



## SUSTAINABLE CATCHMENT FOREST MANAGEMENT IN TRIPURA

# Newsletter

June 2025



During the inauguration of Ranger's Quarter and FPU Barracks, the Hon'ble Forest Minister Shri Animesh Debbarma distributed sports items among the youth under Tulasikhar Range under Khowai District.



An Awareness Generation Programme on the JICA Project was successfully conducted at Jagna Kobra Para under Tulashikhar RD Block, aiming to sensitize the rural community about sustainable forest



management and livelihood initiatives. The event was graced by the Hon'ble Forest Minister, Shri Animesh Debbarma, whose presence encouraged active participation from the villagers, especially the



youth. As part of the programme, sports kits and jerseys were distributed to promote youth engagement and foster a spirit of teamwork and healthy living within the community

The District Management Unit Chief, Sepahijala, Shri Sumit Deb visited various SCATFORM plantation sites under Jampuijala Range, Bishalgarh. During the visit, he inspected the 30-hectare AR Misc plantation at Khumpuibodol JFMC under Kalkalia Beat, which showed excellent stock percentage and very good growth. He also visited the 20-hectare AR Misc plantations at Dingroi JFMC and Amarendra Nagar JFMC under Amarendra Nagar Beat, where the plantations were found to be in very good and good condition respectively. The visit highlighted effective plantation management and active participation of the JFMC.



Under the SCATFORM Project, Madhumakkhi Self-Help Group (SHG) of Jalai Beat under Kailasahar Subdivision has successfully initiated a piggery unit as part of their livelihood activity. The group is currently rearing 10 piglets under maternal care in a well-maintained shed, reflecting the SHG's active involvement and commitment.



This asset has been created through a loan availed by the SHG, showcasing their financial initiative and effective utilization of project-supported credit facilities.

The District Management Unit (DMU) Chief, Unakoti, shared this encouraging development and appreciated the SHG's efforts in building a sustainable source of income. The initiative not only supports enhanced livelihoods for the members but also stands as a model for other SHGs in the region, underlining the positive impact of the SCATFORM Project on forest-dependent communities.



A Social and Financial Audit Orientation Programme for West Tripura and Sepahijala districts was conducted on 08.05.2025 at the PMU, Agartala, under the Tripura JICA Project (SCATFORM).



The session aimed to build awareness and capacity among stakeholders on transparency, accountability, and effective implementation of project activities through participatory audit processes. In addition, SHG audits were conducted across all districts, including Kumarghat, Sabroom, and Karbook, as part of the ongoing efforts to strengthen community-based financial management and governance.



The newly constructed Ranger's Quarter and FPU Barrack at Tulashikhar Range, Khowai were officially inaugurated by Hon'ble Forest Minister Shri Animesh Debbarma, marking a significant step towards strengthening field infrastructure. The inaugural event was followed by an Awareness Generation Programme aimed at sensitizing the local community on sustainable forest management and livelihood initiatives. As part of the programme, sports items were also distributed to the youth. Shri Debbarma visited the stalls set up by the Self-Help Group (SHG) members at the event and encouraged them for their active engagement and promoting a spirit of teamwork and healthy living within the forest fringe communities.





Few glimpses from today's visit of Director (M&E), Shri Harshakumar C., IFS to Kanchancherra Beat under Kanchanpur Subdivision. The visit included field inspections and interactions with local stakeholders to assess the progress and impact of SCATFORM interventions at the grassroots level.



Shri Harshakumar .C. also visited the Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary to observe conservation efforts and habitat improvement measures being undertaken under the project.

Glimpses of DCPN (De-centralized People's Nursery) activities under Bishalgarh SDMU highlight the active participation of local communities in nursery development. A 1,000 nos. DCPN has been established at Nazrul JFMC under Amarendra Nagar Beat, while a 10,000 nos. DCPN is being maintained by Dinther SHG at Zarzwi JFMC under Thelakung Beat, Jampuijala. These nurseries play a crucial role in ensuring timely and quality planting material for plantation activities under the SCATFORM Project.



Shri Pravin Agrawal, IFS, CEO & PD, interacted with JFMC Presidents during the Review Meeting cum Interaction Session held in Unakoti. The session aimed at reviewing the progress of field activities,



addressing challenges, and enhancing community engagement under the SCATFORM Project. Shri Agrawal emphasized the importance of grassroots leadership and encouraged active participation of JFMCs to ensure effective implementation and long-term sustainability of project interventions.





A training programme for JFMC members was conducted at SIPARD under the Tripura JICA Project (SCATFORM) to enhance their understanding of sustainable forest management, livelihood development, and institutional responsibilities. The training aimed to build the capacity of community leaders for effective participation and implementation at the grassroots level.



As part of the field engagement under the SCATFORM Project, a visit was conducted to the Ecotourism Destination at Twisinta Lake. During the visit, interactions were held with EDC members to review ongoing activities, understand local challenges, and explore opportunities for strengthening ecotourism-based livelihoods.



This picture shows the M-III R.C.C. Check Dam at Magroom under South District, as shared by NPCCL. As observed, approximately 75% of the construction work has been completed. Following the dismantling of the water diversion, there has been a noticeable increase in the pondage area. However, significant site development work remains pending and requires timely attention for overall project completion.





The Chief Executive Officer & Project Director, Shri Pravin Agrawal, IFS, visited Charilam Beat under Bishalgarh Range of Sepahijala DMU as part of his field inspection. During the visit, he reviewed ongoing activities under the SCATFORM Project and thoroughly inspected various registers and records maintained at the beat office. The visit emphasized the importance of proper documentation, transparency, and effective implementation at the field level.



In a proactive move to address a discord over dialogue, a joint visit was conducted at the M-III Check Dam site under Machhmara Range. The visit included officials from the PMU, NPCC Ltd, DFO, and other key stakeholders, aiming to resolve issues collaboratively and ensure smooth progress of the work under the SCATFORM Project.



A review meeting with all District Management Unit Chiefs (DFOs) was held on 17th May 2025 at 11:30 AM in the Conference Hall of the PMU. The meeting focused on assessing the progress of field activities under the SCATFORM Project, addressing implementation challenges, and planning for upcoming targets. Key issues related to plantation, livelihood, infrastructure, and community engagement were discussed in detail to ensure timely and effective execution of project components.



An exposure visit was organized for Livelihood Coordinators and Community Organizers under the SCATFORM Project to the Sikkim Biodiversity



Conservation and Forestry Management Project (SBFP) funded by JICA. The visit aimed to provide hands-on learning and share best practices in sustainable forest

management, community-based livelihood models, and project implementation strategies. The team interacted with officials, field staff, and local community members, gaining valuable insights to enhance the effectiveness of similar interventions in Tripura.



To celebrate the International Day of Biological Diversity, a Seminar and Blood Donation Camp was inaugurated at Pragna Bhavan, Agartala by Hon'ble Forest Minister Shri Animesh Debbarma. The event was jointly organised by the Tripura JICA Project and the Tripura Biodiversity Board, aiming to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity conservation while fostering a spirit of social responsibility through voluntary blood donation. The programme witnessed active participation from officials, students, and members of civil society.

Officials from the Tripura JICA Project visited Self-Help Groups (SHGs) under the Tripura Rural Livelihood Mission (TRLM) in Udaipur, Gomati District to gather insights into best practices and successful livelihood models. The visit aimed at strengthening convergence and enhancing community-based livelihood interventions



under the SCATFORM Project. The delegation included the CEO & PD, Shri Pravin Agrawal, IFS, along with Director AFA, Director M&E, and other project officials, who engaged with SHG members and TRLM staff for cross-learning and future collaboration.



JICA officials, including Shri WAKAMATSU Eiji, Senior Representative, JICA India, Ms. ISOGAI Mayumi, JOCV Coordinator, and Shri Joyanta Raba, Senior Project cum Administration Officer, arrived on a two-day visit to the Tripura JICA Project (SCATFORM).



During their visit, they reviewed project activities and progress while also interacting with key stakeholders. The delegation visited the Natural Colour Extraction (NCE) Centre and the Bamboo & Cane Development Institute (BCDI) to observe value addition and skill development initiatives. They also reviewed the work of JOCV volunteer Hirokazu Matsumoto, appreciating his contributions to community capacity building and livelihood development.



International Yoga Day 2025 was celebrated at the PMU with great enthusiasm to mark the global occasion dedicated to health and well-being. Officials and staff of the Tripura JICA Project (SCATFORM) actively participated in the yoga session, promoting physical and mental wellness.



## YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE NEWSLETTER

You can also consider inspiring stories of individuals who are doing exemplary work which need to be shared with us. This will provide recognition to individuals and provide opportunities for all to learn from the experiences. You can share your experiences with our field personnel.

You can also write to us at [tripurajica@gmail.com](mailto:tripurajica@gmail.com) Or send your hand written document by post to Chief Executive Officer & Project Director, Sustainable Catchment Forest Management Project, Prakriti Bhawan, Gandhigram, West Tripura-799012

Published by: M&E Wing  
Tripura JICA Project (SCATFORM)