

# **COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF COMMERCIAL SEED PRODUCTION OF TASAR SILKWORM (*ANTHRAEA MYLITTA D.*) IN THE CENTRAL INDIAN TRIBAL BELT**

**Satyanarayana K<sup>1</sup>, Soumen Nandi<sup>2</sup> and Mohd. Shamshad Alam<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Central Silk Board, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, BTM Layout, Bengaluru 560016, Karnataka, India.

<sup>2</sup>Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centre, BTSSO, Central Silk Board, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, B. Deoghar 814112, Jharkhand, India.

<sup>3</sup>Professional Assistance for Development Action (PRADAN), B. Deoghar 814112, Jharkhand, India.

\*E-mail:skutala@yahoo.com

## **ABSTRACT**

In India, productivity, sustainability and profitability of tasar silk industry depends mainly on timely supply of quality tasar silkworm seed (egg). While the state sericulture departments have launched ambitious plans for tasar expansion. Silkworm seed remained a major constraint, though the same is partly met by the Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centres (BSM&TC) under Central Silk Board (CSB) and Pilot Project Centres (PPC) under State. Though, in recent times, states have opened doors for the private sectors for commercial seed production, the same needs to be consolidated with effective backward and forward linkages, to nurture private graineurs micro - entrepreneurs in the tribal areas, to cater to the needs of this important seri-input. CSB with help of some reputed NGOs through various development initiatives made efforts to bring in the business sense among tribals through the concept of private graineurs. This network was enlarged on scale under the Special Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) Projects in the States of Bihar and Jharkhand being implemented by Professional Assistance for development Action (PRADAN), and NGO. Strategies followed in selection of the entrepreneurs, profile of the private graineurs, status before the intervention, assistance for carrying out the activity, capacity building, initial hand holding, organizing suitable and manageable activity groups with backward and forward linkages for sustenance of this economic activity. Under the Projects are discussed besides the future strategies for replicating this activity in other tasar producing states. Production and productivity details and scale of operation over a period of time along with detailed economic analysis including Benefit: Cost Ratio and Internal Rate of Returns are detailed.

**Key words:** B:C ratio, IRR, Micro – entrepreneur, private graineur, silkworm seed.