



## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2002-2003**

### **HIMALAYAN INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY & DEVELOPMENT- (HIFEED)**

**(Centre for Development of Angora & Woolen Products)**

(A Centre of Excellence, Department of Rural Development, Government of Uttarakhand)  
HIFEED Campus, Post Bag No. 7, Ranichauri, District- Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand  
Telephone Nos. (01376) 252141, 252149, 252287 Fax No. (01376) 252288  
E- Mail: [hifeed@hotmail.com](mailto:hifeed@hotmail.com) / [hifeed\\_uttranchal@rediffmail.com](mailto:hifeed_uttranchal@rediffmail.com)  
Website: [www.hifeed.org](http://www.hifeed.org)

#### **CALL OF THE HIMALAYA**

Himalaya is known for its beauty and spirituality since time immemorial. Many sages, monks and seekers of truth performed penance in this land to break the bondage of birth and death. Poets, writers and artists narrated the greatness of this holy land. It is the emblem of steadfastness. For pilgrims it is the abode of the lord. Rivers valleys and snow clad peaks calls the tourists from far off places. To mountaineers it is the land to test their valour. Dense forests, innocent but hard working people of the area are subject of attraction to the traders. But neither the beauty nor the spirituality of the Himalayas could solve the problems of the people struggling for their livings.

#### **OBJECTIVES, PHILOSOPHY, VISION & MISSION OF THE ORGANIZATIONS**

Himalayan Institute For Environment, Ecology & Development- (HIFEED) is an Indian, Secular, Non Profit, Non- Governmental Voluntary Organization working for allround development of hill people since 1995 without regards for race, caste, creed, sex, community and religion. The basic thrust of the Institution is to serve the under privileged, submerged, illiterate and below poverty line people of the Himalayan region through its various income and employment generation activities and programmes for the betterment of their livings.

The Institution visualizes the establishment and strengthening of a social order wherein basic needs of all are fulfilled, economic inequalities removed, individuals and society have access to creative thinking and democratic decision making, enjoy equal social status regardless of sex, religion or place of origin and where power is exercised by all in a responsible manner for the common good. Such a social order, based on human dignity, should emerge from among the people themselves. Concretely this means a just distribution of resources, their regeneration and growth in which opportunities are created for all to enjoy the fruit of their work and according to their need. Such a social order would require, therefore, the elimination of exploitative factors from society through programmes that create social awareness and organization of people for their rights through peaceful means.

## **PROGRAMMES/ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE INSTITUTION DURING THE YEAR 2002-2003**

### **I. A PILOT PROJECT ON PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING OF ANGORA RABBIT WOOL FOR INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN DISTRICT TEHRI GARHWAL OF UTTARANCHAL (UTTARANCHAL ANGORA WOOL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT)**

#### **A. BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT**

Angora rabbit breeding and rearing has emerged as an important income generating enterprise in the hilly regions of India in the last 20 years. This livestock system has been viewed to provide a sustainable source of income under small or zero agriculture land holding. The agro-climatic conditions of the hilly regions between 4000 to 7000 feet above sea level in Uttaranchal are viewed as the potential areas for such an enterprise.

Keeping in the view, the importance of angora wool fiber and the potentiality of income and employment generation, there is need to increase production and productivity of the angora wool by making angora rabbit breeding and rearing a popular occupation. High profitability, vast potential of income and employment generation, huge potential for earning foreign exchange and role of angora rabbit husbandry in ecological rehabilitation are few of the many positive factors, which call for coordinated efforts, so that the farmers take up angora rabbit breeding and rearing in a big way. The people of the village have understood the favorable economics and livelihood potential of Angora rabbit farming. The women and educated unemployed youths can take up this profession and traditional farmers can supplement their income through this profession.

Rearing of angora rabbits needs less space, time and money and any family member with minimum experience and training can manage it. Angora rabbits have a fast multiplication rate, which increases approximate 10-12 times annually. The climatic conditions of the hilly regions of Uttaranchal have been found to be suitable for angora rabbit breeding and rearing.

#### **B. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT**

The main objectives of the project are:

- i.** To open up a germplasm resource center to develop high yielding angora rabbits, which will serve the purpose of making available quality breeding stock for the beginners as well as replacement of males to the existing rabbit units for upgrading their flocks.
- ii.** To introduce the concept of scientific and planned rearing and record management in the field of angora rabbit production.
- iii.** To develop new and improved package of practices in the field of breeding, feeding, management, disease control and treatment and to strengthen facilities for disease diagnosis and quality of concentrate feed, so as to ensure proper and regular health care and availability quality of feed to the angora rabbit breeders.

- iv.** To provide facilities for on-farm testing of various technologies developed by Agriculture Universities, Research Organizations, Government Departments and Non Governmental Organisations in the field of angora rabbit production and wool processing.
- v.** To provide basic training in angora rabbit breeding and rearing and wool processing so that women and educated unemployed youths can take up this profession and traditional farmers can supplement their income.
- vi.** To provide necessary inputs and guidance for development of new farms as well as to extend this facility to the existing operational units and to strengthen extension, monitoring and consultancy services to the existing and the up coming new units.
- vii.** To assist the producer in marketing of their produces through auctions, exhibitions, emporiums, co-operatives, federations, etc. in the National and International markets.
- viii.** To encourage the rural unemployed youths and women in this up coming and income generating enterprise and to revive the tradition of household spinning and processing of this costly fiber as being done by the rural households since long.

### **C. COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT**

The project has the following components:

- i.** Establishment of high yielding angora rabbit germplasm resource center.
- ii.** Strengthening of research and development (R & D) in the field of health care and nutrition.
- iii.** Training and technical consultancy to angora rabbit breeders, Self- Help Groups (SHGs), Extension Workers and NGOs.
- iv.** Establishment of feed manufacturing unit for concentrate and quality feed production for angora rabbits.
- v.** To take up activities related to extension and distribution of angora rabbit units to farmers households.
- vi.** To set up common facility center for carding, blending, spinning, weaving, knitting and processing of raw angora wool in to yarn and hand made finished products.
- vii.** To set up facilities for product development, design development and product diversification.
- viii.** Skill upgradation of producers and artisans and technological input for upgrading the traditional looms and charkhas.
- ix.** Research and Development (R & D) for use of vegetable and natural dyes in angora woolen products.

- x. Production and marketing programme for raw angora wool, angora wool blended yarn and hand made angora woolen products.
- xi. Co-ordination between the Government Department, Research Institutions, Non Government Organizations, Designing Institutes, Marketing Organizations, Self- Help Groups (SHGs), beneficiaries, etc.

**D. PROGRESS OF UTTARANCHAL ANGORA WOOL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

**1. TRAINING & EXTENSION PROGRAMME**

➤ No. of trainees got training	:	177
➤ Blocks Covered	:	(05)
		Chamba, Thauldhar, Jaunpur, Pratap Nagar, Narendra Nagar.
➤ Villages Covered	:	32
➤ SHGs Formed	:	17
➤ Amount Contributed by SHGs	:	Rs. 61,350.00
➤ Angora Rabbit Units Established	:	130
➤ Total Rabbits Purchased	:	1107

**2. PRODUCTION & MARKETING PROGRAMME**

➤ Wool Purchased from Swarojgaries	:	Rs. 67,612.50
➤ Yarn Purchased from Swarojgaries and other sources	:	Rs. 5,17,334.50
➤ Spinning Wages provided to Swarojgaries	:	Rs. 1,673.00
➤ Value of end products purchased and produced through Swarojgaries	:	Rs. 9,77,943.00
➤ Products purchased from Swarojgaries	:	Rs. 1,71,357.00
➤ Total sale of products	:	Rs. 5,86,800.00

**MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT RELATED TO PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING PROGRAMME INSTALLED AT THE INSTITUTE**

Following machinery & equipment related to production and processing programme has been installed at the Institute.

- 20 Handlooms and three Warping Machines.
- 50 Bageshwari Charkha.

- One Drycleaning Machine.
- One Hydro Extractor.
- One Flat Work Ironer.
- One Flat Bed Press.
- One UP Steam Press.

### **3. DESIGN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

- 30 designs of Uttaranchali Motifs have been developed for shawls, scarves, pullovers, etc.
- 27 weavers got two months designing training at the Institution's training and design centre.

#### **MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT RELATED TO DESIGNING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME INSTALLED AT THE INSTITUTE**

Following machinery & equipment related to design development programme has been installed at the Institute.

- One Computer Embroidery Machine
- One Computer Aided Designing Unit
- One 42" Colour Plotter

### **4. NATURAL DYEING PROGRAMME**

- Initial R & D work on natural dyeing programme has been started.
- A natural dyeing laboratory for R & D work has been established at the HIFEED Campus.
- Some local natural dyes collected and processed at the Centre.

#### **MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT RELATED TO NATURAL DYEING PROGRAMME INSTALLED AT THE INSTITUTE**

Following production machinery & equipment related to natural dyeing programme has been installed at the Institute.

- One Sample Dyeing Machine- Shaker Bath Machine
- One Washing cum Dyeing Machine
- One Hydro Extractor.
- One Drying Tumbler.

## **5. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT**

Following buildings and infrastructure has been created under the project.

- Production Centre.
- Technology Resource Centre- Cum- Angora Division Office.
- Angora Rabbit Breeding Centre.
- Training and Design Centre- under construction.

## **6. TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS OF THE PROGRAMME**

The following partners are associated with the project technically as well as financially.

- G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Hill Campus, Ranichauri.
- District Rural Development Agency- (DRDA), Tehri Garhwal.
- Project Management Unit- (PMU), Department of Rural Development, Government of Uttaranchal.
- Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.
- Defence Agricultural Research Laboratory- (DARL), Ministry of Defence, Government of India, Pithoragarh.
- Rural Engineering Service- (RES), Tehri Garhwal.

## **II. MARKETING OF RURAL PRODUCTS IN UTTARANCHAL THROUGH GRAMIN SHILP EMPORIUMS (GRAMIN SHILP EMPORIUM PROJECT)**

### **A. BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT**

The hilly regions of Uttaranchal especially Chamoli, Uttarkashi, Pithoragarh, Bageshwar and Almora have been quiet popular Nationally and Internationally for the handicrafts and handloom products. In these Districts woolen shawls, lohies, pullovers, caps, mufflers, tulma, chutka, woolen carpets, aasan, sofa cushion, etc. and variously designed products are manufactured by handlooms.

Apart from this the various types of stone carving, engravings on wooden sticks, baskets, mats, bamboo products, rambans products, copper utensils, wall hangings, purses, decorative items, variously engraved wooden items and many other items made from handicrafts and handlooms are manufactured.

But in the present time it is seen that due to the lack of money for buying and processing the raw material, lack of improved technology, tools and equipments required for the quality handicrafts and handlooms inability to produce better quality and newly designed goods/products, insufficient level of production and problem of marketing has lead to the decline of handicraft and handloom industry of hilly regions which was once very popular Nationally and

Internationally. This all lead to the ignorance of coming generation towards there tradition and they are forced to migrate to the plains in search of jobs leaving their women folk in villages to struggle for their life.

## **B. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT**

The main objectives of the project are:

- i.** To provide stable and sustainable market for rural products made by the rural producers and artisans at household level.
- ii.** To provide market information to the rural producers and artisans.
- iii.** To provide basic facilities in items of product development, design development and product diversification.
- iv.** To conduct Research and Development (R & D) work in terms of improvement in technological input and upgrading the traditional machinery and equipments.
- v.** To organize exhibitions and trade fairs for rural producers and artisans to sell their products directly to the buyers and customers.
- vi.** Participate in the exhibitions and trade fairs organized by the various Government and Non- Government Agencies at National and International level.
- vii.** To establish and develop a permanent and sustainable sale system and infrastructure for rural products, produces at rural household level.
- viii.** To upgrade the skill of rural producers and artisans by providing various technical trainings.
- ix.** To make a product directory of handicraft and handlooms products produced in Uttaranchal to popularize the products in National and International market.

## **C. COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT**

The project has the following components:

- i.** Baseline surveys and studies.
- ii.** Construction of 20 Gramin Shilp Emporiums and one Central Shilp Emporium to provide marketing outlets to the rural artisans and producers.
- iii.** To set up facilities for product development, design development and product diversification.
- iv.** Skill upgradation and technological input for upgrading the traditional production and processing machinery and equipments.
- v.** Research and Development (R & D) for use of vegetable and natural dyes in handloom products.

- vi. To organize trainings, meetings, workshops and seminars
- vii. Participation in exhibitions and trade fairs organized by various Government Agencies and Non Governmental Organisations and organizing the exhibitions and gram shilp melas at different places of the State.

#### **D. PROGRESS OF GRAMIN SHILP EMPORIUM PROJECT**

- i. Baseline survey of 13 districts of Uttaranchal has been completed.
- ii. Status report of handicrafts and handlooms of Uttaranchal has been prepared.
- iii. Site selection for construction of Gramin Shilp Emporiums and Central Shilp Emporium is under progress.
- iv. At the five sites, construction of Gramin Shilp Emporiums has been started.

#### **III. NURSERY RAISING PROGRAMME**

The Institute is running a plant Nursery of fuel, fodder, timber and multi purpose plants at village Jagdhar in Chamba Block of District Tehri Garhwal in one-acre area. At present about 5,000 plants are available in the Nursery. The Nursery is managed by a beneficiary of the same village under the financial assistance and technical assistance of the Institution.

During this year, a polyhouse nursery has also been developed by the Institute at village Jagdhar in Chamba Block of District Tehri Garhwal for vegetables and aromatic plants. The nursery is managed by a local beneficiary.

#### **IV. GROUPS FORMATION- SELF HELP GROUPS (SHGs)**

Seventeen Self Help Groups (SHGs) has been organized in twenty villages of Chamba Block in District Tehri Garhwal. Approximate Rs. 61,350.00.00 has been collected by these groups so far and they are revolving this money among the members of the groups on mutually decided interest.

#### **V. SOCIAL WELFARE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION**

The Organization has provided financial help of Rs. 13,000.00 to Saraswati Shishu Mandir School at Village Ranichauri in District Tehri Garhwal for furniture etc. during the year.

Financial aid of Rs. 21,000.00 was also provided by the Organization for the construction of Sanitary Latrines at Saraswati Shishu Mandir at Village Sabali in District Tehri Garhwal during the year.



## **FUNDING PARTNERS OF THE INSTITUTION**

The following Ministry and Departments funded the Institution's programmes and activities during the year.

- Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India
- Department of Rural Development, Government of Uttaranchal
- District Rural Development Agency, D.R.D.A., Tehri Garhwal
- Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India

## **PLANNING FOR THE FIRST DECADE OF NEW MILLENNIUM**

The Institution has priorities the following development projects/programmes for the first decade of new millennium keeping in view the requirements and needs of the society.

- Cultivation of Aromatic Plants (Geranium) to generate income and employment opportunities to rural households in Uttaranchal.
- Establishment of Fruit Processing Training- cum- Production Center for employment and income generation to the rural population of this region.
- To setup a Treatment - cum- Rehabilitation Center for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse- (De- Addiction Center).
- Reconstruction of Rural Communities through an Ecological approach (Integrated Watershed Development Management Programme).
- Community Based Reproductive Child Health and Family Planning Programme for Population Control and Health Awareness in the Rural Communities.
- Income Elevation of Unemployed Youths and Small and Marginal Farmers through adopting Vegetable Cultivation as an Enterprise.
- Imparting education in the field of Information Technology & Humanities.