

# THIRD CONCEPT

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## Role of Small Scale Industries & Tourism in Rural Development in Majuli with Special Reference to Pottery Making Industry

Jayanta Kr Dutta\* Dr. Bijoy Krishna Nath\*\*

*[Rural development may be defined as a process of developing and utilizing natural and human resources, technologies, infrastructural facilities, organizations and government policies to encourage and speed up economic growth in rural areas, to provide jobs and to improve the standard of living. Small scale industries play a significant role in rural development. Majuli is a Treasure Island of various small scale industries which take an important role for mobilization of natural resources by creating employability as well as engagement to the rural poor. These industries not only give the identity of its own community but also give the special identity of Majuli among the world communities. There is a chain linkage among rural development, small scale industries and tourism development. The paper aims to deal with the role and importance of small scale industries specially the pottery making industries in Majuli in case of employability and tourism development. The study was based mainly on primary data collected through purposive sampling and stratified random sampling techniques.]*

Rural development has various dimensions like economic, social and agricultural scenario but it is mainly for the development of the agricultural sector, which is widely believed to provide the main impetus not only for reducing poverty and hunger but also for ensuring food security for all. According to World Bank in its sector policy paper on rural development defined "rural development as strategy designed to improve the economic and social conditions of life of a specific group of people - the rural poor", which involves extending the benefits of development to the poorest among those who seek a livelihood in the rural areas. The rural development is nothing but the management of human development and the orientation of technological and institutional change in such a manner as to improve knowledge and living standards in rural areas. In a broader term, rural development may be defined as a process of developing and utilizing natural and human resources, technologies, infra-structural facilities, institutions and organizations and government policies and programs to encourage and speed up economic growth in rural areas, to provide jobs and to improve the quality of

life towards self-sustenance (Singh, S. P. Planning and management for rural development).

Small scale industries and tourism contribute significantly to the economic development of any area in particular and national in general. In today's worlds, tourism is an important socio-economic activity which now recognized as an industry generating a number of social and economic benefits. It is also promotes national integration and international understanding, helps in promoting infrastructure, creates employment opportunity and augments foreign exchange earnings. Rural tourism, the latest addition in tourist industry is "economic development of rural community" through the mobilization of "natural and cultural potential" which form the basis of rural tourism. Being a new concept covers all those aspects of travel whereby people learn about each other's ways of life and thought. It signifies the tourist interest in the customs of the indigenous and exotic people. It is a new kind of tourism as differ from general tourism, which focuses directly under local people. Rural tourism development is community based, participatory and designed to improve the economic and social well-being of local villagers in addition to the concerned institutional, physical and socio-cultural environment. It also pin-points the need for careful planning to the project, the integrity of sites and

\* Department of Economics, Moridhal College, Dhemaji.

\*\* Department of Geography, Moridhal College, Dhemaji.

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Dr. Bijoy Krishna Nath  
Department of Geography  
Moridhat College.

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# Poba Rain Forest Bio-Diversity and Threats to Its Future Existence

Chittaranjan Nath\* Dr. Bijoy Krishna Nath\*\*

[Poba is a rich rainforest of Dhemaji district, Assam, situated in the foot hills of Assam-Arunachal Himalayas covering an area of 10,221 hectares. Moreover, it has another 9400 hectares proposed area. Though, Poba is declared as reserved forest in 1924, but 1934 Government gave some modification on it. Poba rain forest is enriched with almost 118 species of avifauna, 21 species of mammals, 260 species of trees and with many other species of herbs, medicinal plants orchids, butterflies, reptiles etc. it is noteworthy that Poba rainforest now facing many problems. The main objective of the present study is not only to highlight the biodiversity Poba but also its problems. The investigator provide some suggestive measures regarding the creation of awareness among the people to protect and conserve the Poba rain forest for the well being of bio-communities of Poba rainforest.]

**B**iodiversity refers to sum of life that exists at certain location at certain time. It includes both plant and animal communities in an ecosystem having certain specific environmental conditions. The term biodiversity was coined and used by Walter G Rosen in the year 1986. According to C.J Barrow (2005) "Biodiversity is the diversity of different species together with genetic variation within each species in a given area".

A healthy ecosystem needs diversity of all kinds of life and its interactions and high diversity is indicative of healthy ecosystem for man to live on earth. Tropical evergreen rainforest biome provides optimum environmental conditions for growth and development of plants and animals because it is characterized by high rainfall and temperature throughout the year. The average annual rainfall in a rainforest is 2000 mm or even more. Mean annual temperature is around 250c-300c. In Dhemaji district, Poba is the single most rainforest and now it is facing many problems. The objectives of this study are to highlight the rich floral and faunal diversity and major problems for conservation of biodiversity of this rainforest.

## Study area

Geographical location of Poba rainforest is very peculiar. It is situated in the eastern most part of India; about 105 km away from the district headquarter of Dhemaji. Though Poba is declared as reserved Forest in 1924, but in 1934 government gave some modification on it. The northern part of Poba is connected with Arunachal Himalaya and the southern part is connected with flat alluvial flood plain of the Brahmaputra. Siang river (locally known as Lali) is in the east of Poba and Jonai sub-division of Dhemaji district is in western part of it.

It is situated in the belt of tropical monsoon climate at an about 118 mts above sea level which it enjoys a tropical summer with a maximum temperature of 340c

\* P.G. Teacher, Island Academy, Majuli, Assam.

\*\* Assistant Professor, HOD, Department Of Geography, Moridhal College, Dhemaji, Assam.

and cool dry winter with a minimum of 70c. The annual rainfall ranges from 2300mm to 3800 mm. The relative humidity ranges between 60% -70%. The geographical area of the main Poba rainforest is 10,221 hectares and it has another 9400 hectares proposed area. It lies between 27030/-27048/ North latitudes and 95003/-95030/ East longitudes. Though it is declared as reserve forest in 1924 but in 1934 government gave some modifications on it. The Poba rainforest can be divided into three specific categories such as 60% of forest area, 20% thick grass land 15% wetland.

## Methodology

In the present study both analytical and empirical methods have been adopted. The investigator has been collected primary data from 80 Nos of household through well prepared questionnaire. Secondary data and information are also collected from reliable sources to supplement the primary data.

## Objective of the study

The following objectives have selected to fulfill the purpose of the study :

- 1 To highlight the biodiversity of Poba rainforest.
- 1 To examine the anthropogenic and natural hazards of Poba rainforest.
- 1 To study the environmental awareness among the people of fringe villages.
- 1 To highlight tourism potentialities in around Poba rainforest.
- 1 To suggest remedial measures to preserve and conserve the biodiversity of Poba rain forest.

## Biodiversity of poba

Poba rainforest is rich with almost 118 species of avifauna, 21 species of mammals, 260 species of trees and with many other species of herbs, medicinal plants, orchids, butterflies, reptiles, arthropods etc. The peculiar geo-environmental conditions, warm and humid climate create it as the home of abundant vegetation, forest birds and animals of different species groups.

*[Signature]*  
14/12/22