

Annual Report

2015-16



TASAR
DEVELOPMENT
FOUNDATION

GENESIS:

PRADAN has been involved in Tasar sericulture for over two and a half decades with the objective to create sustainable livelihoods for marginalized communities. The initiative started in Godda district of Jharkhand and subsequently expanded to other parts of the State and adjoining districts of Bihar and Odisha. Through this period, PRADAN has worked on all the components of Tasar silk value chain – establishment of host tree plantations, setting up entire seed vertical, promoting improved practices for silkworm rearing, processing of cocoons into yarns, weaving fabric and creating alternative marketing channels for Tasar commodities.

In 2013, to trigger off a scale up plan for generating livelihoods in the sector and further, due to favourable macro-context—high demands in the market, assurance of large scale public finance for Tasar sector and demands for livelihoods among rural communities etc. inculcated the idea of TDF.

Therefore, in order to spearhead major initiatives in the sector and push frontiers, PRADAN has set up Tasar Development Foundation akin to a fully owned subsidiary of PRADAN. Tasar Development Foundation (TDF) is a public purpose sectoral organization with focus on expanding the scope of livelihoods for poorer communities in Tasar sericulture. The rationale for setting up a sectoral organization also exists in creating mechanisms for an effective integration of pre and post-cocoon segments that operate in different geographies and building a going concern for maximizing the gains of the producers in the value chain to promote growth in the sector.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of TDF is as follows:

- 1) Expand the scope of livelihoods for primary producers in Tasar sector by ways of innovation, adaptation and creating value

chain to integrate production, processing and marketing functions,

- 2) Build and retain competent human resources within the sector to instil new ideas, raise standards and open new frontiers of growth,
- 3) Strengthen critical factors of production, such as production and supply of high quality seeds, in order to raise cocoon productivity and ensure availability of raw material supply for the sector,
- 4) Build and strengthen institutions of producers to organize production systems, facilitate attainment of scale of economy in production clusters, attract capital and services of markets in the remote rural areas,
- 5) Broad base and align stakeholders to foster an environment of growth in the sector.

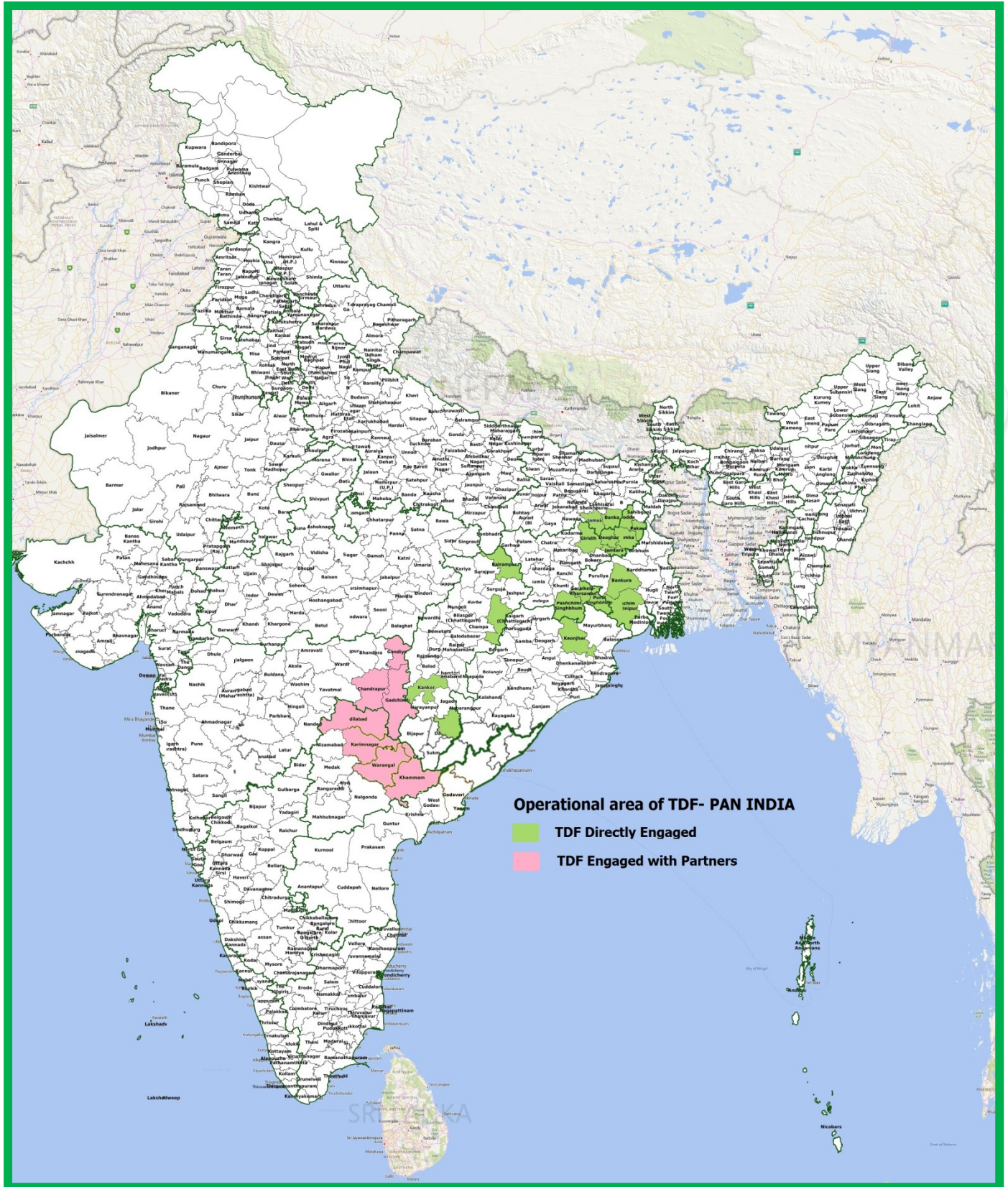
LEGAL STATUS

The TDF has been registered on 5th day of November 2013 at National Capital Territory of Delhi under Section-25 of the Companies Act, 1956 (No.1 of 1956) without capital and that the company is a private limited entity.

INDEX

Particulars	Page.No.
Genesis & Objective	1
Geographical presence	2
Operational Approach/ Strategy	3
Institutional Framework	3
Status & Plan of HR	4-5
Achievement of TDF- 2015-16	6
Progress of Seed Vertical	7
Research & Development	8
Policy Issues and our Intervention	9
Finance	10
Contact us	11

GEOGRAPHICAL PRESENCE OF TDF - PAN INDIA



OPERATIONAL APPROACH/ STRATEGY:

The TDF supported 14,432 families in tasar based livelihood activities in 10 districts of 5 states in selected traditional Tasar production clusters in India. In these clusters, the producers were organized in to village level activity groups for micro level planning and implementation. These village level groups are aggregated in to collectives to set up systems of seed supply, access improved technologies for silkworm rearing and achieve capacities to deal with markets on mutual terms. Till March 2016, 5 such collectives are initiated out of them two

are registered and other three are unregistered. TDF's plan is to promote such collectives which would comprise of 1,000 to 1,200 families in a cluster. While the plan is to cover 14,432 families under tasar based livelihood in 2016, all the producers would be organized in to 12 collectives. Distribution of production clusters are depicted in the following table:

Sl. No	Cluster	State	District	No of HHs	No. of Collectives
1	Jungal Mahal	W. Bengal	W. Midnapore, Bankura	1,291	1
2	Banspal	Odisha	Keonjhar	1,003	
3	Balrampur	Chhattisgarh	Balrampur	980	
4	Banka	Bihar	Banka	2,776	1
5	Santhal pargana	Jharkhand	Godda, Dumka	6,818	2
6	Kolhan	Jharkhand	Saraikela, E.Singhbhum and W. Singhbhum	1,564	
	Total	5	10	14,432	5

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK:

TDF is set up to unleash the potential of Tasar sector for creating sustainable livelihoods for marginalized communities in a manner that builds their stake and effective say in the overall sector. TDF is working on all the fronts to emerge as a strong institution. The priorities of TDF are as following:

- Strengthening Governance functions in order to put in place a strong internal guidance mechanism to stay focused on the purpose of the institution and nurture a culture of collegiality and openness for learning
- System setting for monitoring and evaluation through articulation of goals, pathways and tracking progress against salient milestones,
- Develop perspective plan to articulate vision of success for medium terms and define

approaches and strategies for operation, including geography, scale, technology / processes and finance,

- Raising resources for sustainability of the institution including project financing as also building corpus to support for carrying out institutional tasks,

Build linkages with key stakeholders relevant for the sector in order to draw knowledge support, facilitate innovation, bring in investments to the sector, influence policies and norms and build a strong institutional identity for TDF

STATUS AND PLAN OF HUMAN RESOURCE:

The TDF has visualized its interventions mainly in two broad categories;

- i. To expand and manage operations including setting up seed verticals and

- ii. To established sustainable community Production Clusters to facilitate livelihood expansion in existing and new geographies.

Sl. No	State	District	Cluster	Person power for cluster	Person power for seed vertical	Available person power
1	W. Bengal	W. Midnapore and Bankura	Jungal Mahal	3	1	4
2	Odisha	Keonjhar	Banspal	1	0	1
3	Chhattisgarh	Balrampur	Balrampur	1	0	1
4	Bihar	Banka	Banka	2	1	3
5	Jharkhand	Godda, Dumka	Santhal Pargana	4	2	6
6	Jharkhand	Saraikela, E. Singhbhum and W.Singhbhum	Kolhan	2	0	2
Total		10 Districts	6 clusters	13	4	17

In each cluster where the basic seed production unit is present one person is managing the basic seed and nucleus seed production called as seed coordinator while other field staffs are engaged in providing the techno-managerial support to the producers in the field. The plan is that in optimum scale one person would cater 1,000 families in one production cluster and one seed coordinator would manage one or two BSPU. To cater 6 clusters and 15 BSPUs in the coming 3 years, 22 person powers are required out of that

17 person powers are available. Out of 17 person power, 7 are in TDF's contract payroll, 3 on deputation from PRADAN and rest 7 in PRADAN's contract payroll. In addition to that 4 person powers are on deputation from PRADAN to established TDF as sector support organization. Two office assistances are managing the accounts and MIS of TDF who are also on contract of TDF's payroll. The details of person power are as follows:

present Person power			
TDF Contract	PRADAN contract	Deputed in TDF	Total
9	7	3	19

Proposed Organogram

TDF has delineated tasks and built the task structure as described below:

Level-I: - The level one comprises of senior professionals, those who would primarily work towards building the TDF as a significant organization to spearhead major initiatives in Tasar sector. Part of their time would be spent in streamlining internal systems of management and governance. Recruiting and building professionals, grounding them in field operations would be another major task of this group. Thirdly, the group would provide leadership in opening frontiers of growth in new geographies, raise financial resources and build linkages with major stakeholders. Presently, this roles are performed by 4 senior professionals, having 10 years plus experience in Tasar sector, deputed from PRADAN.

Level-II: - These level belongs to the Seed Manager, whose major responsibility will be to

ensure quality seed production. They will manage the seed clusters and foundation seed grainages. As competencies around seed is rare in the market and developed over a period of 5-6 cycles therefore they are senior professionals of TDF.

Level-III: - This level is called level of Project coordinator's. They will mainly responsible for field operations which include capacity building of silkworm rearers, commercial seed producer, monitoring and giving operational support. Along with that they are also responsible for extension and marketing of cocoon. Their contract is project specific and beyond contract period, they are expected to be retained by the producer collectives, who will bear their costs from the revenues earned from the activities.

A schematic illustration of the HR structure of Tasar Development Foundation is depicted in the table.

Layers	position				Responsibilities
Level-I	Managing Director (MD)				Overall responsibility of Institution building, Statutory compliances, Meeting Contractual obligations
	Programme Coordinator		Programme Coordinator		i. Recruitment and grooming of new professionals, ii. Managing entire operations within state domain including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and review of operations, • Oversight for field teams, • Responsible for proper functioning of seed verticals, • Ensuring support for silkworm rearing and marketing through field teams, • Building linkages with key Stakeholders
Level-II	Seed Manager	Seed Manger	Seed Manager	Seed Manager	i. Responsible for building producers collective in the production clusters, ii. Operate foundation seed Grainages in production clusters iii. Supervise seed crop rearing, iv. Strict disease surveillance
Level-III	Project Coordinator	Project Coordinator	Project Coordinator	Project Coordinator	i. Quality control in comm. Grainages ii. Maintaining standards iii. Ensuring cocoon production iv. Regular planning and monitoring of CRPS

ACHIEVEMENTS OF TDF-2015-16:

TDF has promoted tasar sericulture based livelihoods in the state of Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, WB and Chhattisgarh in 6 production clusters. Our main focus was to improve the quality of seed availability to the producers. We were also able to enhance the price of basic and commercial seed dfls that was almost double of the earlier CSB rate. We are advocating enhancing the price of DFLs in various forums and also submitted the proposal for consideration in CSB. Principally, CSB agreed to

enhance the price and proposed in JCC (Joint Coordination Committee) for approval. First time CSB also considered fixing the rate of seed cocoon in the JCC. The JCC enhanced the price of nucleus and basic seed DFLs from Rs 6 per DFL to Rs 12 per DFL and Commercial DFL from Rs 6 per DFL to Rs 10 per DFL. The committee also fixed the price of seed cocoon Rs 2 per cocoon. All these are considered keeping in mind the entry of private entrepreneurs in the seed sector.

Sl. No	Particular	Achievement	
		2014	2015
1	No. of families in livelihood activities	5,019	9,750
2	No. of Basic seed produced	1,73,000	1,65,919
3	No. of nucleus seed produced	26,964	67,295
4	No. of commercial seed produced	4,83,036	10,99,000
5	No. of Cocoons produced	1,33,00,000	5,97,24,650
6	Disease %		
	Basic grainage	27% to 54%	5% to 19%
	Nucleus grainage	18% to 20%	2% to 6%

The category wise income generation of the families is as follows:

Sl.No	Category	No. of families	Average income/family	Total income
1	Basic seed crop rearing	1358	9,510	1,29,14,580
2	Commercial Seed Crop Rearing	8,037	16,425	13,20,07,725
3	Tasar Seed Production	198	28,000	55,44,000
4	Nucleus crop rearing	355	29,400	1,04,37,000
5	Arjuna Nursery activities	80	12,000	9,60,000
Total		10,028		16,18,63,305



PROGRESS OF SEED VERTICAL:

Since last three years there is special focus of TDF in streamlining the seed vertical and setting the norms and disease surveillance protocol in seed production. For ensuring the quality standards of seed production we have developed our quality system manual. Out of 11 existing Basic seed preservation centers 6 centers are ISO 9001:2008 certified till date and we are planning to go for the ISO certification of the rest of the centers. There is a continual improvement in the quality and quantity of seed production across the basic seed grainages observed since last two years.

We have preserved 8 lakh nucleus cocoons in 8 Basic seed preservation centers this year and all the seed cocoons were from the nucleus DFLs produced in our nucleus grainage. We have followed the disease surveillance protocol for preservation of the seed cocoons starting from seed DFL rearing to grainage operation. This has resulted in attaining the success of producing more than 1.65 lakh basic seed DFLs which helped us not to procure any basic seed DFL from outside. The cocoon to DFL production ratio of this year is 3.63:1 which is better than last year's ratio in the basic seed DFL production.

We have maintained around 500 hectares of block plantation required for seed cocoon production for the basic seed production centers in Bihar and Jharkhand and in west Bengal, Odisha and Chhattisgarh we are using the plantations raised by Department of Sericulture. In Jharkhand and Bihar whatever new plantations are getting ready we are using those only for nucleus rearing supplying the good

quality DFLs so that those would not get contaminated and we have two to three fold of plantations available for nucleus rearing than the actual requirement. For maintenance and disinfection of the plantations as systematic process of deducting 10% income of tasar from the rearer's and keeping that in the village level Tasar Vikash Samities is followed in Bihar and Jharkhand.

To cater the nucleus DFL requirement in all the five state we have brushed 14,178 nucleus 1st crop DFLs in Godda, Dumka and Banka districts. The cocoons are started harvesting and already larval testing is completed. The cocoons produced would be processed in four grainages of in these districts and our plan is to brush 95,600 Nucleus DFLs in the pre identified plantations. We are planning to preserve 20 lakh seed cocoons by end of this year in the presently available 11 BSPUs and the 3 BSPUs we are planning to come up by the end of March 2017. This will not only fulfill the DFL requirements of TDF's own operational area but also the DFL demand from outside.

We are tracking the customer satisfaction and customer feedbacks to further improve the service delivery of the BSPUs. Focus on improving the skills of the manpower is increased in these BSPUs than earlier by regular orientation over the process of grainage operation for the better quality assurance. Quality control checking system of the seed cocoons before preservation is improved across the BSPUs.

Progress of the year 2015-16 in Seed sector:

Infrastructures available	No.	Installed capacity
BSPUs	10	3 lakh DFL
Small grainage	381	19.05 lakh DFL
Plantation (Ha.)	2,350	

Particulars	No of DFLs produced	No of families covered
Nucleus seed	67,295	355
Basic seed	165,919	1,358
Commercial seed	1,099,235	8,037
Total	1,332,449	9,750

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT:

Pebrine spore is normally identified under the student microscope with 600 magnifications by the trained microscopist still there are problems in the manual system such as;

- Requires skill manpower
- Lack of authenticity
- Not free from human error.

Keeping the following issues in mind C-DAC had development an instrument called "Penrine-O-Scope" during the period of 3 years research. "Pebrine-o-Scope" is a microscope-mounted instrument with software backend, which analyses the photo-micrographic image of the smear of tissue sample from female silk moth and detects the presence of "Pebrine Spore" disease with high degree of accuracy. It has two parts; collection and compilation of data in computer and reagent application in the smear

to dissolving the bacteria, virus and fats and exposing the pebrine spores to facilitate clear picture of pebrine spores.

In absence of this reagent we were not able to observe pebrine in the dead moths and decomposed moths and pupae. Through the application of this reagent in the smear any quality of slide can be seen under microscope clearly. We have been using this reagent in the basic and nucleus grainage only when pebrine percentage is high or % of dead moth is high.

The technology had been formally transferred to TDF on 27th July 2016 at function organized by C-DAC Kolkata in a function in presence of Secretary Department of Information Technology, Govt. of India. C-DAC had given the right of manufacture and sale of Pebrine-o-scope in the sector.



POLICY ISSUES AND OUR INTERVENTION:

During recent years, the Central government, and particularly the Ministry of Textiles and Ministry of Rural Development, have been highly supportive of the tasar silk intervention. However, a few issues need to be tackled proactively and our engagement in this direction:

- **Easy access to forests for sericulture:**

About 90 percent of silkworm rearing is carried out in the natural forests, access to which is not easy in most of the states. The Forest Departments in most states are reluctant to allow easy access to forests.

We make member forest department of SLMC and keep one agenda of forest issues in every meeting to discuss the issues. We are able to discuss such issues with the principal Chief conservator of forest in Bihar and Chief Conservator of forest of WB. In both the states forest department agreed to provide all the possible supports and advised us to involve the forest protection committee for the promotion of sericulture and resolving forest related issues.

In all the states they included the tasar host species in their regular plantation programme and also raising tasar host flora under MGNREGA.

We are also commissioned one study to documents the state forest policy in relation to sericulture and environmental impact of sericulture. This would help us to negotiate with the forest department on pro sericulture policy.

- **Need for creating seed zones:** The absence of well-defined and well managed 'seed zones' creates a difficulty in limiting infection load in successive grainage cycles.

Creating seed zone is one of the policy of Central Silk Board that is derived from the experience of special SGSY projects. Conducting rearing in isolated patch away from the commercial field is one of the objectives that drastically reduced the disease % in the grainage. Supplying disease free

eggs continuously on the same field has been reducing the disease inoculums. It became a part of every review meeting with CSB and DoS.

- **Incentivizing private seed entrepreneurs:** The private entrepreneurs promoted under the special SGSY projects sell DFLs without subsidy. However in the same geographic area DoS supplies DFLs with 75% subsidy which undercuts the efforts of the private seed entrepreneurs.

Such issues we have been raising in every forum starting from Joint coordination committee to state level sericulture coordination committee to facilitate the entry of private entrepreneurs in the pre-cocoon sector through giving equal value to state promoted entrepreneurs and private entrepreneurs. The govt. of Jharkhand and WB agreed to provide subsidy to both the entrepreneurs on DFLs.

- **Policy for pricing of seed cocoons:** Seed cocoon is most critical for building the stock for the commercial crop. However, unlike other sectors, the price of seed cocoon is comparatively very low. On the other hand, production risk is relatively high due to weather conditions during June to August. Most of the states declare the price of seed cocoons on their own where as price of DFLs (Product of seed cocoon) is decided by Joint Coordination Committee.

This year we were able to change in the policy that the price of seed cocoon and DFLs will be fixed in the Joint Coordination Committee where all the state sericulture head is the members. The current JCC fixed the price of seed cocoon Rs.2/- where as basic seed DFLs rate Rs.12/dfl and commercial Seed Rs.10/dfls. All these prices are fixed keeping in mind private entrepreneurs involved in the basic and commercial seed production and also enhance the income of seed cocoon producers. This price is applicable for all the states.



Abridged Statements of Accounts

TASAR DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

(Currency: Indian Rupees)

Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ended	Notes	As at March 31, 2016	As at March 31, 2015
Income			
Grant and Donation		5,241,573	1,818,127
Other Income		35,455	777
Revenue From Operations - Total (I)		5,277,028	1,819,204
Expenses			
Employee Benefits Expenses	6	5,801,044	433,261
Other Expenses	7	450,879	37,008
Total (II)		6,251,923	470,269
Excess of Income over Expenditure for the Year		(974,895)	1,378,935
Excess of Expenditure over Income for the Year			
Net Surplus/(Deficit) transferred to Balance Sheet		(974,895)	1,378,935

The Notes referred to above are an integral part of the Financial Statement

8

As per our report of even date attached.

for N S B & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg No: 023043N

Place: New Delhi
Date: August 13, 2016

Ankit

Ankit Maheshwari
Partner
M. No.: 416816



For and on behalf of the Board of
Directors

Sudhanshu Kumar *Anand*
Director Director



Financial Statement for the year ended March 31, 2016






TASAR
DEVELOPMENT
FOUNDATION

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