

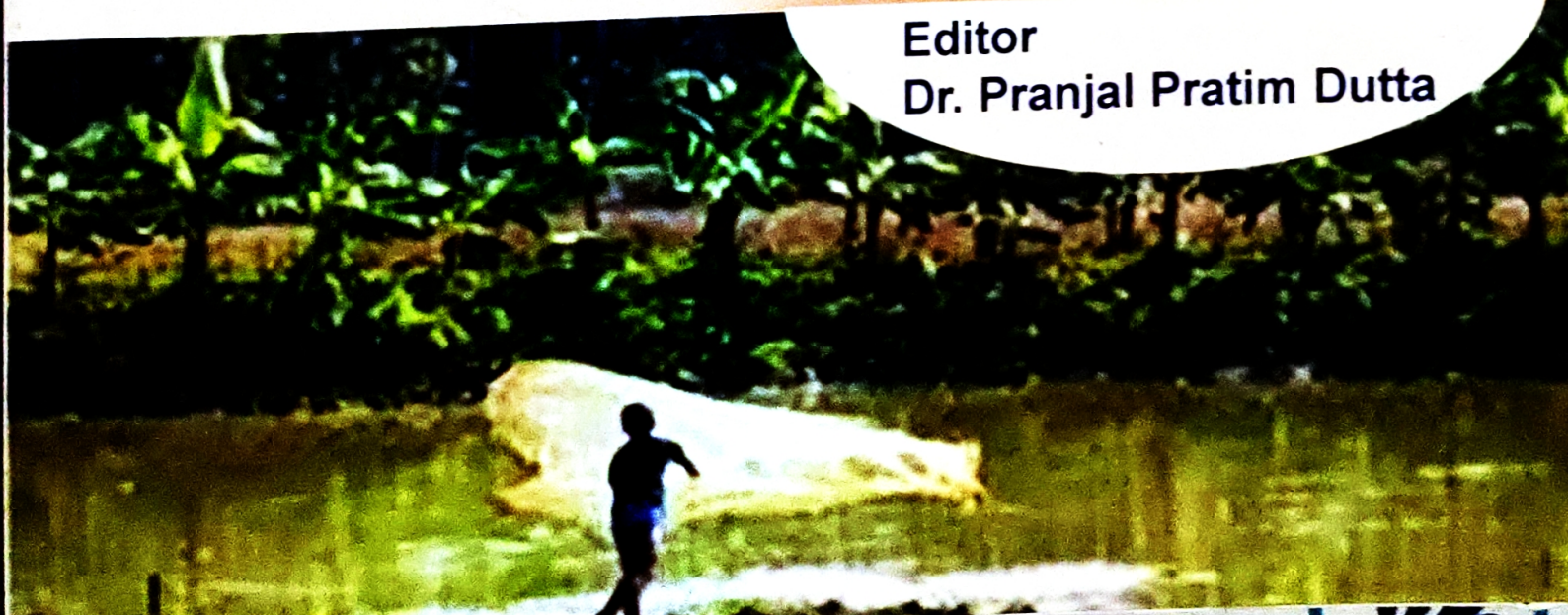
Rural Financing in North Eastern Region of India

Issues and Challenges



Department of Accountancy
Golaghat Commerce College, Golaghat, Assam (India)

Editor
Dr. Pranjal Pratim Dutta



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Seminar Chairman :

Dr. Jatindra Nath Saikia
Principal
Golaghat Commerce College

Seminar Director :

Prof. Anup Kr. Das

Seminar Convener / Organizing Secretary :

Dr. Pranjal Pratim Dutta

Editor :

Dr. Pranjal Pratim Dutta

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Sustaining Rural Livelihood through Non-agricultural Activities : A Study on Selected Dairy Farms in Rural Areas of Golaghat District

Manash Pratim Sarmah

Assistant Professor

Department of Banking & Insurance

Golaghat Commerce College

Golaghat, Assam

Email: manashonline24@gmail.com

Contact No. : +91- 9435986546

In today's competitive world, where job opportunities are limited and where agriculture is mostly dependent on weather conditions, non-agricultural activities can be considered as one of the key source of livelihood in rural areas. Even after 70 years of independence, the majority of the population in our country lives in villages and depends on agriculture for their livelihood. The agricultural sector, due to declining size of land holding has not been able to generate the needed employment opportunities. Apart from agricultural activities, which are considered as one of the major source of income in rural sector, the various non-agricultural activities also contribute for development of this sector. The various non-agricultural activities, whether it is a paid work or self employment; they provide income to rural households if it is used for commercial purpose. This paper is an attempt to find out how this particular non-agricultural activity contributing for sustainable rural livelihood in rural areas of Golaghat district by selecting some of the cow dairy farms.

Key Words: non-agricultural activity, dairy farm, sustainability and rural livelihood.

INTRODUCTION :

A country can't achieve its overall development without developing the rural sector. Rural occupation and its production is the foundation of Indian economy. Therefore, the government has started many programmes aimed at improving the standard of living in villages or rural areas. In a country like India where, majority of the people live in rural areas and where agriculture is the main source of income but still the development of agriculture in many regions of the country is really pathetic. It is also a fact that agriculture alone would never be able to provide employment opportunities nor can it provide sufficient income for the people to sustain livelihoods of rural households, it is because of climate change and adverse weather conditions