# **Annual Report (2017-2018)**

# Nanda Talukdar Foundation

As the curtain for the year (2017-2018) has come down, we can look with the immense satisfaction to the year with lot of pride and responsibility as the year witnessed explosive growth in the Foundation both in quality of works, its diversity and the financial growth and discipline. Here is the story of the past year.

Following are the activities of the year in a nutshell.

- 1. Development Sector-CSR activities with NRL
- 2. Development Sector- Plantation with NHAI
- 3. Research -SIRD- Amar Gao Khoni
- 4. Publication- Assam after Independence

### **DEVELOPMENT SECTOR**

#### Community Development

Under this CSR project sponsored by NRL, work was done in three main verticals - Sanitation, Drinking Water and Alternative Energy (Home Solar Systems and Street Lighting System), besides these, construction of a community house with various recreational facilities was also done.

The selected villages were Chawrabasti and Natun gaon. The first village is a mixed population very near to the NRL township. On the other hand the Natun gaon is a village which has great strategic importance as it is in an elephant infested village.

Basic sanitation facilities were inadequate in many villagers home. The lack of proper sanitation facilities was especially difficult for the village women and girls who had to use open spaces and fields in the dark. 56 Toilets were completed and handed over to the

beneficiaries in 9 months time. This intervention has simply removed all sanitation-difficulties of the women folks and also reduced sanitation-related illness.

The villagers were at the mercy of water borne diseases and hence the RO plant came as a huge blessing. The plant along with the RO house was completed and commissioned in a record 8 weeks. Managed by the VDC, the villagers have to pay a token monthly fee for maintenance.

10 Solar Home Systems has been installed in homes of 10 beneficiaries without access to regular electricity supply. 1 Solar System has been installed in the community house. 2Solar Street Lighting Systems have been successfully installed and strategically located in the village. This intervention was an exciting new approach to improving the life of the villagers and has made a positive impact in the village.

**Goal**: To create better living conditions for the residents with access to proper sanitation,



#### PHASE III: COMMUNITY CUM RO HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

The village lacked a decent place where all the villagers could meet and socialize. Also, there was no proper place for a formal gathering. Hence, the community house was constructed with the hope that will further unify the village.

Construction of the Community cum RO house was completed in a record 8 weeks. The design is RCC and the larger section shall be the community house while the smaller section will house the RO plant.

PHASE V: RO PLANT INSTALLATION

Post construction of the RO house and deep borewell, work started on the RO plant with the hope to eradicate most of the water borne diseases in the village by providing pure drinking water to the villagers.

The work was divided into the following three stages:

- 1. Installation of water tanks and supply pipes
- 2. Installation of RO system
- 3. Commissioning and Handover



# **Plantation: Green Highway**

Loss of vegetation is one of the inevitable consequences of Highway Development. To offset this loss by way of following the approach of Corridor Development & Management, Nanda Talukdar Foundation (NTF) having extensive work experience in executing complex grassroots community based project, proposes that shaded trees be planted along both sides of the highway. Also, along the median flowering shrubs like Bougainvillea should be planted.

NTF was commissioned by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) to maintain plantation of 25 kilometer of highway around Guwahati.

## **PLANTATION SCHEME**

The plantation scheme has been broadly classified into two categories, which are as follows: -

- Tree planting along the Highway Turfing with grasses and shrub/herb.
- Planting on medians/special landscapes/embankment slopes.
- The first row along the Highways will be of small to medium sized ornamental trees.

- Subsequent rows depending on the availability of width will comprise of ornamental and/or shade bearing species, of more height than those in the first row. In rural sections the last row will always be of shade bearing tall trees.
- Planting of shrubs in the median.

# Research

The NTF have developed a special software to quantity the performance of the Panchayat of Assam so that it can be easily monitored by the policy makers. Based on a series of indexes the software was developed and each of these indexes have their own markings and these marking eventually throw a cumulative marking of the panchayat in question, giving an easy picture of the Panchayat. The software was put to use as through SIRDas the datas of each panchayat of Assam were collected. They were fed in the computer and a dashboard view was obtained from the ground and their assets are monitored. The finding of the research were presented before a galaxy of intellectuals as well as policy makers, vice chancellors and bureaucrats for further usage of the same.

# **Publication**

The much awaited and acclaimed publication, Assam After Independence was launched this year. This is a political history of Assam which has covered the period of 1945-2000. The book was ceremonially launched at Guwahati and again at New Delhi. At Guwahati it was launched by Assam Assembly Speaker Hiten Goswami and in New Delhi it was released by Mrinal Miri and Adil Hussain.

Mrinal Talukdar Secretary, NTF 12.6.2018