

**EXPLORATION OF LIVELIHOOD ENHANCEMENT OPTIONS THROUGH
FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN IN BASTAR DISTRICT, CHHATTISGARH
STATE**

Dissertation Submitted to



The IIHMR University, Jaipur

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Master of Business Administration (MBA)

in

Rural Management

By

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Under the Supervision and Guidance of

Dr. Hemanta Kumar Mishra

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DECLARATION

My dissertation titled "**Exploration of Livelihood Enhancement Options through Forest Management Plan in Bastar District, Chhattisgarh State**" and it represents my original research. I confirm that it is not being submitted for diploma or degree awards to any other university or institution. There has been acknowledgment of information derived from the work of others, whether published or unpublished.

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Roll No:

Date:

ABSTRACT

This study aims to suggest a comprehensive strategy for the implementors by identifying the processes of administration and activities during implementation of Community Forest resource management plan (CFRMC). More comprehensively, in the study we tried to understand the capacity of (livelihood enhancement) adaptation of CFRMC in the selected village of Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state. This has been done by identifying bottlenecks from three segment such as procedural, structural, capacity which has been measured during the implementation of the CFRMP. The emerged gaps from the study may facilitate the policy makers, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and state government to learn more for effective intervention by correcting the process.

As per Forest Right act 2006, CFRMP has been segregated into two parts i.e., “Plan for Protection of Community Forest Resources”, and “Plan for Livelihood Augmentation”. The first part of the act “protection of community forest plan” mostly consists of rules regulations, norms, and penalty-related aspects to protect the available community forest resources for present use as well as for future use. Whereas the second one Plan for Livelihood Augmentation i.e., the restoration plan, includes procedures to conserve and regenerate community forest recourses up-to its full potential and the livelihood plan emphasizes livelihood augmentation of the local community and protection of forest ecology. Besides, “Plan for Livelihood Augmentation” is also an integral part of the CFRMP.

Hence, overall objective of the CFRMP is to initiate a systematic and organized intervention for the conservation and management of the forest resources in a comprehensive manner through our own initiative to ensure that enough employment is generated, income is enhanced, and values of better management and regeneration is established amongst community members. In this concern, to understand the work done in the recent past literature review was done to understand the progress and challenges.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to convey my heartfelt thanks to Prof. Rahul Ghai, Dean, School of Development Studies, The IIHMR University, Jaipur for providing me with an organization, I wished to work. I would like to convey my heartfelt thanks to my advisor Dr. a Kumar Mishra, Assistant Professor, School of Development Studies, IIHMR University, Jaipur. The door to office of him has been always open and welcomed, whenever, I felt that I stuck in a problem and had a question about my dissertation.

I would like to express my gratitude towards Dr. Sharadchandra lele, Distinguish Fellow, ATREE, Bangalore, who always guide me in validating the gathered information during the survey. His constant support, passionate participation, and input has helped me to get the result of this research project, and without his support the survey could not have been conducted successfully.

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the dissertation titled “**A Study on– “Exploration of Livelihood Enhancement Options through Forest Management Plan in Bastar District, Chhattisgarh State”**” is a record of the original research work undertake by Anubhav Shori in the partial fulfilments of the requirements for the award of the degree of MBA (Rural Management) from the IIHMR University, Jaipur. He has been done this dissertation work under my guidance and supervision, and his approach to the research study has been sincere, scientific, and analytical.

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ABBREVIATIONS

GOI	Government of India
MoEF&CC	Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change
ISFR	India State of Forest Report
JFMC	Joint Forest Management Committees
FSI	Forest Survey of India
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
CGMFPFED	Chhattisgarh Minor Forest Produce Federation
MDF	Moderately Dense Forest
FRA	Forest Rights Act
MFP	Minor Forest Produce
MoTA	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
SHG	Self Help Groups
VO	Village Organizations
CFRMC	Community Forest Right Management committee
CFRMP	Community Forest Right Management Plan
VSS	Van Suraksha Samiti
MOTA	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
MOEF	Ministry of Environment and Forest
NGO	Non-Government Organization
CSO	Civil Society Organization
PRI	Panchayati Raj Institution

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chhattisgarh, that celebrates the “youngest state”, is a carved-out state since 2000 has been famously known for its “tribes” that is surrounded by a space of 1,35,192 sq. km. The state covers 4.11% of the absolute geological space of the country (Census of India, 2011). The boundary of the Chhattisgarh is limited by Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Telangana, and Orissa from four sides.

The state is pinpointed at East Deccan physiographic zone and thus it is partitioned into three agroclimatic zones, viz. the Chhattisgarh fields, the Northern Hills of Chhattisgarh, and the Bastar level. There are 18 regions in the Chhattisgarh state, of which 11 are ancestral areas. As indicated by the enumeration report of 2011, the state has a populace of 25.55 million which records to almost 2.11% in India's populace, of which metropolitan, rustic, and ancestral populace in the state includes 23.24%, 76.76% and 30.62%, respectively.

Chhattisgarh having been renowned for mono-cultured state for "rice". Rice the primary harvest is cultivated in 3/5th of the absolute region, during the Kharif season.

The State of Chhattisgarh is home to 7.8 million tribal people. They make up roughly 30.6 percent of the state's population and are into forty-two different Schedule Tribe (ST) groups, all of which were counted in the census from 2001- 2011. Tribes and other forest-dwelling communities have strong and organic inter-dependencies, and their way of life is inextricably linked to the forest environment. Their livelihoods reliant on the usage of forest resources. The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognizing of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, aims to promote CFR-based governance and direct Gram Sabhas in managing their community forest resources in a sustainable, equitable, democratic, and transparent manner (hereinafter referred to as the Forest Rights Act or FRA).

The Gram Sabha, along with the committee for the preservation of wildlife, forest, and biodiversity established under FR Rule 4(1), has the authority to protect, regenerate, conserve, or manage CFRs in accordance with Sections 3(1)(i) and 5 of the FRA (e). Gram Sabha shall have the meaning specified in Sections 2(g) and 2(p) of the FRA. Each Gram Sabha is free to create its own easily understood conservation and management plan of CFR in a straightforward style, as well as to outline the laws and policies governing forest access, usage, and conservation; But after almost 16 years, it is clear that there have been significant set-back

in the implementation of the FRA's provision on community forest management committees and the management of community forest resources (CFRMP).

The Overall study is aimed to understand the status of CFRMC and CFRMP from the different dimensions such as administrative approaches and Capacities of CFRMC committees to protect, conserve and sustainable use and manage the Forest resources from entire Bastar.

However, the parallel pursuit of livelihood enhancement through subsidy-based non timber forest product (NTFP) schemes on one hand and the push for CFRR recognition on the other tends, tried to pull the development in different directions. Although well-intentioned, NTFP schemes relegate the NTFP gatherers to the status of beneficiaries with limited autonomy in the marketing process. They also pay inadequate attention to the sustainable NTFP harvesting, which is essential for forest well-being and for forest-based livelihoods themselves to remain sustainable in the future. On the other hand, CFRMP incorporates a broader understanding of the well-being of both forest-dwellers and the forest and represents inclusive decision-making as well as environmental sustainability as core values. By emphasising the active, decision-making role of the Gram Sabha in democratising forest management, CFRR holds potential for the enhancement of forest-based livelihoods through collective action in a manner that is sensitive to the question of environmental sustainability.

The Community Forest Rights Committee (CFRCMC) must be established by the Gram Sabha in accordance with the Forest Right Rule (Amendment) 2012 in order to sustainable way and reasonably manage community forest resources for the advantage of communities that live in forests as well as the preservation of the forest, wildlife, and biodiversity (GOI, 2016a). According to the GOI's (2016) recommendations, "the CFRC must carry out documenting of community forest resources (biological), tenurial system (such as the forest rights), and important socio-economic and traditional activities." Furthermore, the documentation should address issues like evaluation of present status, regeneration ability, pressure from resource demands, and sustainable harvest capability of different forest types. There are Three fundamental tenets for implementation of CFRMC — strengthening the Gram Sabha level system of community forest governance, protecting, community forest resources, and restoring community forest resources—form the foundation of the overall CFRM plan. This would aid in preserving and enhancing the community forest resources currently in place in order to maintain ecosystem services and goods essential to both current and future generations' ability to live healthy, productive lives.

Importance of CFRMC

Forest Resource dependence in Bastar District: Current status

Forest resource dependency in Bastar District is likely to be highest in tehsils with significant forest cover, namely Darbha, Jagdalpur, and Bakawand. Furthermore, it is seen that NTFPs may be collected either for own consumption (subsistence) or with the intent to sell as a source of income. Among the NTFPs, products such as mushrooms (*chhaati* or *boda*), tender plant shoots or *bhaji* (consumed as leafy vegetables), roots (*kaanda*), and bamboo shoots (*baasta*) are primarily collected for home consumption. A subset of forest-dwelling households sells them at the market for getting income. However, some NTFPs are gathered primarily with the intent to sell either because they are available in large quantities such as tamarind (*imli*), mango (*aamchur*), mahua flower, and medicinal plant products or because they (product like tendu leaf) cannot be consumed, locally.

Our village-level findings show that NTFP dependence for own consumption is universal regardless of landholding. All households collect edible NTFP for food, especially in the monsoon and winter. Some households sell them in the weekly markets either to private traders (*kochiyas*) or by setting up a stall themselves.

The participant households in the study included landless households (25% overall) as well as those with landholdings that were marginal (< 2.5 acres), small (between 2.5 and 5 acres) or large (> 5 acres). All households consumed edible NTFP to a greater or lesser extent.

Participation in the NTFP trade as a source of livelihood or cash income is shaped by the availability of other sources of livelihoods. NTFP incomes complement farming, which is the primary source of livelihood in Bastar district. However, commercial agriculture and casual and semi-skilled labour have grown in recent times to become important sources of income.

There are some components that can express the importance of CFRMC under FRA:

(a) Livelihood enhancement: How far are forest-based livelihoods augmented in terms of income and/or reduced opportunity cost of effort and time required to collect and sell NTFP and receive full payment through CFRMC.

(b) Equity: Are the benefits of livelihood enhancement fairly distributed among male as well as female NTFP collectors of all social groups and proportionately beneficial to disadvantaged sections of society, such as landless households, widows, and elderly persons?

(c) Financial sustainability: Are current CFRMP initiatives profitable or at least breaking even so that they can be financially sustained into the future?

(d) Ecological sustainability: Does state-led procurement promote sustainable harvesting practices to ensure forest well-being, which is not only inherently desirable but also necessary to sustain CFRMPs according to CFRMCs

(e) Empowerment: NTFP collectors able to exert autonomy in organising themselves to negotiate the terms of NTFP trade and manage the forest as a critical resource with the help of CFRMC.

The overall research finding is based on the current scenario of the implementation status of the Forest Right act as well as the formation and working of CFRMC including the initiative of local Administration that how much they contribute their capacity and resources in on-going work, therefore, to understand the overall scenario by the different dimensions, using separate research questions for that.

- Why The CFRMC recognition process has not yet covered more remote and better forested village in Bastar district?
- How much capable the Local Authority and CFRMC are for managing the forest resources in the study villages?
- Does it need more time to upscale the concept in other villages of the state or state can execute it simultaneously with current pedagogy?

To find the results from the specific research questions, specific objectives were set to as follows:

- To Understand the Capacity of (livelihood enhancement) adaptation of CFRMC in the selected village of Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state and
- To identify other bottlenecks (procedural, structural, capacity) seen during the implementation of the CFRMP which would facilitate the policy makers, NGOs and state government to learn more for effective intervention.

Chapter 2: Review of Literature (RoL)

The issues of poverty, migration, illiteracy, underemployment, food insecurity, and nutrition for thousands of tribal people in India were found to be made worse by a variety of reasons such as Ministry of MOEF ordered for displacement of Forest dwellers on 03.05.2002 which displaced about 300000 families from the Forest, which called Historical Injustice of Forest dwellers later. Due to the existing total resources of output, distribution of productive assets, and productive capacities being out of harmony with what is required, it has become clear that agriculture and animal production cannot provide tribal poor people with sustainable lifestyles. As a result, the indigenous people are compelled to rely on forest resources for their subsistence. For indigenous groups, forests offer a variety of livelihood opportunities, including direct work, self-employment, and auxiliary employment. The state of Chhattisgarh has made news for its priority on state buying of non-timber forest produce in order to encourage, forest-dependent livelihoods i.e., NTFP. The Chhattisgarh government increased the tendu leaf collection wage by 60% to Rs. 4,000 per standard bag of 50,000 leaves in 2019, benefiting 12.5 lakh tendu leaf gatherers, mostly forest-dwelling Adivasis. The state administration is also putting the Union Government-backed minimum support price for minor forest produce (MSP for MFP) Scheme into action. It set a support price for 14 NTFPs funded from its own budget, in addition to those funded through Union government money. The major gaps are that after high production of NTFPs in such area there is nothing example of an increase the profitable income through sustainable management practice by CFRMC. No study has been done in this entire region. Keeping this rational in view, the current research study attempted to understand the perspective of sustainable development of forest through the intervention of CFRMP.

ATREE Foundation, a non-profit organization is intervening the concept of CFRMP in Bastar District of the state of Chhattisgarh, where focus is given on the outreach of NTFP schemes as well as CFRR recognition. The district administration has facilitated both concepts in 40.0% of its geographical area covered by forest and a population of which 66.0% belong to the Scheduled Tribe or Adivasi category. This is the first village-level study of its kind in the Chhattisgarh state where assess to the dependency of forest-dweller on NTFP would be attempted to understand along with, other stakeholders' involvement and opinion on NTFP trade in context of a shift towards CFRR.

If the responsibility is left to tribal communities, we may not even presume a priori that they should manage forest resources in a sustainable manner. Like any other community, tribal people can be touched by changes in socioeconomic factors. Some of these changes may lead to internal strife, making it difficult for them to proceed with the collective acts needed for the effective management of forests. Some community members might be encouraged to extract wealth in an on both way by the monetary incentives offered by an outside actor.

Moreover, it is incorrect to assume that tribal people are aware of the necessity for but all of the procedures needed for forest management. We therefore should reiterate the importance for state regulation and the need for knowledgeable and driven governmental and non-governmental groups to engage. The major concern here is how to make things easier for tribal people to use the community rights to forests in a way that enhances their livelihood while yet following with this law. We may not focus on this aspect of the FRA, This is based on the belief that tribal people's welfare would dramatically improve even if the FRA is simply applied in forest regions that are not part of national parks or animal sanctuaries.

As long as these activities are carried out in accordance with applicable legal of the land, we may not take a stance against the use of or diversion of natural forests for industrial purposes (and are not driven by cronyism). Therefore, we are not expected to address issues that are ideologically charged, such as whether or not industrialization should occur, whether or not tribal members should also have the right to self-determination, and whether or not tribal communities' socio-cultural characteristics should be preserved indefinitely. This is because we believe that if the FRA gets caught up in these ideological arguments, its implementation could be perpetually postponed.

Campaigns and group actions are required, as evidenced by the experience of the Gadchiroli region, where the FRA is being implemented with a fair amount of success in comparison to other states. Collective action from of the local level, impactful, collaborative and centralised outreach and scientific inputs from mobilizations and civil society organisations; and an adaptable and constructive government, led by an amount of sensitive district collectors, are all mentioned in the Maharashtra Citizens Report. As a result, actors at the regional, taluka, and village levels underwent a number of learning processes to comprehend and analyse the law's provisions and their implications for assisting long-running local fights for resource use and government rights. Groups in Gadchiroli improved their understanding of the FRA through these study circle procedures.

This is a village that is always "celebrated" when we talk about the introduction of FRA in India. Mendha-Lekha village is located in the Gadchiroli district. According to Maharashtra's citizens report, "the hamlet has been able to ensure successful village and forest governance, resulting to the security of jobs, economic and food security, secure control of resources, and cultural and environmental security." This community has developed into a model for other communities to follow in order to learn good village administration and forest management.

The tribals could gather bamboo from the forests and sell it in villages. For particular tribal habitations⁶, this has resulted in large revenue (to the tune of 9–16 lakh rupees). According to other case studies done in the Gadchiroli district, indigenous people's living conditions have improved noticeably, including their financial gains⁷. These financial benefits include the pay for collecting NTFP as well as a royalty depending on the number of homes in a habitation, which is calculated as the sales revenue minus the total of collection.

Literature also revealed that the Grama Sabha must be a key player in the FRA's implementation. As Per the concept, "a village assembly that shall include of all members of a hamlet and in case of that have no Panchayats, Para, Tolas, naar and other village institutions and village heads bodies, with full and unfettered participation of women". The role of the Grama Sabha is specifically defined in the Act. It "shall become the power to introduce the process to determine the extent and nature of individual or community forest rights" by "receiving claims, combining and verifying them, and preparing a map defining the area of each suggested claim in such a manner as may be determined for the exercise of such rights".

Key purpose of CFRMC under the provision of FRA

The communal forest has been traditionally protected and managed by members CFRMC. But as ownership of the forest resources was ignored, it got harder and harder to make our claims, rights to safeguard, manage, and conserve our forest. Though, the Gram Sabha, rights and authority have been acknowledged under the Indian Forest Rights Act of 2006. The Gram Sabha has previously acted for acknowledgment of communal forest resource rights claim that was presented to the SDLC and approved at both the SDLC and DLC levels based upon the FRA's 2006 provisions. We are creating this strategy and coming up with detailed standards, procedures, systems, and strategies for intervention to sustainably manage our resources from communal forests going forward.

Chapter 3: Research Methodology

To fulfil the objectives of the study, the study was conducted a cross sectional descriptive cum explorative study design. Both qualitative and quantitative techniques i.e., mixed methods was applied in the selected villages of Bastar district. The information was gather from 15 selected villages of the Block, randomly where intervention is being currently going on. Form each village 10 persons were selected randomly to get the perception on the CFRMC and its implication i.e., overall, 150 samples were collected.

This information were collect from the villages with a semi-structured schedule. Prior to administration of the schedule, pre-testing of this tool was done in one of the villages where intervention is not going on. Additionally, 6 FGDs was done with homogeneous groups i.e., 3 males and 3 females spread across the 15 villages. This will address the second objective of the proposed study. The analysis was done on Excel software.

However, the study has certain limitations. First, this study is totally based on the specific region, similar population, and situation and based on this impact would be applicable for these particular area even findings are most relevant and applicable for this area. Second, the secondary data available in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh on forest management have different formats. This may leads to certain region based findings. So, the compilation of findings may require more research studies.

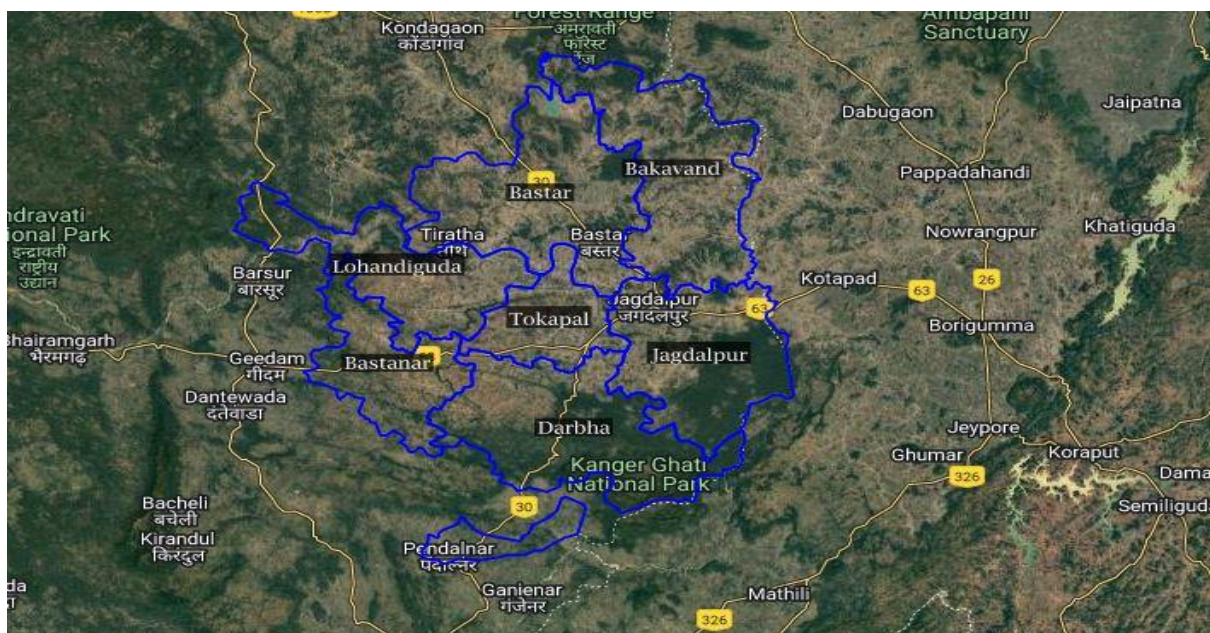


Figure1: Bastar District Map from Official Web GIS website (Blue lines block boundary)

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Informed consent was taken from all participating persons in writing and verbal form. For this, all participants in the study were informed regarding the purpose of the study. Privacy of the information given by them was ensured and data were shared with any other. All information was stored securely with ATREE's office.

IMPLICATION OF RESEARCH

The findings of the current study may help the policymakers, NGOs, and government to overcome the challenges to

- prepare Community Forest Resource Management Plan of Village Nagalsar, District Bastar, Chhattisgarh (Based on Section 5 of the Forest Rights Act and Section 4(1)(e) Forest Rights Rules); and
- Will be helpful for the future policy intervention, and different practices run by the government and bilateral agencies to upscale it across the states.

Chapter 4: Key Findings

The analysis done in this dissertation primarily focus on three major parts i.e., 1. Procedure 2. Structure and 3. the Capacities of the committee, which help them to examine every dimension of research objectives.

Key features

The study consulted 99 respondents form 15 villages, out of which 59 were male and 40 were female. 42 of the respondents revealed that they had hear about the Community Forest right management plan and 57 respondents did not.

Table 1: Distribution of Key indicators taken in the study

Indicators	Male (n)	Female (n)	Total (n)
Heard about the term Community Forest right management plan	32	11	43
Who tells you regarding the term CFRMP?	29	11	40
Does your village have any other committees working in your forest area?	40	59	99
If your answer is yes, what is the name of the organization (Probe for JFC and VSS)	11	2	13
Did the issue of CFRMC is discussed in the village?	59	40	99
What specific issues were addressed in those gram Sabha?	31	59	90
Did male and female get equal opportunity to put their concern related to CFRMC in the gram Sabha?	59	31	90
Are you a member of the CFRMC?	59	31	90
Has formation of CFRMC in your village under section 4(1) e of Forest Right act?	59	31	90

Procedure

In this part, mainly the study examines the process of implementation of CFRMC and CFRMP. According to the guideline, the initiatives has been taken from government and various non-government actors in the selected villages. The figure 4 (1)e shows the distribution of formation of CFRMC under the FRA, 2006, which envisaged that 54% selected villages have been not constructed the Committee. But it is good to note that wherever the committees are formed, the villagers were well known regarding the process of formation and adaptation of CFRMC.

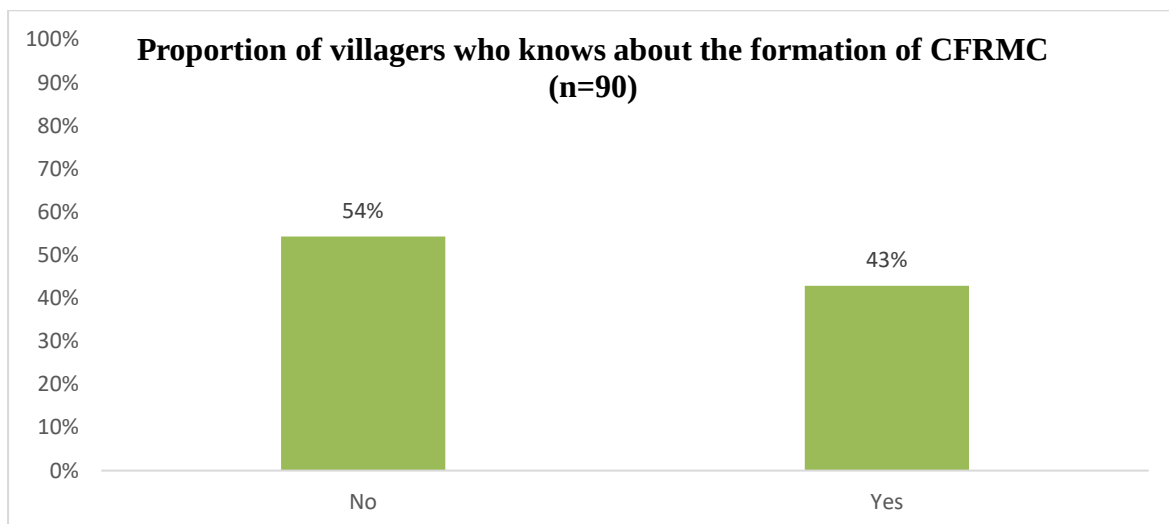


Figure 2: Distribution of Formation of CFRMC in Selected village under FRA section 4(1)e

Figure 3 depicts the knowledge of villagers regarding the process to develop a plan by CFRMC. Findings revealed that the committees are not strengthen till yet to act on the expected role. So, government or non-governmental organization may conduct training and workshop to develop CFRMP. If these training could be organised with the committees, the management plan may preserve better and augment the forest resources and livelihood portfolio of villagers. Data shows that 77% of the villagers opined that neither government nor NGO organized any kind of training workshop in the area.

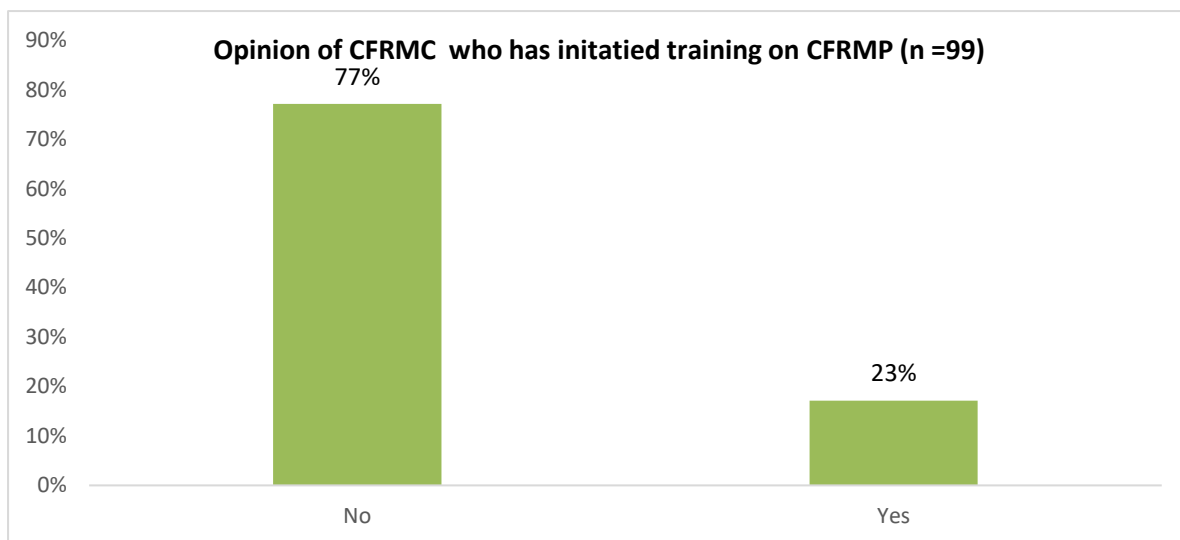


Figure 3: Distribution of CFRMC has been imitative for training workshop on CFRMP

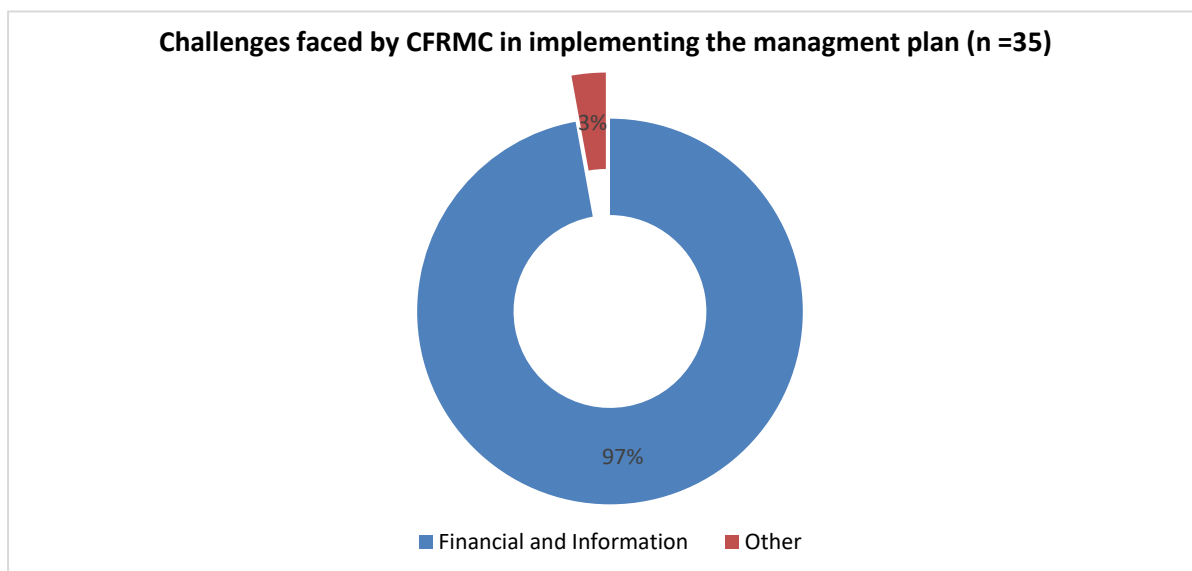


Figure 4: Distribution of Challenges of CFRMC in implementation of Management Plan

The figure shows the Challenges of CFRMC of selected villages that 97% of committees are troubling the lack of financial supports and Information such as Awareness building by the Relevant Sectors, 3% Committees facing other challenges. Even the relevant budget provision has in Tribal department and the Forest Department as well as Tribal sub-plan in area majority area but unfortune departments are not providing funds to the gram Sabha to support them in implementation of CFRMP.

Structure of CFRMP

There is being a big question marks that who will nodal agency of Forest resource management under the FRA, due to misconception many Government officers entire system accepted that forest department is nodal agency of implementation of FRA and their different provision but as per law tribal development department should take action for facilitating the entire process, In this part finding out the different significant approaches which have been taken by administration and Local implementation authority to the effective implementation of the CFRMC that how much all the actors have been imitative in different levels.

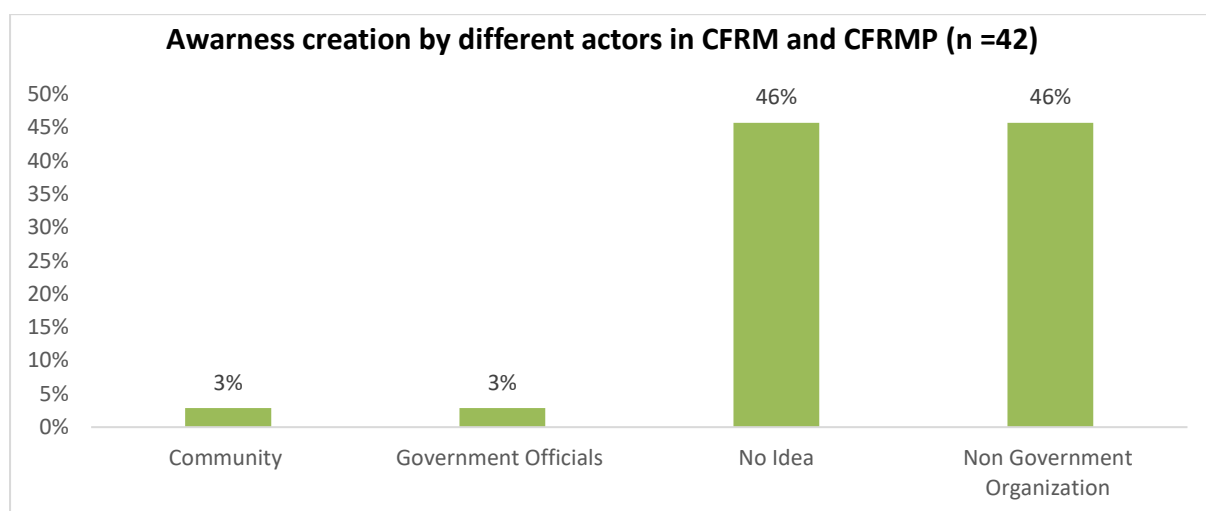


Figure5: Distribution of Spread the awareness by the different actors in implementation of CFRMC and CFRMP under FRA.

This figure shows the distribution of awareness made by different actors such as NGOs, Government officials and the community where 46% contribution sought from the NGOs, 3% from the community, 3% from the Government Official. 46% do not have any idea regarding CFRMC. The above figure is described that the approaches of NGOs is appropriate in term of implementation and awareness building, however it is interrelated to funding the NGOs.

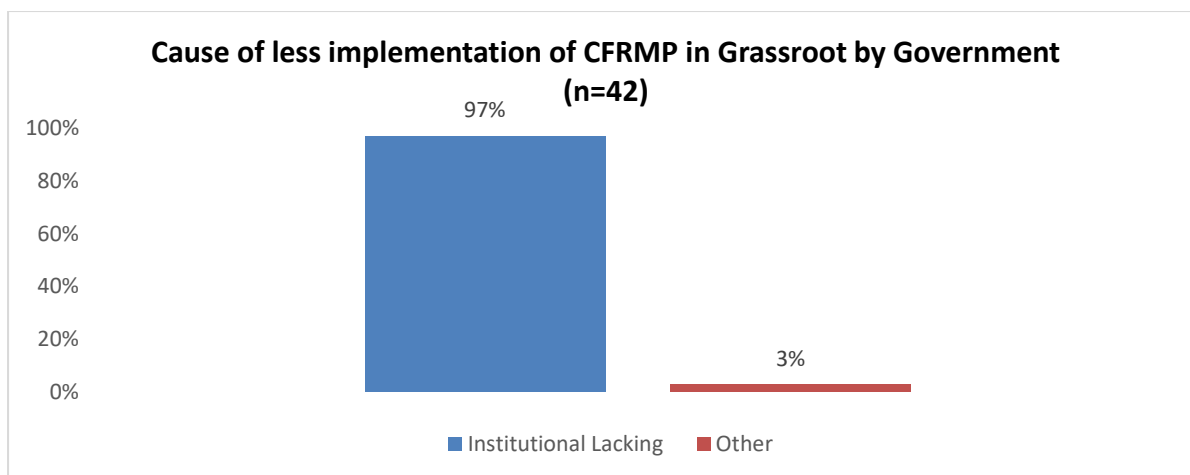


Figure 6: cause of less implementation of CFRMP in Grassroot by Government

The figure shown that cause of less implementation of CFRMC in grassroot level where 97% due to Institutional lacking meant taken low implementation process by the local administration and haven't taken any strong strategy to implementation, since the lack of funds distribution to the gram sabha and low-capacity building of CFRMC are also one of the causes of less implementation of CFRM.

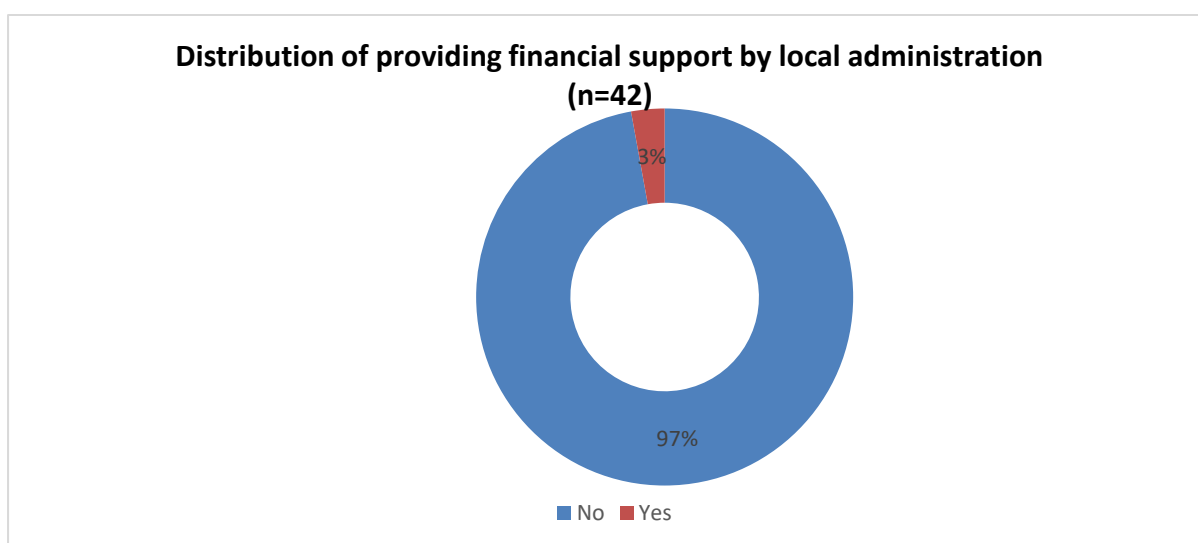


Figure 7: Distribution of providing financial support by Local Administration

As per the data Currently CRRMC are getting supports by the local administration is very minimum which is about 3% and 97% is still waiting for the fund allocation for the various activities, Fund is very significant source to do different activities in village level to strengthen the communities even required funds for the documentation, conduct base line survey and getting technical helps from outside actors, In FRA it has already have a provision for funds

and different kind of training workshops village level as well as block and district levels ,it is a big gaps from the government side.

Capacities:

Villagers have been protecting their existing forest and forest lands and their traditionally utilization is getting as need as much for maximize the economic returns from forest products, capacities are examined the role of CFRMC to implementation of CFRMP in their village, it also identifies the current practices of protect, regeneration and enrichment of their forest resource it can define the potential energy of the existing committees which has formed in earlier, also understood the capability of Committees to do work as per the provision of CFRMC.

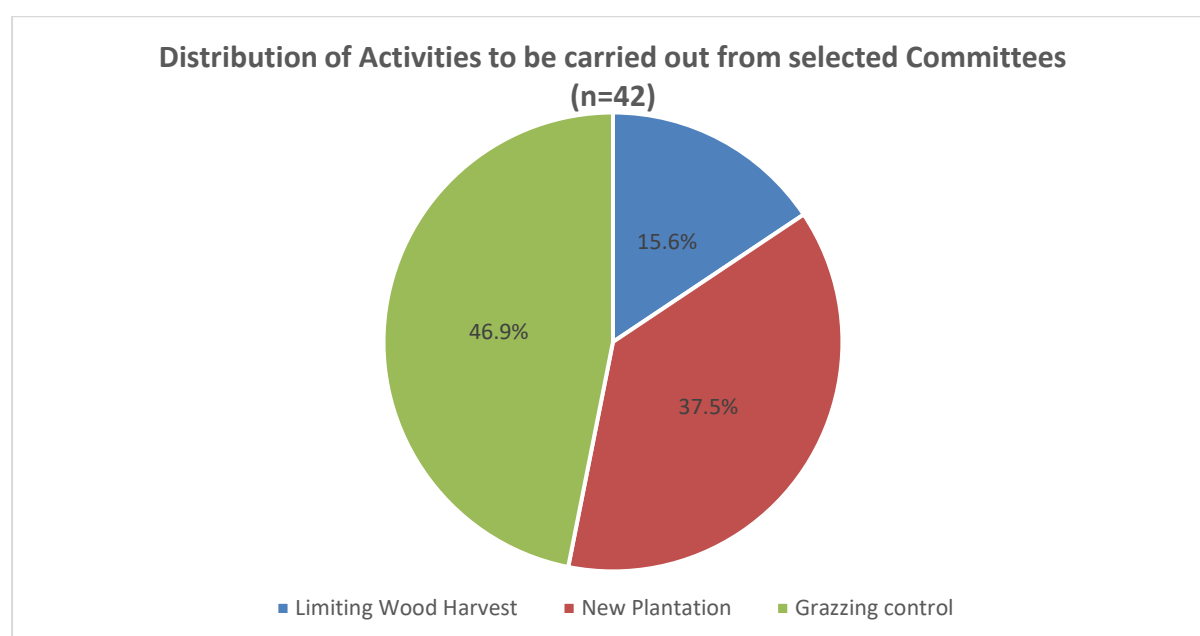


Figure 8: Distribution of Activities to be carried out from selected Committees

There are many activities to be carried out by CFRMC and villagers to conservation, Management and regeneration of Forest Resources parallelly uses (nistar) of their traditional Forest, it can be limiting grazing, limiting wood harvest, banned animal hunting etc, these activities can show up the capacities and potential of CFRMC, also some of villages are making rules for sustainable accessing of their forest.

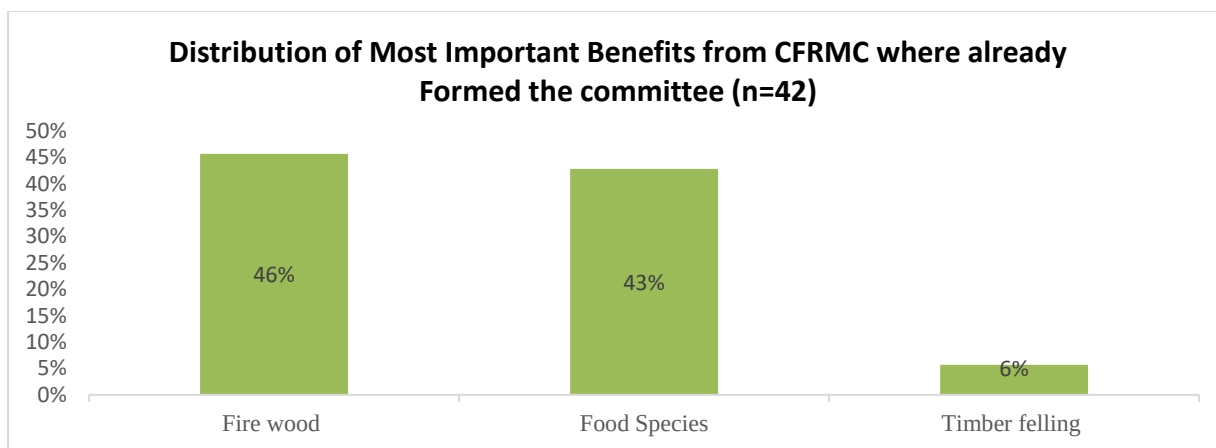


Figure 9: Distribution of Most Important Benefits from CFRMC where already Formed the committee

This figure shown the distribution of most benefits from CFRMC where already have formed the committees, villagers are getting firewood which is about 46%, Getting species is 43% and the benefits of timber felling is about 6% after formation of CFRMC.

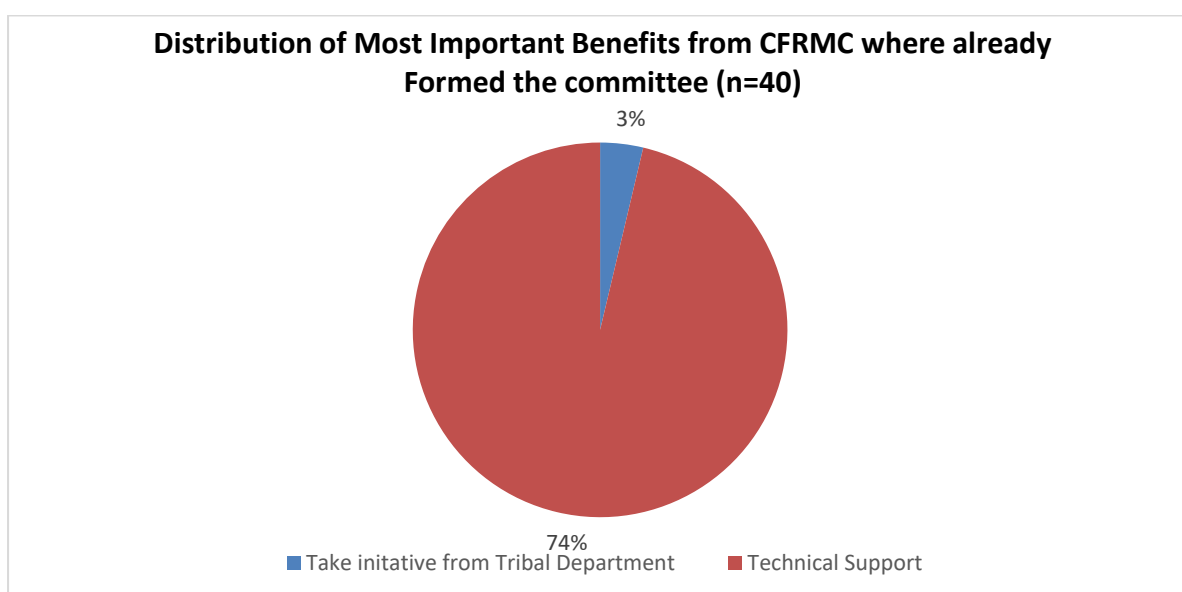


Figure 10: Distribution of most important benefits from CFRMC where already Formed the committee

Figure is explained that Expectation of villagers to initiate CFRMPs in their villages that is capacity of the village so that they can ensured that will increase their productivity, basic amenities and livelihood, Using the MGNREGA's opportunities to perform forest conservation efforts is necessary. It may also have the dual benefit of increasing tribal peoples' incomes and lowering the cost of conserving forests. The serious and sincere among the forest officials need to be convinced that giving a few of the forest to the tribal people didn't create it to be lost.

Chapter 5: Discussion

Present research has proved various dimensions according to the research questions of the study. The study attempted to understand the gaps in the implementation process of CFRMC, and tried to know, how many CFRMC has been aware of managing their significant forest resources. It also try to find out the bottleneck in terms of procedural, structural, capacity, seen during the implementation of the CFRMP which would facilitate the policymakers, NGOs and state government to learn more for effective intervention.

The key finding have been coming with the various aspects on the perspective of woman and men, and suggests that due to more numbers of forest in Bastar there, no uniform and systematic approaches is applicable to enhance the livelihood, even in the implementation of FRA and formation of CFRMC. It was reported to be very poor in grassroots. Some of the CFRMCs have been started to manage their forest resource with the help of CSOs, who work in the studied villages. Except some villages, these committees are managing their forest resources without external help from anyone. Through the other findings such as awareness of FRA and CFRMC is very low among communities, many peoples have heard the terminology for the first time. It is surprising to note that even the government has been not provided any kind of study material to the villagers regarding this act, as well as regarding the formation and guidelines of CFRMC and CFRMP.

In other finding villages those who had implement CFRMC are very much concerned on livelihood through conservation of forest, regeneration, and protection activities. However, the discussion with government officials suggest that forest department aims to develop a robust plan for these communities in order to ensure a sustainable increase in their forest resources as well as trigger a natural regeneration of forest species through a combination of carefully planned land and water as well as forest management practices and reducing lifestyle dependency on forest resources thereby lowering the pressure on it. However, at current stage this is far away from the eyes. In other words, there is nothing seen at the grass root level. For example, CFRMC and CFRMP ensure that the aim is to initiate systematic and organized intervention for conservation and management of the forest resources in a comprehensive manner through our own initiative to ensure that enough employment is generated, income is enhanced, and values of better management and regeneration is established amongst community members which has found in this study.

Women come under most vulnerable section in selected village society. They are contributing to household works, taking care of family and children, agriculture and labour work, marketing, and rest domestic works, but they remain ignored and unacknowledged. Though they perform majority of the activities on their land, they don't have rights on it, neither they can take decisions on crop selection nor in structures. In a PRA exercise, it was seen that around almost work in agriculture is being done by women, but their identity has not been recognized as farmer. They are just working as labourers. For any kind of work or decision making, they have to convince the male person of the house, or the head, and she don't have any option, if it gets rejected. In the selected village, an ancient system is working for addressing different village and hamlet level issues including justice. If we see the pattern of a general village level meeting, then most of the agendas are focused on marriage, family disputes, community rituals. Gram Sabha, has been a forum to address developmental issues and to exercise local governance by people but due to limited presence and participation, its relevance was getting diluted. Discussions on addressing developmental aspects like poverty eradication, mutual learning, and growth, enhancing livelihood, creating opportunities for ultra-poor families were like dream. Presence of women institutions was also not much significant in the village where their suppressed voice could be raised.

Chapter 6: Conclusion

As per objectives of the research we know that Community Forest Resource Rights (CFR) is the main component of the Forest Right Act (FRA) that ensure the tenurial livelihood and ecological security of the forest-dwelling communities across India as well as the globe. Under this act, it provides opportunities as a right to the community as it gives the power and authority to the Gram Sabha (GS) under Sec 3 (1) (i) and sec 5, to rule out their own system of forest management and governance. After securing Community Forest Rights, the next step is to establish a Community Forest Rights Management Plan (CFRMP) which ensure better management of the forest by the community through the act.

The key objectives of the CFRMP are to promote conservation, protection, and sustainable use of forests, enhancing the production of forest products including non-timber forest product (NTFP) harvests, and improving communities' livelihood through sustainability of forests. Literature suggests that. as per the Forest Rights act 2006, Gram Sabha, which comprises of all village residents, is the democratic grass root institution that is empowered to decide the overall framework of forest conservation and management. Keeping in view, the interests of forest-dwelling communities and for bringing overall sustainable development of forest, CFRMP has been segregated into two parts i.e., "Plan for Protection of Community Forest Resources", and "Plan for Livelihood Augmentation". The "protection of community forest plan" mostly consists of rules regulations, norms, and penalty-related aspects to protect the available community forest resources for present use as well as for future use. To identify the all the statement have a examine the different questions which we wanted to found through this study, that in the entire process of implementation of FRA and the idea of sustainable management through CFRMC and for that ensure the participation of woman.

The study is examining the overall aspects where results that lack of people participation in village level council for decision making process since they are first beneficiary for highly participation accessing forest and resources of forest for daily uses, men and women never getting equal opportunities to raise their voice related the decision making process to protect and manage the traditional forest resources.

The study also concludes that supports have been providing by Government, which is totally zero, even Government have been not initiative to dissemination for the implementation of CFRMC and various provisions of FRA, without the taking action from the administration

some of village have been started some conservation practice in the selected village by the support of Different NGOs and CSOs.

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Annexure 1: Study Tools

Questionnaire for Primary Data

1.Name:

Age:

Gender:

2. Name of the Block and Village:

Section 1: Knowledge, Attitude and Practice

3. Have you ever heard about the term Community Forest right management plan?

(i) Yes (ii) No (Skip to Q4 in case the response is No)

4.If yes, what do you understand by the term Community Forest Rights Management Plan. Who tells you regarding the term?

(i) government officials or government department

(ii) Non-governmental organizations

(iii) Friends and families

(iv) Others (please specify)

5. Does your village have any other committees working in your forest area?

(I) Yes (ii) No

If yes, are you aware of registration and function of any other committee working on your Forest area?

(i) Yes (ii) No (Skip if your answer is No)

If your answer is yes, what is the name of the organization (Probe for JFC and VSS)

6.Does your village have a gram Sabha? Does it function properly and at regular period of time as per its guidelines?

7.Did the issue of CFRMC is discussed in the village?

8.What specific issues were addressed in those gram Sabha?

9.Did male and female get equal opportunity to put their concern related to CFRMC in the gram Sabha?

10.Are you a member of the CFRMC?

If yes, since when?

11. Has Formation of CFRMC in your village under section 4(1) e of Forest Right act? 12. Do the committee organize any kind of Training workshop for CFRMC in your village?

(I) Yes (ii) No

If yes, what are the issues taken up in the training?

13. What do you think? Why CFRMC has been not constructed in your village?

1. Lack of people participation
2. Panchayat has not taken initiative
3. Lack of Awareness of FRA
4. any other reason

14. Total Extent of CFR granted as per CFR title/record: ____ ha or acre

15. Uncontrolled use/extraction from neighbouring villages or outsiders? What kind? Grazing? Firewood collection? Illegal timber felling? Poaching? Is there constant conflict with neighbouring villages about this?

16. Forest has already degraded and now not productive enough—so people are losing interest in it?

17. What activities are to be carried out:

- a. Limiting wood harvest, or grazing, or NTFP harvest
- b. Natural regeneration by fully protecting some patches
- c. new plantations (what kind: Grass? Bamboo? Trees?)

18. Fire protection: fire lines, fire watch e. Soil and water conservation activities13. Helping in planning for conservation and management: college, NGO, or Forest Dept?

19. Financial support in the form of working capital for marketing activities

20. Did government help you to initiate working on Community Forest Rights Management Plan

(i) Yes (ii) No

21. According to you, why government did not initiate any steps in your village to promote Community Forest Rights Management Plan?

22. Did the officials come to your areas to discuss on the Community Forest Rights Management Plan?

23. Did they participate in the Gram sabha and discussed the issue of Community Forest Rights Management Plan?

24. Did any IEC materials prepared and demonstrated in your village, block district etc.

25. What do you expect from the government to initiate Community Forest Rights Management Plan?

26.What are the things do you feel that it must be equipped to implement Community Forest Rights Management Plan effectively in your area?

27.Do you feel that procedure given in the Community Forest Rights Management Plan is well enough to form the committees? Or do you think that it needs certain amendment? What are those, if your answer is yes.

28.Do you feel that the members have sufficient capacities to deal with the issue of Community Forest Rights Management Plan?

29.If no, what kind of support they need?

30.Do you interact with the PRI and local authorities to implement Community Forest Rights Management Plan? What Challenges do you or the villagers face usually?