		Adult (15 - 60)		60+	
			M	F	M	F	M	F
ST	68	337	60	56	101	88	13	19

Source: Household survey.



As has been shown in the table above that there are 101 adult male as against 88 adult female members in the village having male female ratio of 871 per thousand which is a bit discouraging. As against this the male female ratio in the age group of below 15 years of age is encouraging to be 993 per thousand. The dependency ratio in the village is very high which is about 78% indicating very high pressure on the working group of population for earning their daily meal. The population of the Natundanga EDC can be shown with the help of the following diagram.

**Age wise population break up of Natundanga EDC**



**2.2. Working population and their availability:** Since most of the villagers are engaged primarily in the agricultural activities during the farming season, i.e., from June to November, they are not available for other works. But, they can be withdrawn during the months when there is no agricultural activities are undertaken. Wage earning activities and collection of NTFPs from the nearby forest are two important occupations of the villagers.

**2.3. Details of educational background of the villagers:**

Villages	I - V	VI - X	XI - XII	BA	MA	Total
Natundanga	74	41	4	1	0	120 (35%)

Source: Household survey.

Corroborating the fact of dismal performance in the educational front in our country as a whole, the Natundanga village also performs very poorly in this sphere. Out of the total 337 people only a meager 120 persons have some or other kind of educational attainment representing only 35% literacy rate. As has been shown in the table above if we go towards the right hand side of the table where it represents the higher education the picture is rather gloomy. Therefore, for improving the overall socio-economic conditions of the village, development of the human resource (so as to utilize other available resources in the village) is a pre-requisite.

3. **LIVESTOCK:** Livestock are domesticated animals raised in an agricultural setting to produce commodities such as food, fiber and labor. Livestock are generally raised for profit. Raising animals is a component of modern agriculture. It has been practiced in many cultures since the transition to farming from hunter-gatherer lifestyles.

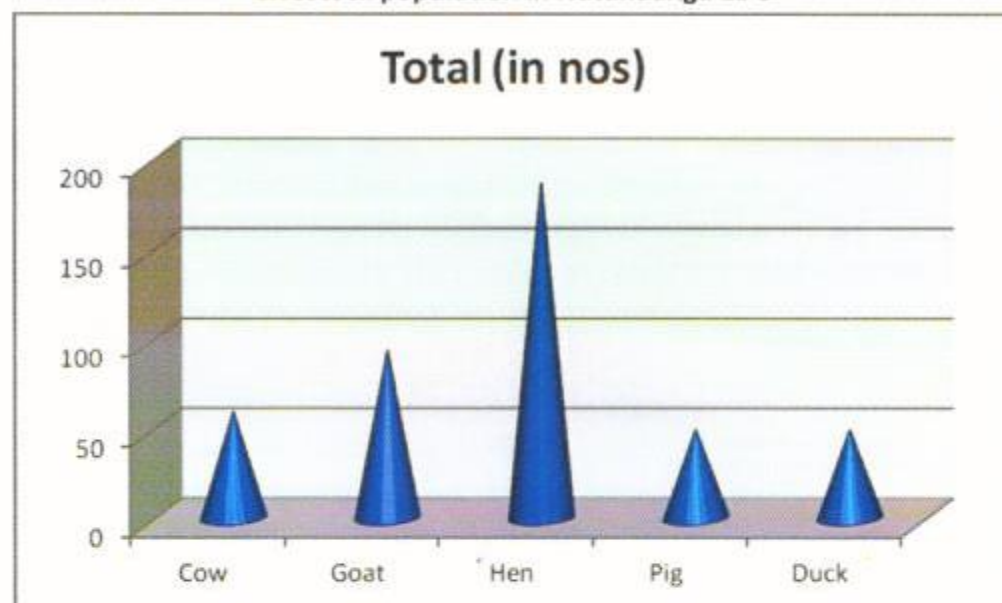
3.1. **Details of livestock population:** Natundanga village has a good number of livestock in the village as has been shown in the table below. The problems with these huge livestock population are the same as in the case of other such villages in the fringe of the KTR, i.e., free grazing and no vaccination. Almost every household possesses some or the other kind of livestock. There are only 12 households who don't possess any livestock.

Types of livestock	Household nos having livestock	Total (in nos)	Stall fed
Cow	12 HHs have no cattle population at all.	59	0
Goat		93	0
Hen		186	0
Pig		49	0
Duck		49	0

Source: Household survey.

The irony with these huge livestock is that the productivity is very low and people don't rear it from commercial angle resulting in a huge loss of time and resource. All these issues need immediate attention for the betterment of both the people and the wild lives of the KTR.

Livestock population in Natundanga EDC



3.2. **Fodder availability:** As is clear from the above table that the crop residue as a source of fodder has very limited scope in the village. The crop residue forms only a very tiny part of the whole fodder requirement for the cattle population of the village. It can fulfill the requirement for not more than four months of the year. The problem of landlessness and crop raiding by the wild animals resulting into destruction of the crops are the two prime reasons for non-

availability of crop residue for cattle feed. Therefore, grazing takes place on both the village agricultural fields and the KNP round the year. Apart from these people also rely upon the cattle feed available in the markets.

Fodder supply at Natundanga EDC

Types	Using period (months)
Crop residues	4
Trees	0
Grasses	0
Green fodder	0
Grazing in village	12
Grazing in the PA	12 (except flood period)

Source: FGD, PRA.

It seems the fringe villagers keep huge cattle population since they have the nearby forests which cater to the needs of the fodder requirements of the cattle they keep. It, perhaps, act as a big incentive to keep huge cattle and other livestock population.

4. **Land and land holding:** Assam is predominantly an agrarian state. About 70 – 80 percent of the people depend on agriculture. The main crops produced are rice, maize, sugarcane, oil seeds, etc. Tea and jute are two of the most important commercial crops of the state. Though, the state is an agrarian state its productivity and production is low in comparison to the other states of the country. One of the main reasons is the absence of modern methodology which can only be applied where land is consolidated and size of the land holding is big. But, in Assam the size of the land holding is very small and marginal. There are also the problems of landlessness. There is a very high degree of fragmentation of land holding which is untenable and unproductive.

- 4.1. **Land in the village (in Bigha):** Land as a resource is very scarce in the Natundanga village. There are 40 bighas of community land which is under the use of different community purposes. Some amount of land has been kept for holding Rongker Puja and some are for the community graveyard and the like. There are only 104.5 bighas of agricultural land in the village. Land man ratio is a meager 2.11 bigha per household.

	Category	Area (in Bighas)
1	Community land	40
2	agricultural land	104.5
	Total land	144.5

Source: Household survey and PRA.

- 4.2. **Irrigated land:** Irrigation is one of the most important components of the modern method of farming in our country. The farmers of the village are yet to switch to modern mode of agriculture. One of the traditional characteristics of our agricultural scenario is the dependence on the monsoon for water. The irrigation may be provided through canals and through STW/DTWs installation or from the ponds, beels, etc. The irrigation scenario in the Natundanga EDC is as follows:

		Land (in Bighas)
1	Irrigated by river	No
2	Irrigated by STW/DTW	No
3	Irrigated by other sources	12

Source: FGD, PRA.

The irrigation scenario in the village is very bleak as can be seen from the table above. There are no institutional arrangements for irrigation facilities in the villages. It is the individual efforts of one or the other villagers which lead to some kind of arrangement of water into the agricultural fields from ponds, etc. The water has been procured through such efforts on some 12 bighas of land in the village. People cannot afford STW and the government facilities (schemes) for agricultural development are miles away from these villages.

- 4.3. **Current land use:** Land is basically used mostly for construction purposes. People of the village have limited land resources. There are only 104.5 bighas of land under agricultural activities. The scenario of land and land resources are very much visible from the table below:

		Land (in Bighas)
1	Agriculture single cropped	104.5
2	Agriculture double cropped	0
3	Agriculture fallow/no crop	0
4	Fruit plantation	0
5	Jhum	0
6	Small tea gardens	4

Source: FGD, PRA.

All the agricultural lands are under single cropping in the village. Double cropping was very much prevalent a few years back. People used to cultivate both winter and autumn paddy which have been discarded later on. Though now, only winter crop is practiced but of late some people have started growing summer paddy in their field. For summer paddy the water is being flown into the agricultural field from the hill stream. No agricultural land remains fallow for any time during the year. Kamal Teron, a village youth, has started growing tea in his five bighas of land for last four years. There are interested villagers who want to grow tea on their small plots of land, but due to paucity of support the dream has yet to come true.

- 4.4. **Agricultural land holding:** Similar to the land holding pattern in the state the Natundanga village also reflects only small and marginal agricultural land holding pattern. The table below represents the scenario in the village:

	TH	Land (in bighas)
Large (> 4 hectares)	0	
Medium (2 – 4 hectares)	0	
Small (1 - < 2 hectares)	3	30

Marginal (< 1 hectares)	25	74.5
No agricultural Land	40	0

\*TH: House Hold; Source: Household survey.

The land holding pattern of the village is a very sorry state of affair. There are not a single household who possess more than two hectares of land. Three households possess land in between one to two hectares. There are 25 marginal land holders and 40 households don't possess any amount of agricultural land. Therefore, it seems that the overall land holding scenario is very gloomy in the village. Landlessness is a big problem. The marginal land holding cannot be brought under modern mode of agriculture. The only possibility is formation of growers or producers cooperative for which they need to be oriented and assisted.

5. **Village resources (infrastructure):** The basic infrastructural facilities in the village are in a rudimentary state. Most of the facilities are distantly located. To avail the important facilities like hospital, veterinary hospital, weekly market, etc. people have to make long distance. Veterinary, which happens to be one of the most important services in the fringe areas of forest where there are a sizeable numbers of cattle population and which graze openly in the KTR, is at Kaliabor and Police station is at Jakhalabandha which is at a distance of 16 and 10 km respectively. The status of some of the infrastructural facilities can be gauged from the table below:

Basic infrastructure in Natundanga EDC

Type of resources	Availability	Distance (in km)	Status
LP School	Yes	0	Inside the village
ME	No	2	
High School / Higher Secondary school	No	10	Jakhalabandha
PHC	Yes	1	Sub centre at Rangalu village
Hospital	No	10	At Jakhalabandha
Veterinary hospital	No	16	At Kaliabar
GP office	No	3	At Amguri
Police station	No	10	At Jakhalabandha
Forest office	No	2	Burhapahar
Post office	Yes	3	At Burhapahar
Bus facility (Roads)	Yes	0	Beside the village
Weekly market (friday)	Yes	10	At Jakhalabandha
Tank/ pond	Yes	0	
Drinking water	Yes	0	Piped from hill stream

Source: Household survey and FGD, PRA.

The high school is situated at Jakhalabandha which is at a distance of 10 km from the village. Though there is sub centre to procure health facilities in Rangalu village which is only 1 km away from the village the sub centre is not performing well. Drinking water is a real problem in the village. The water, flowing from the hill stream, is collected at different locations by the villagers through pipes. There are no other sources for drinking water in the village.

6. **Market facility:** Market is one of the most important facilities needed for socio-economic development of a region/ village. The most basic items consumed in day-to-day lives of the people are being purchased and sold in the market. Distantly situated markets reflect a scene of deprivation for the people of a particular village. The market scenario of the Natun Danga village can be shown with the help of the following table.

Nature of facility (purchase/sale )	Location (name)	Distance
Grocery shop	1 (inside the village)	0
PDS	1 (at Rangalu)	1
Weekly market (Haat)	1 (at Jakhlabandha)	10

Source: Household survey and FGD, PRA.

There is only one grocery shop in the village. Even the PDS is situated at the neighboring village, i.e., Rangalu. Weekly market is at Jakhlabandha (10 kms away from the village), held on Sunday. The villagers face hardship in availing even their basic requirements for which they need to make a long distance.

7. **Institutions:** There may be different kinds of institutions in a village. These institutions are vital agents to change. Socio-economic changes depend on the roles of such institutions. The EDC is an institution which works for employment generation, assets creation, conservation of bio-diversity, etc. leading finally to the socio-economic development of a village. Similarly, the SHGs also play a very crucial role in changing the socio-economic conditions of a village. Other such institutions are Cooperative society, Youth club, Mahila Samiti, etc.

Institutions	Numbers	No of member households
EDC	1	All
SHG	2	11 members each

Source: FGD, PRA.

There is one EDC and one SHG in the village. By rule all the households are the members of the EDC. There are two SHGs (one male and the other female) comprising 11 members each. The SHG has not even embarked upon any productive business though can be motivated for all kinds of positive socio-economic and environmental change. The male SHG is working well and is running a hotel where they cook and provide traditional food to the people (tourists) who place demand for the same.

8. **Sources of water:** Drinking water is one of the important parameters of the good health of individuals. Contaminated drinking water is the root cause of many diseases in our country. Therefore, pure and safe drinking water is a pre-requisite for good health. But, the Natundanga village depicts (the table below) a murky picture as far as drinking water is concerned.

Sources	Number	B	D	I	L	Status (seasonal/ perennial)
Pond	8					
Tube well	16	Y	Y		Y	Y
Ring well	5	Y	Y		Y	Y

PHE supply connection	0					
River	0					
Stream	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	Perennial

Source: Household survey and FGD, PRA.

\*Bathing, Drinking, Irrigation, Livestock

Water is a big problem in Natundanga village. There are only 16 tube wells and 5 ring wells to procure to the needs of 68 households. Though earlier hill stream was a major source of water for the villagers but the situation has been changed now. There are only one household depending upon the hill stream for water for all purposes. Water from the hill streams are being flown into the village by using pipe and though installing taps the water is being collected for all purposes in the case. The water from the hill streams are used primarily to procure water into the agricultural fields. There are no other sources of water in the village.

#### 9. Energy requirements:

Type of fuel	Applicable	Users	No of months of major dependency	Sources
Fire wood	Yes	All	November to February	Home garden and surrounding forests
Crop residue	No	0		
LPG	No	0		
Electricity	No	0		
Bio-gas	No	0		
Kerosene	Yes	All	Summer	Market / PDS

Source: Household survey and FGD, PRA.

The scenario of energy is very bleak in Natundanga village. Fire wood and kerosene for all purposes are being extensively used as there are no other sources of energy available in the village. Dependency for the fire wood on the forest is very high. All the households use fire wood for cooking and there is not a single LPG connection in the village. They use the dead tea saplings as fire wood which constitutes only a miniscule part of their total demand of fire wood. A huge amount of their demand is being met by the Kukurakata hill which is inside the KNP area and the Bagser reserve which is to the south of the KNP and NH. It is important to note here that a good number of people of the village collect fire wood from both the hills and sell in the nearby Dhabas at throw away prices, to earn a meager livelihood, making huge damage to the environment. Bagser is also a good habitat of the wild animals (especially during annual flood huge numbers of animals migrate to this reserve) and by any means needs to be conserved. Therefore, the issue of fire wood in the village is to be resolved at the earliest. The demand is the highest in winter since in the winter the fire wood has multiple uses.

Kerosene is also a problem in the village. They generally collect it from the PDS shop situated at the Rangalu village. Each household is entitled to 4 liters of kerosene per month at Rs 20/liter. But, eventually these four liters always fall short for most of the households and the demand is met by the candle.

10. **Forest protection issues:** Smuggling of timber is not an issue as far as forest protection is concerned. People, of course, collect other NTFPs including fuel wood which forms a substantial amount of their daily use. In fact, fuel wood collection from the nearby hills like Kukurakata RF and Bagser RF is a good source of livelihood for many villagers who sell it in the roadside Dhabas at a throwaway price. Apart from the fuel wood other leafy vegetables are also collected especially for consumption purpose. Some of the edible items collected by the villagers from the wild are given in the following table:

Some of the leafy vegetables collected from the forests	
Local (Karbi) name	Assamese name
Dumcake	Dhekia
Henru	Kachu
Tara	Tora
Ingchupok	Bet gaj
Mehek	Mejeng leaf
Sansangri	
Shanthu	
Preelangdung	
Preekangnek	
Shanrichang	
Shanthai	
Delap	
Wochou piban	
Jokaan	Tita phul
Aarlong sowat	

Source: FDG, PRA.

As has been shown in the table above that there are a number of items that the villagers collect from the forests. Most of these vegetables are for domestic consumption and not for commercial purpose. The table also shows the local Karbi name of the vegetables as against Assamese name. Though the vegetables are collected round the year during winter it is abundant in quantity.

Issues	Presence	Status (on the basis of volume and frequency)
Collection of timbers	Yes	Insignificant
Collection of fuel wood	Yes	Significant
Collection of NTFPs	Yes	Insignificant
Poaching of wild animals	No	No
Grazing	Yes	Significant
Encroachment	No	
Others	No	

Source: Household survey and FGD, PRA.



Timber collections are there for construction purposes but it is of very tiny amount. Generally the villagers construct houses by using the bamboo poles. The pressure of grazing is also significantly high in the village. All the cattle are set free in the morning only to return back in the evening on their own. People don't practice stall feeding at all.

11. **Household dependency on forest and forest products:** Generally, a person who graze his/her livestock on the forest, collects different kind of NTFPs and firewood and thatching materials from the forest for both commercial and domestic purposes can said to be highly dependent on the forest.

Level of dependency	No. of House Holds
High	All
Medium	Nil
Low	Nil

Source: Household survey and FGD, PRA.

Dependency of the Natun Danga villagers on the forests is very high. They are dependent on the forests for fuel wood (both for domestic and commercial purposes) and different kinds of leafy vegetables apart from the grazing ground for their cattle. They also catch fish during flood when fishes come out of different beels of the park. Keeping in view all these aspects it can be concluded that the people of the village are highly dependent on the forests for different purposes.

12. **Current income generation activities:** As has been mentioned earlier, due to the poor quality of human resources, livelihood prospect has been limited in the village. Most of the people, owing to some amount of agricultural land, indulge in farming activities. However, no modern and mechanical farming equipments are used and farmers are absolutely dependent on monsoon for the water. Agriculture is done in a very traditional way thereby leading to low productivity and production which barely fulfills their yearly requirements of food and other fundamental needs. Therefore, people resort to more than one activity for generating some amount of income. During agricultural slack season, people like to engage in whatever earning opportunity comes on to their way. During such slack season people have been engaged as daily wage labor in Burapahar tea estate, farming society, Rubber plantation and stone quarrying.

Current income generating activities in household numbers

Sl no	Livelihood category	Nos. house holds
1	Daily wage laborer	35
2	Farmer	36
3	Service	0
4	Business	0
5	Weaving	0
6	Daily wage + Business	0
7	Business + Farmer	0

8	Daily wage + Farmer	4
10	Daily wage + Service	0
11	Service + farmer	0
12	Service + Business	0
13	Weaving + farmer	0
14	Daily wage + Business + Farmer	0
15	Other	1

Source: Household survey.

As is clear from the table above that there are only two different activities where all the people in the village are engaged, i.e., farming and wage earning activities. There are no alternative sources of livelihood for the villagers and therefore, it seems that the village has been entered into a critical cycle of low productivity-low income-low capital spiral. Therefore, this vicious cycle is to be broken by identifying and generating some alternative livelihood activities through EDC initiatives.

### 13. Economic status:

Category of house	Nature of house	No. of house holds
Kutcha house	Thatched roof, mud floor, etc.	39
Pucca house	RCC/ tin roof, cement floor	29
Electrified		0
Owning livestock		57
Owning tractors		0
Owning mechanized farm implements		0

Source: Household survey.

Most of the households have kutcha house having thatched and tin roof with mud floor. There are 39 such households who have kutcha houses. Some of the households, indeed, have pucca houses all of which are constructed under the IAY scheme. 20 households have both kutcha and pucca houses. 57 households have different kinds of livestock while 11 HHs have no livestock at all. As has already been mentioned that since agriculture is done in a traditional way there is no mechanical farm equipments in the village. It can be said in a nut shell that the all the households are of poor economic background.

### 14. Wellness status:

Economic conditions of Natundanga village don't seem to be sound. It has been seen from the above table that almost all the households own kutcha houses. Those who have pucca houses have been built under the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) scheme of the government. None has the LPG and electricity connection. Moreover, the agricultural implements are age old and traditional having no mechanized modern equipments in the village.

Wellness status	Nos. of households
Well off	
Manageable	
Poor	66
Very poor	2

Source: Household survey and FGD, PRA.

Land man ratio is very low here forcing people to resort to daily wage earning activities. Looking into all the aspects it can be concluded that the villagers' wellness status is poor. There is hardly any household whom can be offered the well off status. According to the villagers Sonasing Tokbi and Bubu Teron is the poorest of all. Both these households have two members each in their family – one male and the other female. Bubu Teron is an elderly illiterate person and has some amount of agricultural land. He cannot harvest the crop since the crop is raided by the wild animals of KTR and therefore forced to do wage earning activity. Since he is an old person whenever he falls ill it becomes very hard for the other member of his family, who is a female, to earn bread and butter. Similar is the case for Sonasing Tokbi. Both the husband and wife collect fuel wood and other leafy vegetables only to sell in the market by others.

#### 15. Crop raiding by wild animals:

Names of animals	No of households afflicted	Frequency of crop raid	Seasons	Nos killed/ injured
Elephant	16	Very High	Oct – Nov	NIL
Wild boars	12	High	Oct – Nov	NIL
Buffalo	14	Medium	Oct – Nov	2 men
Monkey	0	Low	Round the year	NIL
Tiger (Picks domestic animals)	0	Low	Round the year	NIL
Rhino	12	Very high	Oct – Nov	2 men

Source: Household survey and FGD, PRA.

Man animal conflict is very prominent in the village. Though, there are no casualties in terms of man or animal, but animals like elephant, wild boars, buffalo and Rhino quite frequently raid crops and croplands causing huge damage to the income and property of the people. This year also about five houses have been destroyed so far in the village.

The crops of the villagers are quite often raided by the wild animals namely elephant, wild boars, buffalo and rhinoceros. The table shows the number of households afflicted by these animals in the last year. There are eleven households that have been raided by all these four animals at different point of time. The elephants destroy the paddy field, houses and banana trees. Wild boars eat up paddy and come generally in crop season. Buffalo also comes during crop season

and destroys the crops. The most pitiable story is that the villagers are not receiving any amount of compensation till date for such huge damage they concede to the wild animals.

**16. Household impacted by crop raiding animals:**

Crop damage during last 3 years	Nos. of household
High (> 70% crop and other damage)	11
Medium (50 - 70 %)	4
Low (< 50%)	2

Source: Household survey and FGD, PRA.

Though all the households are affected by the presence and attack by the wild animals, there are 11 households impacted by all the crop raiding animals like Elephant, Buffalo, Rhino and Wild Boars therefore can be termed as highly impacted households.

## CHAPTER VI: VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

Village development generally refers to the process of improving the quality of life and economic well-being of people living in a village. It is traditionally centered on the exploitation of land-intensive natural resources such as agriculture, water, fish, forestry, etc. Education, entrepreneurship, physical infrastructure, and social infrastructure all play an important role in developing a village. Village development is also characterized by its emphasis on locally produced economic development strategies. We need separate plan for each and every village since one is highly distinctive from another.

The Micro-plan facilitation team consulted the Executive committee of the EDC for identifying and prioritizing their problems. Care was taken to incorporate the interests of the forest dependent households. It was tried to ensure that the identified activities should not adversely impact the biodiversity of the forest. Since the fund is limited emphasis was given to affordable activities that could be completed from the available resources.

**Priority setting:** There are many problems to be solved in a village. But, each and every problem cannot be given an equal credence due to paucity of funds and therefore needs to be prioritized. The most urgent needs are to be solved first and so on. It is the villagers who know best about their problems and which need to be solved first. The following list of activities and priority ranking was done in consultation with the Natunanga EDC executive and other selected members of the EDC in an FGD.

The priority list of different activities is as below:

Sl no	Name of activity	Priority ranking
1	Drinking water	3
2	Electricity (solar)	6
3	Roads	1
4	Compensation for crop raid	5
5	Livelihood training programme	2
6	Health facility (health camp) / hospital	4
7	Veterinary facility	4
8	Adult education especially for women	7
9	Community hall, library, temple, child welfare centre	8
10	Power tiller	12
11	STW	12
12	Construction of school boundary	13
13	Financial assistance to female SHGs	14
14	Procurement of stitching machine, weaving loom, etc.	2
15	Assistance to the school children	13
16	Fishery, piggery, poultry, duckery, goatery, etc.	2
17	LPG	11
18	Travelling facility inside the KTR	9
19	Awareness education at school	10

Source: FGD, PRA.

The table above represents the villagers' priority for solving urgent needs. Improvement of the road is their first priority whereas want of livelihood is their second priority. The need was very much reflective of what was elicited in the household survey. Drinking water receives third priority whereas the health facility is their fourth priority. From the view point of the forest conservation one of the two most important deeds are to provide LPG, in absence of which they need to rely heavily on the fuel wood collected from the nearby forests creating ample pressure on the forest eco system. The second important issue to be resolved is to vaccinate the cattle population but ironically did not get any importance in the priority list supplied by the villagers. The issue was not discussed by the villagers even in the FGD. It is worth mentioning here that the villagers want to visit the Kaziranga National Park sometimes which is visited by thousands of domestic and foreign tourists across the world each season. Though their village is situated in the boundary of the KNP and thus feels alienated at not being able to visit the park.

#### Income generating activities:

Income generating activities which are both farm and non-farm based but don't adversely affect the biodiversity of the area. The beneficiaries of these activities may be both the individual and organisation. The activities had been identified by the EDC executive members and were approved by the general body on a later date. A time frame has been fixed for completion of the work. The activities are listed below:

Sl no	Activities	Beneficiaries	Year of implementation	Nature of support required
1	Weaving	SHGs	2015	Both technical & financial
2	Small tea garden	Individuals	2015	Both technical & financial
3	Supply of farm equipments	Individuals	2015	Both technical & financial

#### CAPACITY BUILDING:

##### Awareness creation:

Type of programme	Year	Frequency	Targeted participants
Awareness	2015	Quarterly	School children and the EDC members

Awareness regarding various issues of nature and wildlife conservation is of utmost importance in the village. Since, the EDC is located in the fringe of the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve, therefore, there is a need of generating awareness regarding forest and its ecosystem conservation. The school children could, thus, be groomed for future stewards for conservation in and around the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve.

**Capacity building/ skill development potential IGA:** Capacity building of the youths of the village is one of the important tasks in order to provide gainful employment opportunities. The target group will be both the interested youths and the drop outs (at different levels) of the village. The activities will be chosen so as to give some kind of hands on experience and thus will try to establish the youths on their own.

Target groups	Activities	Year of training	No of participants	Place of training/ training institutions
SHG	Mechanical	2105	50	Village premise
Drop out youths	training (carpentry, driving, etc.)	2015	50	Village premise
Interested individuals	Small tea gardens	2015	20	Village premise

The experts of the concerned field could be invited to the villages and the youths could be motivated for doing it in a scientific manner so as to get maximum benefit out of a tiny investment.

#### COMMUNITY BASED ECOTOURISM:

Promotion of ecotourism as an income generation activity in the village may be promoted. One should not confuse in using the term 'ecotourism' in a very liberal manner. It is not just about green destination but is much more about green behavior in reaching and exploring such destinations. The International Ecotourism Society defines ecotourism as:

*Responsible travel to natural areas that conserve the environment and improve the welfare of the local people.*

The IUCN defines it as:

*Environmentally responsible travel to natural areas, in order to enjoy and appreciate nature that promote conservation, have a low visitor impact and provide for beneficially active socio-economic involvement of local people.*

Community based ecotourism is a growing phenomenon in developing world. The community has substantial control and involvement in the ecotourism initiatives and majority of benefits accrue directly to the community.

Eco-tourists typically look for experiences that provide a sense of closeness to the natural features and local communities that attracted them to visit the destination. Any destination, therefore, must protect its resources while facilitating a sense of integration with the local community. An important ingredient of any tourism destination is accommodation, which is often a decisive factor in the choice of destination. Ecotourists prefer a clean, well managed small hotel located in a quite natural area that is built of wood and bamboo. They prefer to eat local food and sleep in a room decorated with local handicrafts and furnishing. Also, most international tourists are very environmentally conscious and want to stay in a place that does not negatively affect the environment.

Natundanga EDC is doing a fantastic job in this sphere.

## CHAPTER VII: PROJECT ACTIVITIES, BUDGET AND ANNUAL PLANNING

The micro-plan will prescribe various developmental activities and provide approximate estimate of funds and period for implementation. The activities listed here are on the basis of household data collected and prioritized in the EDC meeting as has been mentioned above. The fund requirement would be met by the KTR welfare fund and other sources that can be tapped by the park authority or the EDC itself. The activities include man-animal conflict mitigation, village development, capacity building, etc.

This is basically a five year budget for the EDC. It could be prepared for a long term also subject to the availability of fund. This is shown as below:

Activities	Year		Duration of work	
	Unit	Cost (Rs.)	Starting (month)	End (month)
<b>Man-animal conflict mitigation</b>				
Compensation for crop raid	Rs	5,00,000	August, 2015	March, 2016
Compensation for livestock	Rs.	1,00,000	August, 2015	March, 2016
Torch light	10	40,000		
<b>Village development</b>				
<b>EPA</b>				
Tube well	10 nos	2,50,000	August, 2015	March, 2016
Desk, benches, books, book shelf, etc. to the school		1,00,000		
Weaving shed	3 no	3,00,000	October, 2015	Nov, 2015
Community Hall		3,00,000	October, 2015	2016
LPG	68 no	3,06,000	August, 2015	March, 2016
Coaching class for IX & X standard students		50,000	July each year	
Electricity connection (to request the electricity department) or ministry of renewable energy				
<b>Plantation</b>				
Locally available fruit trees at the roadside like Lemon, Litchi, Mango, Kordoi, Amlokhi, Amora etc.	200 Nos	50,000	April - July, 2015	
Valuable tree at household premise like Agar, etc.	200 Nos	50,000	April - July, 2015	
<b>Common interest activity</b>				
Road (to request for PMGSY).				
<b>Livelihood improvement</b>				
Human health camp	2 Nos	80,000	August – Oct, 2015	Dec, 2015
Animal health camp	2 Nos	80,000	August – Oct, 2015	Dec, 2015
<b>IGA</b>				
Fishery	2 Nos	3,00,000	August - Nov, 2015	March, 2016
Goatery, piggery, poultry, etc.	2 Nos	5,00,000	August - Nov, 2015	March, 2016



Procurement of STW	10 nos	3,00,000	August - Nov, 2015	March, 2016
Procurement of power tiller	1	2,00,000	August - Nov, 2015	
Procurement of Stitching machine	10	2,00,000	August - Nov, 2015	
Procurement of looms	10	3,00,000	August - Nov, 2015	
<b>Capacity building programme</b>				
Awareness education	4 Nos	1,00,000	August, 2015	March 2016
Training in specific activity like carpentry, tailoring, electrical repairing, driving, computer training, mobile repairing, etc.	6 Nos	3,00,000	August - Nov, 2015	March, 2016
Exposure visit (EDC presidents initially) and visit to KTR inner area.	4 Nos	5,00,000	December, 2015	March, 2016

**MONITORING AND EVALUATION:**

Monitoring and evaluation is part of the Micro Plan. If not properly monitored there is every possibility that the Micro Plan may not be implemented to achieve its desired goals of overall village development. Therefore, there should be some agencies that will look after the works to be implemented and point out the lacunae at accurate time so as to rectify for the greater benefit of the villages. Review of implementation of the Micro Plan may be carried out in the following manner:

Sl no	Reviewing agencies	Minimum frequency
1	EDC executive	Every month
2	KTR, WWF, LBCS	Quarterly
3	EDC general body	Half yearly

The Natundanga EDC executive will be in charge of implementation of all kinds of schemes that have been outlined in the Micro Plan. Therefore, all the executive members have been proposed to sit and review the progress of the work monthly. The KTR, WWF and LBCS will meet quarterly and sit together with the executive members of the EDC and review whether the work is progressing towards desired direction. Finally, it is the EDC general members who will review and approve the work.

The reviewing agencies mentioned in Col.2 of the above table will also ensure necessary corrective steps as brought out by the review.

**ROLE OF THE LINE AGENCIES AND SUGGESTIONS:**

It has been realized that all the problems / issues cannot be addressed and solved by the forest department or the KTR authority. It is not always possible and also desirable on the part of the forest department or the KTR authority to bring panacea for all sorts of constraints of village development. It would be a gross mistake if somebody thinks so. Therefore, it would be proper for the park authority to negotiate with other line agencies like the department of Agriculture, Panchayat and Rural Development, Assam State Electricity Board, Public Health department, Veterinary department, PWD, etc. for overall socio-economic development of the concerned villages. A proper coordination, indeed, would ensure desired development of villages and thereby guarantee nature conservation to a large extent. The roles that could be played by the line agencies in the overall socio-economic development of the Natun Danga EDC have been summarized below:

**THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE:** The agriculture sector employs 52.9% of the total workforce and 46% of the total geographical area, making it a vital element for the inclusive and sustainable growth of Indian economy. Almost 41.8% of rural populations live in abject poverty and these poverty ridden people primarily depend on agriculture for their livelihood. For most of the farmers a noble thought of applying the modern and scientific technology in agriculture is a great luxury though there are no dearths of agricultural schemes. Natun Danga village is no exception. The small and marginal farmers don't even realize that a small dose of the green revolution package will improve their lifestyle to a great deal. Therefore, an endeavor should be made on the part of the park authority to invite the officials concerned in order to give them some kind of technical and other assistance so as to increase the productivity of the land and thereby improving the village economy.

**THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY:** Since the farmers are small and marginal having a small holding, application of modern technology is a distant dream for them. They do agriculture in a very traditional way by bullocks and other indigenous equipments. It is worth noting here that the bullocks during the farming season suffer from many diseases and people cannot attend to any doctor owing to no veterinary hospital nearby. It leads serious hardship and huge loss on the part of the villagers and therefore, there is an utmost need of attending the cattle and vaccinate it. On the other hand, inasmuch as the cattle are left free into the KTR and other nearby forests there is every possibility that the diseases may caught the wild animals. Therefore, vaccinating the livestock of the fringe villages should be the topmost priority. This will help both the poor farmers on the one hand and the wild lives of the KTR and other adjacent forests on the other.

**THE DEPARTMENT OF P&RD:** The department of Panchayat and Rural Development can be requested to deliver all kinds of facilities meant for the poor villagers in the fringe area of the KTR and especially for the Natun Danga village. The panchayat can procure numbers of household amenities and common facilities like construction of roads, low cost toilets, etc.

**THE ASEB:** There is a noble scheme of rural electrification named Rajib Gandhi Rural Electrification Programme under which the BPL households of the villages are given free electricity connection. The modalities of the scheme are that the concerned development block will prepare the list of the BPL families and handed over to the ASEB department and the department on their part would give the

necessary connection. Therefore, the KTR authority may discuss with the concerned officials of both the development blocks and the ASEB for delivering the services in the village in particular and all the fringe areas of KTR in general.

**THE DEPARTMENT OF PWD:** It has been mentioned above that the villagers are not connected with all weathered roads and therefore suffer a lot especially during monsoon. It has been realized at the same time that it would not be possible for the KTR authority, owing to paucity of funds, to build an all weathered road, which involves huge cost, for the villagers. Therefore, the department of PWD can be brought into the scenario at this juncture. It is the PWD department who is looking into the construction of the PMGSY (Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojna). Our suggestion is that the KTR authority should sit and discuss with the PWD for their intervention in this regard.

## CHAPTER IX: CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS:

By the mid 1970s, wildlife conservation in India had become conflict ridden in many places. Conflicts and clashes between PA managers and local communities were on the rise. Also, in many PAs, it was proving to be a struggle for the park managers to safeguard their charge to the levels prescribed by law. In a few places, resource managers began to come up with innovative, ameliorative measures that began to yield results, which went beyond mere protection. Consequently, the mid 70s through to the 80s and 90s of the last century saw the emergence of new thoughts and practices in the realm of forest and wildlife management in the country. Driven primarily by the realisation that the needs and aspirations of forest dependent communities had to go hand in hand with the demands of nature conservation, practices like the Joint Forest Management were adopted. This, in turn, led to innovative experiments by a few resource managers in different parts of the country. In the case of the management of protected areas (PA), a government of India document (1983) titled 'Eliciting public support for wildlife conservation' sowed the seed of a philosophy and practice which finally came to be called 'eco-development'. This had clearly arisen out of a felt need.

A prior baseline survey profiling demographic and socio-economic features of the fringe villages where the EDC is to be established is a *pre-requisite*. The aim of such a venture is economic upliftment of the underprivileged as well as better conservation of biodiversity.

Robust micro planning in full participation with all community sections, specially the SNGs (special need groups), has emerged as another critical ingredient of all round success. The nature of micro planning process necessitates devotion of substantial time and expert facilitation. Hastening of the micro planning process can rob it of its real value and usefulness. Appropriate capacity building of the different players e.g. PA staff, NGOs and members of EDC/EC is a *sin qua non* of success. Similarly, skill enhancement of SHGs in IGAs is essential.

Natundanga, situated at the fringe of KTR is surrounded both by the KTR on the one side and the NH on the other, is a highly forest dependent village. Dominated by the Karbi tribal communities the people of the village have limited employment opportunities. Large scale fire wood collection and selling is one of the major livelihood activities in the village. Though people practice agriculture, it is monsoon dependent and the age old methods of farming have been followed till date culminating into low productivity and production. It has been realized that both the villages have many important issues to be addressed immediately. Livelihood is a major issue to be resolved, of course though they have different priorities altogether. Compensation for crop raiding by the wild animals, irrigation, etc. are some of the issues related to agriculture resolution of which, indeed, will strengthen the village economy. The roads are in a bad shape in the village causing trouble for the people in many fronts. There is no electricity connection in the village. Therefore, the KTR authority may have a talk with all the concerned line agencies and request them to implement the government schemes for all sorts of socio-economic development of the village.

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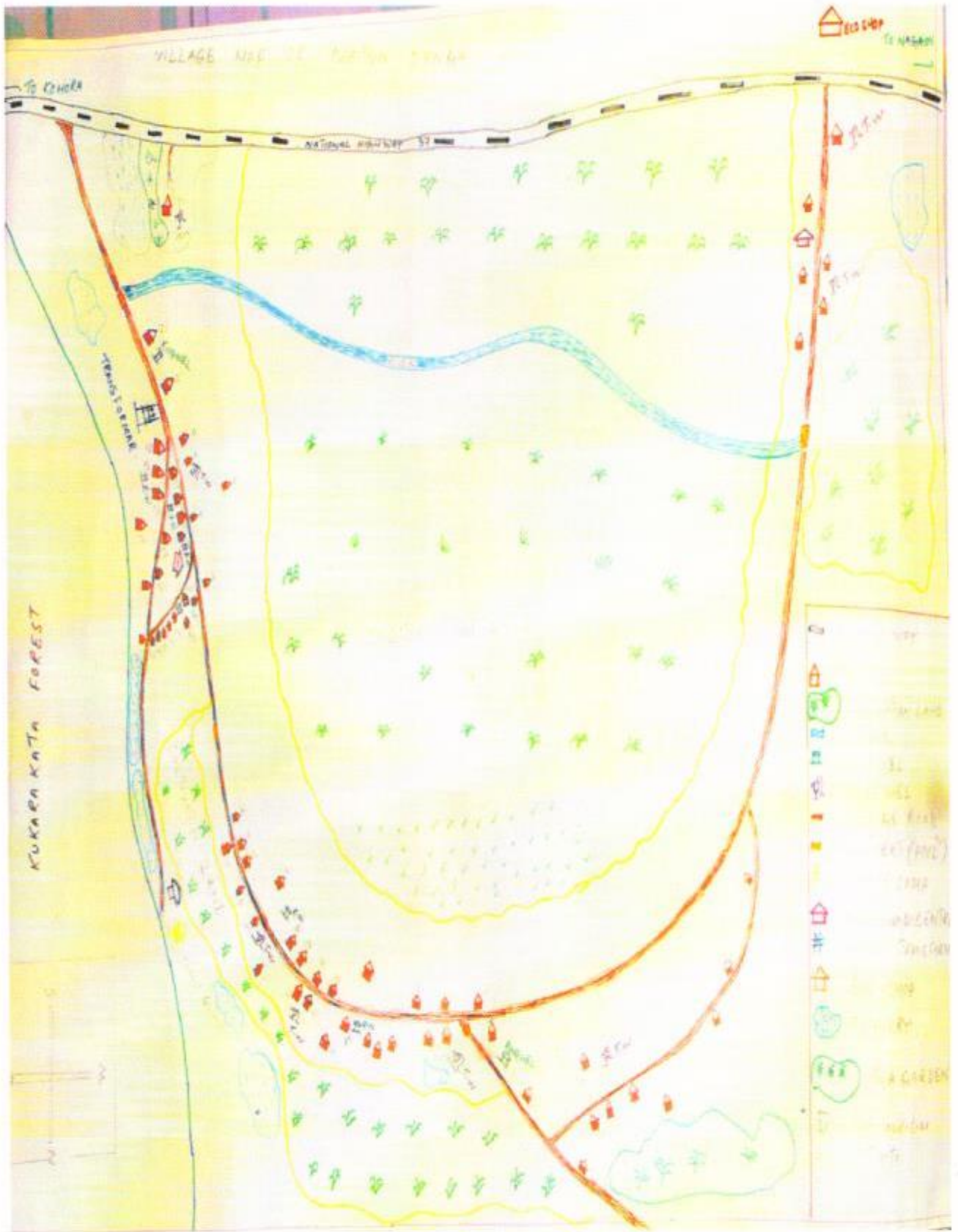
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# ANNEXURE

PRA Map of Natundanga village



### Some of the photographs of PRA with the Natun Danga EDC









village - Natun Langsa E.O.C

কাজিৰঙা ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় উদ্যানৰ দাঁতিকাষৰীয়া  
গাঁওসমূহৰ আৰ্থ-সামাজিক অৱস্থাৰ তথ্য সংগ্ৰহ  
২০১৩-২০১৪

তথ্য সংগ্ৰহ :

স্থানীয় 'ইক' ডেভেল'পমেণ্ট কমিটি

এল. বি. চি. এছ.

ডব্লিউ. ডব্লিউ. এফ.

পৰিচালনা :

এল. বি. চি. এছ. নগাঁও

ডব্লিউ. ডব্লিউ. এফ (ভাৰত)

কাজিৰঙা ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় উদ্যান কৰ্তৃপক্ষ

উদ্যোক্তা :

ৰাজ্যিক বন বিভাগ, অসম

তথ্য সংগ্ৰহৰ প্ৰশ্ন আৰ্হি প্ৰস্তুতকাৰী :

শ্ৰীকুলেন চন্দ্ৰ দাস, সহ-অধ্যাপক (অৰ্থনীতি), নগাঁও ছোৱালী মহাবিদ্যালয়

শ্ৰীদিলবাব হুছেইন, এল. বি. চি. এছ

# গৃহৰ তথ্য সংগ্ৰহৰ প্ৰশ্নসূচী

গাঁৱৰ ক'ড নং-						
প্ৰশ্নসূচী নং-						

তথ্য সংগ্ৰহৰ তাৰিখ : 12.3.2014

সময় : 11:18 AM

তথ্য সংগ্ৰহকাৰীৰ নাম :

১। *Sri Rajib Kiliing*

২।

৩।

৪।

৫।

তথ্য সংগ্ৰহকাৰীৰ চহী/ফোন নং :

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৩।

৪।

৫।



- ৫ -

- ১৫। উন্নত মানৰ চৌকা ব্যৱহাৰ কৰেনে : কৰে  নকৰে ।  
 ১৬। তলত উল্লেখিত সেৱা সমূহৰ বিৱৰণ :

সেৱা	গৃহপৰা দূৰত্ব (কি.মি.)	এই সেৱাক লৈ সঙ্কটনে (হয়/নহয়)	যোৱা ৫ বছৰত ইয়াৰ উন্নয়নৰ মূল খতিয়ান
প্ৰাথমিক স্বাস্থ্য কেন্দ্ৰ	২ কি.মি.:	হয়	
প্ৰাথমিক স্কুল (এল. পি.)	৬ কি.মি.:	৷	
মাধ্যমিক স্কুল (হাই মাদ্ৰাছা)			
উচ্চতৰ মাধ্যমিক বিদ্যালয়	৮ কি.মি.:	নহয়	
চিকিৎসালয়	২ কি.মি.:	৷	
বনবিভাগৰ কাৰ্যালয়	৩ কি.মি.:	হয়	
পানীৰ উৎস	জুৰি	নহয়	
বনাঞ্চল	১০০ মি.:	হয়	

- ১৭। খোৱা পানী ক'ৰ পৰা খায় : জুৰি ইয়াৰ দূৰত্ব ১০০ মি.।  
 ১৮। খোৱা পানী কোনে সংগ্ৰহ কৰে আৰু কিমান সঘনাই স্ৰাৱতা কামুহা সাংগ্ৰহ কৰে।  
 ১৯। ঘৰুৱা পোহৰৰ ব্যৱস্থা : ইলেকট্ৰিক, কেৰাচিন চাকি, সৌৰ শক্তি, বায়ুগৈচ  
 ২০। সপ্তাহত প্ৰয়োজন হোৱা শক্তিৰ পৰিমাণ ৪ মি.।  
 ২১। পৰিয়ালৰ সদস্য বিৱৰণ :

সদস্যৰ নাম	মুৰব্বীৰ লগত সম্পৰ্ক	বয়স	লিংগ	বিবাহিত/ অবিবাহিত	শিক্ষা	পেশা	আয়
শ্ৰীমতী সত্যমণি	মুৰব্বী	৩৮	স্ত্ৰী	বিবাহিত		কাম	মহু ৩
শ্ৰীমতী সত্যমণি	পুত্ৰ	১৭	পু.	অবিবাহিত		"	৩০০০২৫০
শ্ৰীমতী সত্যমণি	পুত্ৰ	১৫	স্ত্ৰী	"	সৰ্বমুখী	শিক্ষক	
শ্ৰীমতী সত্যমণি	"	১২	"	"	মহু	"	
শ্ৰীমতী সত্যমণি	"	১০	"	"	মহু	"	









২৫। কৃষিজাত সঁজুলি :

২৬। ভূমিৰ গুণাগুণ :

২৭। মাটিৰ অৱস্থিতি : ক) একেলগে অৱস্থিত  খ) পৃথকে অৱস্থিত ।

২৮। যোৱা ৫ বছৰত কৃষিক্ষেত্ৰত পৰিলক্ষিত হোৱা লক্ষণীয় পৰিৱৰ্তন :

ক) কেইবিধমান শস্য বেছিকৈ খেতি কৰা হৈছে।

খ) খেতি কৰা শস্যৰ বৈচিত্ৰতা আৰু ভিন্নতা বাঢ়িছে।

গ) পৰিমাণ আৰু ভিন্নতা দুয়োটাই বাঢ়িছে/কমিছে।

২৯। এই পৰিৱৰ্তনৰ কাৰণ :

৩০। কৃষি ক্ষেত্ৰত শ্ৰমিক নিয়োগৰ তথ্য :

শস্যৰ নাম	নিজৰ শ্ৰম			ভাৰতীয় শ্ৰম			
	কি কাম*	দিনে কিমান ঘণ্টা	কিমান দিন	কি কাম	দিনে কিমান ঘণ্টা	কিমান দিন	মজুৰি কিমান

\*কামৰ প্ৰকাৰ : শস্য চিকুণোৱা, শস্য ৰোপন, জলসিঞ্চন, শস্য চপোৱা, বজাৰ ইত্যাদি।

৩১। কৃষিত বাসায়নিক উপাদানৰ ব্যবহাৰ :

শস্যৰ নাম	কীটনাশক		বাসায়নিক সাৰ	
	পৰিমাণ (প্ৰতি বিঘা)	ব্যয় (প্ৰতি কেজি/লিটাৰ)	পৰিমাণ (প্ৰতি বিঘা)	ব্যয় (প্ৰতি কেজি)

৩২। কেতিয়াৰ পৰা এই বাসায়নিক উপাদান ব্যবহাৰ কৰিছে :

৩৩। এই উপাদানবোৰ ক'ৰ পৰা ক্ৰয় কৰে ?

৩৪। উৎপাদন বৃদ্ধিত ইয়াৰ বৰঙণি কি : বাঢ়িছে  কমিছে  একেই আছে .

৩৫। প্ৰশ্নধন :

জন্তুৰ নাম	চিকিৎসালয়লৈ নিয়নে	উদ্দেশ্য	মুঠ সংখ্যা (পোৰালি)		মুঠ সংখ্যা (প্ৰাপ্ত বয়স্ক)		মন্তব্য
			মতা	মইকী	মতা	মইকী	
গৰু							
মহ							
ঘোঁৰা							
গাহৰি							
কুকুৰা	কিটনাশক						৩৬২
হাঁহ							
ছাগলী	"						২৬২
ভেৰা							
অন্যান্য							

- ১১ -

৩৬। প্রতিদিনে প্রয়োজন হোৱা পশু খাদ্যৰ পৰিমাণ

জন্তুৰ নাম	খাদ্যৰ পৰিমাণ	উৎস			বজাৰৰ নাম	বজাৰ দাম	মন্তব্য
		ঘৰুৱা	বজাৰ	অভয়াবণ্য			
গৰু							
মহ							
ঘোঁৰা							
গাহৰি							
কুকুৰা							
হাঁহ							
ছাগলী							
ভেঁৰা							
অন্যান্য							

৩৭। পৰিয়ালৰ সম্পত্তিৰ তালিকা :

সামগ্ৰীৰ তালিকা	পৰিমাণ	ব্যৱহাৰ (ঘৰুৱা/ব্যৱসায়িক)	বৰ্তমানৰ সাম্ভাৱ্য বিক্ৰী দাম (টকা)
বেডিঅ'			
টেলিভিছন			
টেপৰেকৰ্ডাৰ			
চিডি প্লায়াৰ			
ঘড়ী	১ টি	ব্যৱহাৰ	৩০০ টকা
কেমেৰা			
টেলিফোন			
তিনি/চাৰিচকীয়া বাহন			
মটৰ চাইকেল			
বাই চাইকেল			
গৰু/মহ/ঘোঁৰা গাড়ী			
ঠেলা			
চ'লাৰ বেটাৰী			
পাম্পচেট			

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সামগ্রীৰ তালিকা	পৰিমাণ	ব্যৱহাৰ (ঘৰুৱা/ব্যৱসায়িক)	বৰ্তমানৰ সন্ত্ৰাৰা বিক্ৰী দাম (টকা)
টেবুল/পাৰাৰ টিলাৰ			
বেফ্ৰিজাৰেটৰ			
এল পি জি			
ফেন			
ইলেক্ট্ৰী			
প্ৰেচাৰ কুকাৰ			
চিলাই মেচিন			
কম্পিউটাৰ			
অন্যান্য			

৩৮। যৌথ সম্পত্তিৰ তালিকা :

সামগ্রীৰ তালিকা	পৰিমাণ	ব্যৱহাৰ (ঘৰুৱা/ব্যৱসায়িক)	বৰ্তমানৰ সন্ত্ৰাৰা বিক্ৰী দাম (টকা)
টেবুল/পাৰাৰ টিলাৰ			
পাম্প চেট			
পুখুৰী			
মাটি			
ধান বনা মিল			
চাকি মিল			
ঘানী			
অন্যান্য			

৩৯। বিভিন্ন সামগ্রীৰ উপভোগৰ শেহতীয়া সপ্তাহৰ তথ্য :

সামগ্রীৰ তালিকা	নিজৰ উৎপাদন	বজাৰৰ পৰা ক্ৰয় কৰা	বজাৰ দৰ
চাউল		১২০০০ → ১২ কে.জি	১২০০০/১২ = ১০০০
আটা/ময়দা			১১০০ " "
দাইল		১২০০০ → ১২ কে.জি	১১০০ " "
আলু		১২০০০ → ১২ কে.জি	১১০০ " "
পিয়াজ		১২০০০ → ১২ কে.জি	১১০০ " "
বিলাহী		১২০০০ → ১২ কে.জি	১১০০ " "

সামগ্রীর তালিকা	নিজস্ব উৎপাদন	বজাৰৰ পৰা ক্ৰয় কৰা	বজাৰ দৰ
জলকীয়া		২৫০ পুৰি	১ কে:ডি = ৪০০
চয়াবিন		১১ ⇒ ২৫০ পুৰি	১ " " = ১০
মাংস		১১ ⇒ ১ কে:ডি	১ " " = ২০০
মাছ		১১ ⇒ ১ "	১ " " = ১৫০
শুকান মাছ		১১ ⇒ ২০ কে:ডি	১ " " = ২০০
গাখীৰ			১ " " = ৪০
চেনী			১ " " = ৪০
নিমখ		মাংস ⇒ ১ কে:ডি	১ " " = ২২
মছলা		১১ ⇒ ১ কে:ডি	১ " " = ৩০০
চাহপাত			১ " " = ২০০
কেবাচিন তেল		২৫০ পুৰি ⇒ ৪ কে:ডি	১ " " = ৪০
খৰি		২৫০ পুৰি ⇒ ১ কে:ডি	১ পোৱাল ⇒ ১০০
চিগাৰেট/বিডি			১ কে:ডি = ২৫০
সুৰা	নিজস্ব উৎপাদন		১ কে:ডি = ৩০০
ফলমূল			
শাক-পাছলি			
অন্যান্য			

৪০। লঘু বনৌপজ সংগ্ৰহৰ তথ্য :

সামগ্রীর তালিকা	ব্যৱহাৰ	কোনে সংগ্ৰহ কৰে	সপ্তাহত কিমান দিন	কিমান মাহ	কিমান বিক্ৰী কৰে	বজাৰ দৰ	বৰ্তমানৰ স্থিতি
শুকান ডাল	খৰি	সুৰমা	১০ দিন	২৫০ পুৰি	১০০০	১০০০	১০০০
গছৰ পাত	পশু খাদ্য						
শিপা, বাকলি	দৰৱ, বিক্ৰী						
ফল-মূল	খাদ্য বিক্ৰী						
শাক	খাদ্য বিক্ৰী						
শিমলু তুলা	উপভোগ বিক্ৰী						
খেৰ	ঘৰুৱা						

৪০। লঘু বনৌপজ সংগ্রহৰ তথ্য :

সামগ্ৰীৰ তালিকা	ব্যৱহাৰ	কোনে সংগ্ৰহ কৰে	সপ্তাহত কিমান দিন	কিমান মাহ	কিমান বিক্ৰী কৰে	কাজৰ দৰ	বৰ্তমানৰ স্থিতি
নল, খাগৰি	ঘৰুৱা						
বিৰিণা, ঝাও	ঘৰুৱা						
মাছ	খাদ্য বিক্ৰী	গুৱাহাটী সংগ্ৰহকাৰী		২-৩ মাহত ৩-৪ ৰে	কৰিব		সংগ্ৰহ কৰা
অন্যান্য							

৪১। পৰিয়ালৰ মুঠ আয় (বছৰেকীয়া) : ৮ লাখ টকা

৪২। আয়ৰ উৎস :

ক) কৃষি কৰ্ম

খ) মজুৰীকৃত শ্ৰম

গ) ব্যৱসায়

ঘ) কুটীৰ উদ্যোগ

ঙ) ঔদ্যোগিক শ্ৰমিক

চ) মাছ মৰা

ছ) সেৱা খণ্ড (পিচিঅ', ঠেলা, গৰু-ঘোঁৰা-মহ গাড়ী, অট'ৰিস্কা, টাটা ম'বাইল, মিনি ট্ৰাক, নাৰবীয়া, গেবেজ, ড্ৰাইভাৰ ইত্যাদি)

৪৩। দৰিদ্ৰ সীমাবেখাৰ তলত পৰে নেকি : হয়  নহয় ।

৪৪। যদি হয়, এতিয়ালৈ কি কি চৰকাৰী সাহায্য লাভ কৰিছে। আই, বাণ, ছাৰ ।

৪৫। বেচন কাৰ্ড নম্বৰ : ০৬৫৫৯৪০

৪৬। যোৱা ৫ বছৰত গছ ৰুইছে নেকি : হয়  নহয় ।

৪৭। যদি ৰুইছে কি গছ ৰুইছে ?

৪৮। গছ ৰোৱাৰ কাৰণ কি?

৪৯। বনাঞ্চলৰ পৰা হোৱা আয় যোৱা ১০ বছৰত কমিছে নে বাঢ়িছে : বাঢ়িছে  কমিছে ।

- ১৫ -

৫০। অবৈধ কাৰ্যকলাপ বাঢ়িছে নে কমিছে : বাঢ়িছে  কমিছে ।

৫১। যদি বাঢ়িছে ইয়াৰ কাৰণ কি :

ক) ব্যবসায়ী গাঁৱলৈ আহে :

খ) সামগ্ৰীৰ পৰিমাণ বৃদ্ধি হৈছে :

গ) বে-চৰকাৰী সংস্থাৰ দ্বাৰা মূল্য সংযোজন কৰা হৈছে :

ঘ) চৰকাৰী-বে-চৰকাৰী সংস্থাই বজাৰৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত সহায় কৰিছে :

ঙ) বন বিভাগত নিয়োগৰ সুবিধা কমিছে :

চ) বিকল্প জীৱিকাৰ সুবিধাৰ অভাৱ হৈছে :

ছ) অন্যান্য :

৫২। উৎসৱ পাৰ্বন :

নাম	কেতিয়া পালন কৰা হয়	মন্তব্য
শ্ৰীমতী লুইচা	জানুৱাৰী-মাৰ্চ মাহত বৰ্ষিক কৰ্ম হৈছে	স্বাভাৱিক সংগঠন

৫৩। ধৰ্মীয় বিশ্বাস : হিন্দু

৫৪। কিবা বিশেষ বাধা নিষেধ : নাহি

৫৫। খাদ্যাভাৱ : নিৰামিষ  আমিষ ।