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## Linkages of different developmental agencies in baster plateau of Chhattisgarh

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**Abstract**

The presented research work carried out in Baster plateau of Chhattisgarh, the ex-post facto research method used, total of 320 respondents taken for the study. Respondents engaged in badi farming for additional income. There were many development agencies works to support the livelihood of the tribal farmers. 67.11 per cent of the respondents got financial support from the cooperative bank. More than 50 per cent of the respondents got technical support in badi farming from horticulture department. Highest physical support provided by cooperative societies to badi farmers.

**Keywords:** Agencies, badi farming system, linkage, livelihood, tribal farmers.

**Introduction**

A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets and activities required for a means of living. It is deemed sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities, assets and activities both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base. The concept of sustainable rural livelihoods is increasingly central to the debate about rural development, poverty reduction and environmental management. Households combine their livelihood resources within the limits of their context and use their institutional connections to pursue several different livelihood options. Such options can include various types of production and income-generating activities. Thus, each household can have several possible sources of entitlement, which constitute its livelihood. These entitlements are based on the endowments that a household has and its position in the legal, political and social fabric of the society. The sustainable livelihood approach assumes that any developmental intervention for the rural people should be congruent with their existing livelihood options and ability to adapt the technology. A livelihood security analysis should determine the livelihood options portfolios that different individuals pursue and the factors that determine them. Livelihood options of the respondents were also studied (Rathod, 2007) [2].

Bastar is situated in the southern part of Chhattisgarh. It is spread on 39.06 lakh hectare area. About 63% area is under forest and the tribal community dominates in this biodiverse region. The people are very poor and the livelihood depends on subsistence agriculture, collection of non-timber forest produce (NTFP), labour and small ruminants. The tribes of Bastar region are known for their unique and distinctive tribal culture and heritage in India and all over the world. Each tribal group in Bastar has its own distinct culture and enjoys its own unique traditional living styles. Each tribe has developed its dialects and differs from each other in their costume, eating habits, customs, and traditions and even worships the different form of god and goddess. The tribals of Bastar were also amongst the earliest to work with metal and have expertise in making beautiful. The first livelihood security of the farming community depends on agriculture and the second one depends upon forest and non-timber forest produce. It focused more on the net income of farm families rather than the million tones of farm commodities produced. The government also showed a serious concern of the farmer's problems and given special emphasis on the development of rainfed and irrigated agriculture for augmenting food supply and generating employment in rural areas. Urines of local goats, votive animals, oil lamps, carts and animals (Patil *et al.*, 2012) [1]. A kitchen garden is more than just a vegetable garden – It has vegetables but it also has flowers, fruits and herbs, all fresh and convenient to the nearby mainly kitchen.

Homestead gardening or backyard cultivation is common in India. The majority of kitchen gardening is done for beautification around the home and to meet domestic requirements. In Chhattisgarh, some area is left mostly backside of the home and used for cultivation of vegetables. This space is also used for other domestic requirements like cleaning utensils, bathing, keeping agriculture equipment, fuel and animal drinking water.

The excess water after use is diverted towards vegetables that grow without extra care and no separate time devoted to management. Thus what so ever produced shall act as a supplement in family food. These kitchen garden or backyard cultivation is locally known as Badi cultivation in Chhattisgarh. Badi cultivation has tremendous potential for improving the livelihood of tribes. Farmers are growing vegetables and some small units of enterprise viz. poultry, goatry, piggery etc. are maintained for self-consumption as well as selling purposes.

The Badi farming situation covers 5% area of the total region of Baster. The soils of Badi are Entisols and Inceptisol, fenced, upland and sloppy. To increase the income and livelihood from Badi, the various integrated farming system is applied by the tribal farmer. Maximum Badi cultivation was seen in Baster plateau of Chhattisgarh, there were many people engaged in Badi farming and received additional income.

### Materials and methods

The study was conducted in the Bastar plateau zone of Chhattisgarh state. Bastar plateau comprises of seven districts. Out of this, four districts were selected purposively based on the maximum availability of *bodies*. From each selected district two blocks were selected randomly. In this way, a total of eight blocks was selected for this study. Four villages from each selected block were selected randomly because of the maximum tribal farmers engaged in *badi* cultivation. Ten farmers from each selected village were selected randomly as respondents. In this way total, 320 respondents were selected for the study. The data were collected through a well structured and pre-tested interview schedule; an interview schedule consisting of various types of questions related to the objectives of the study was, therefore developed. Initially, the schedule was developed in English and was then translated to the local language *i.e.* Hindi. The schedule was pre-tested and as per the experience gained during pre-testing the language of some of the questions was suitably worded and was made more understandable and clear and the schedule was then finalized. The data were collected by personal interview method by contacting the respondents (farmers) at their home. The respondents did hesitate to give the required information in the beginning. To get the authentic information the help of local leaders, sarpanch, member of gram panchayat, Kisan Mitra, and Rural Agricultural Extension Officers (RAEOs) were sought and the rapport was developed with the respondents.

### Results and discussion

#### Linkages of different developmental agencies to support in *badi* farming

Regarding linkages of different development agencies in *badi* farming, data accessible in Table 1 elaborates that respondents got technical support from different agencies for *badi* farming whereas, more than 60 per cent respondents got technical support from department of horticulture followed by 56.25 per cent of the respondents received technical support from department of agriculture, 52.18 per cent of the respondents got technical support from krishi vigyan kendra, 35 per cent of the respondents got technical support from department of veterinary, 30 per cent of the respondents

received technical support from department of forest, 23.43 per cent of the respondents got technical support from agriculture college, 16.25 per cent of the respondents received technical support from NABARD and only 5.62 per cent of the respondents got technical support from NGOs.

Regarding financial support, data presented in Table 1 revealed that respondents got financial support from five agencies, whereas majority (67.11%) respondents got financial support from cooperative societies followed by 16.87 per cent respondents got financial support from Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank, 12.50 per cent respondents got financial support from state bank of India while only 7.81 per cent of the respondents got financial support from punjab national bank.

Regarding physical assets support, data offered in Table 1 elaborated that respondents got physical assets from different agencies, whereas 67.11 per cent respondents got physical assets (seed, fertilizer, machine etc) from cooperative society, 58.43 per cent respondents got physical assets from department of horticulture, 48.43 per cent of the respondents received physical assets from department of agriculture, 39.37 per cent of the respondents got physical assets from krishi vigyan kendra, 28.75 per cent of the respondents got physical assets from department of veterinary, 16.25 per cent respondents received physical assets from NABARD, 5.62 per cent of the respondents got physical assets from NGOs while 4.37 per cent of the respondents physical assets from department of fishery.

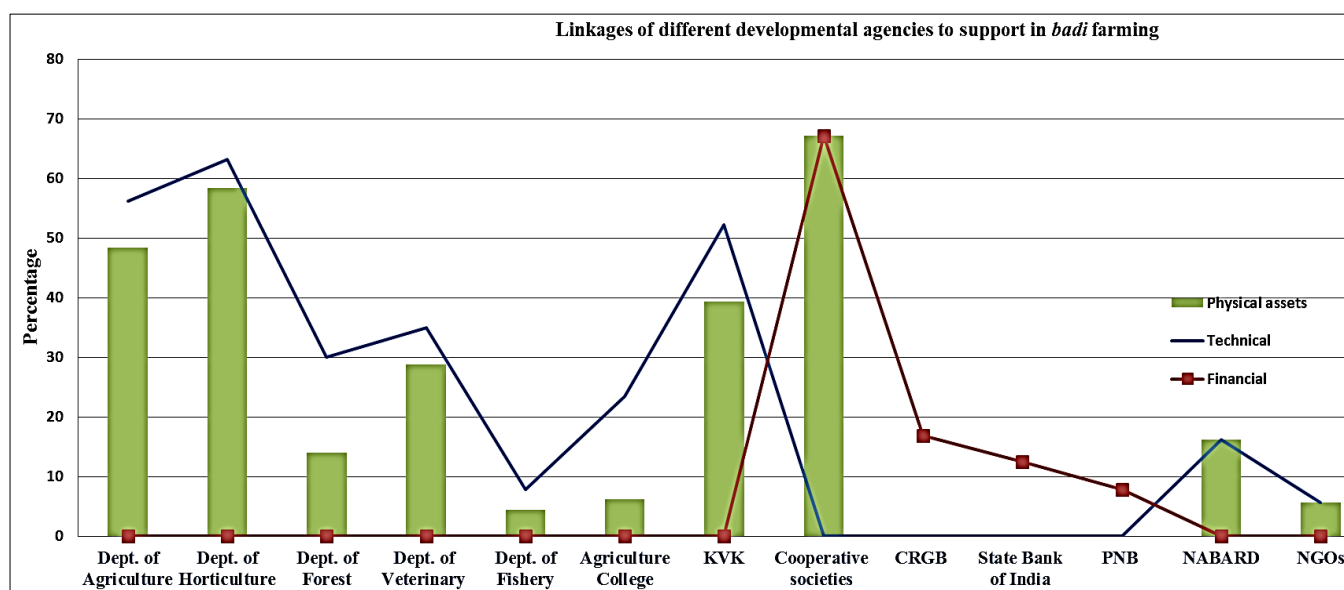
Further data concluded that respondents had good linkage from different development agencies for technical support as well as for direct and indirect financial support because of technical and financial support required for commercial *badi* farming, lowest linkage occurred from department of fishery because of most of the respondents prefer vegetable farming, dairy production etc. but which have a large scale of land they did fish farming.

Simtowe *et al.* (2012)<sup>[3]</sup> indicated that the proxy variable for access to agricultural extension *i.e.* contact with government extension workers where information on improved varieties is access returned a significant and positive coefficient. The findings highlight the significant role of government as the source of various information or as a provider of extension services, particularly for pigeon pea. Most pigeon pea varieties are disseminated through field days and participatory variety selection, and government extension workers play an important role in such activities. Usman *et al.* (2013)<sup>[4]</sup> indicated that most (50.8%) of the farmers had extension contact only once in a year, 30% had no extension contact at all, 10% of the farmers were visited by extension workers on monthly basis and few (9.2%) of the farmers had contact with extension workers on weekly basis. The findings imply that there were weak and or no extension coverage by the extension workers in the study area, which might have a negative implication on the acceptance and adoption of improved agricultural technology which repercussions leads low agricultural productivity by the farmers. This agricultural procurement and extension agencies need to work together to meet the needs and aspirations of farmers in the study area to promote food security. This enhances the development of confidence in the agriculture extension agents by the farmers (Uzonna and Qijie, 2013).

**Table 1:** Distribution of the respondents according to linkages of different developmental agencies to support in *badi* farming

Sl. No.	Name of Agencies	Technical		Financial		Physical assets	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Deptt of Agriculture	180	56.25	-	-	155	48.43
2.	Deptt of Horticulture	202	63.12	-	-	187	58.43
3.	Deptt of Forest	96	30.00	-	-	45	14.06
4.	Deptt of Veterinary	112	35.00	-	-	92	28.75
5.	Deptt of Fishery	25	7.81	-	-	14	4.37
6.	Agriculture College	75	23.43	-	-	20	6.25
7.	KVK	167	52.18	-	-	126	39.37
8.	Cooperative societies	-	-	151	67.11	151	67.11
9.	CRGB	-	-	54	16.87	-	-
10.	State Bank of India	-	-	40	12.50	-	-
11.	PNB	-	-	25	7.81	-	-
12.	NABARD	52	16.25	-	-	52	16.25
13.	NGOs	18	5.62	-	-	18	5.62

\*F= frequency, %= percentage

**Fig 1:** Linkages of different developmental agencies to support in *badi* farming

## Conclusion

Results concluded that many agencies work for the development of livelihood of the tribal farmers. Agencies gave direct indirect both support to farmers for *badi* farming. Generally, respondents got three support *i.e.* financial, technical and physical supports from different agencies where someone agency gave financial support only and someone gave technical support and someone gave physical support. Agencies play a great role in enhancing livelihood through *badi* farming.

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