

OUTCOMES

EXPECTED OF THE PROJECT

Establishment of orchards in the uplands of the drought prone areas in <i>Paschimanchal</i> : Major programme in the development project would be creation of semi-permanent assets for income generation for farmers in the area.
Early cultivation of high value vegetables in this area is expected to contribute significantly in the economic development of the farming families.
Due to favourable soil and climate conditions seed production of crops and vegetables is expected to be profitable.
Organic cultivation would augment export potential and improve fertility of soil for sustained production.
Generate income potential and employment opportunities for local people including landless labourers resulting in improvement in nutritional profile of the beneficiary families and other health related parameters, increase in school enrolment and overall well being, etc.

It is expected that the project, post-implementation, will not only play an important role in the social and economic upliftment and poverty alleviation of atleast 15000 farmers' families in the project area, but will also provide a definite road map for development of this hitherto backward area of the State. It can be subsequently replicated in all other blocks / panchayats of *Paschimanchal* and other parts of the State.The project has received phenomenal response in its nascent stages within the project area and plans are on the anvil to replicate it in other parts of the State. The project is being implemented within a time schedule.

ASSESSMENT

PROJECT OUTCOMES

Given the magnitude and sensitivity of the project and to understand the implications for its future roll-out and replication in other parts of the State, a baseline socio-economic survey of the project has been undertaken. This may include inter alia the present socio-economic status of the beneficiaries and the project area, identify gaps, if any, prior to implementation and take appropriate corrective steps in order to better appreciate and evaluate the outcome of the project post-implementation.

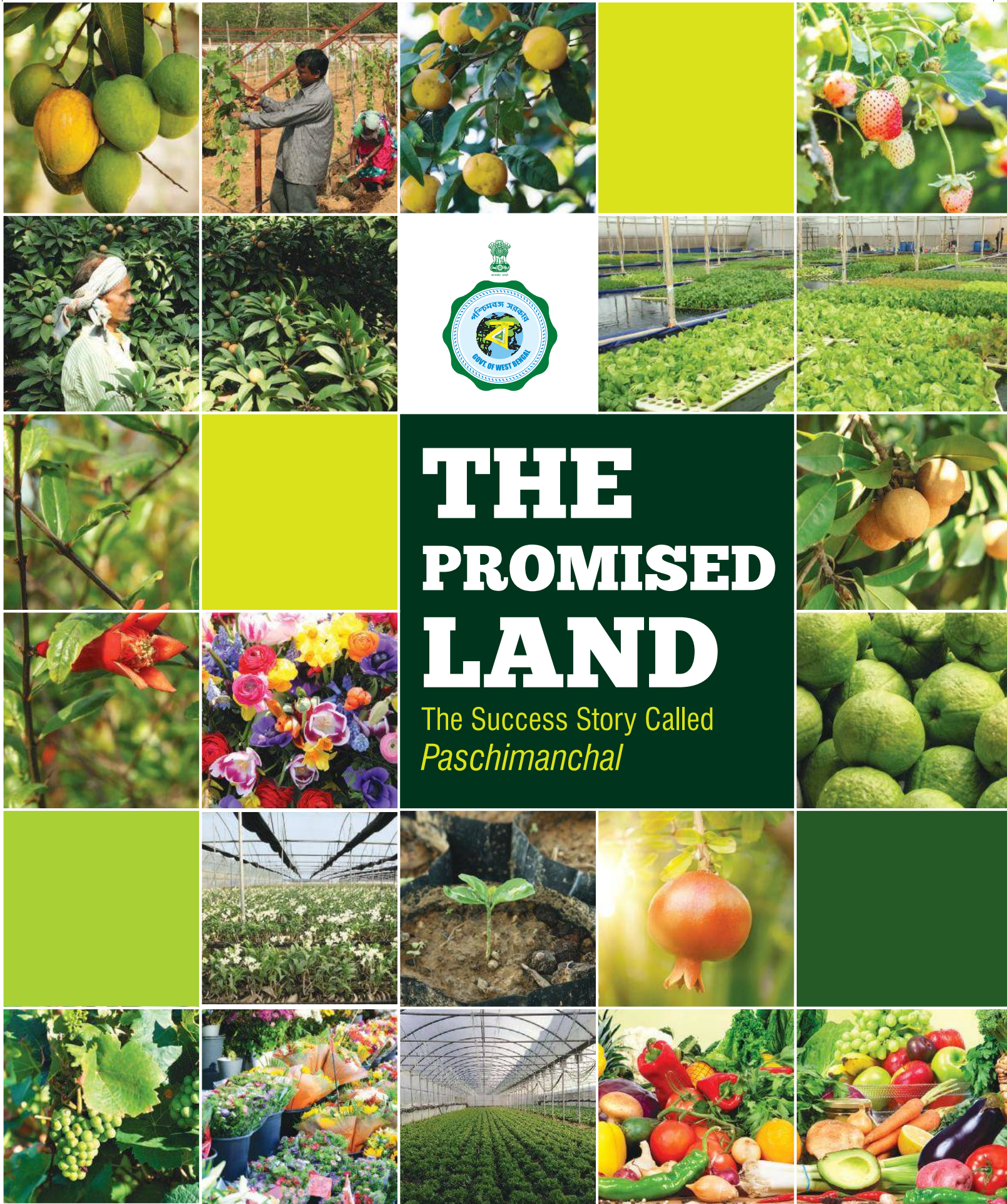
STATUS {2018-19}

DEVELOPMENT OF HORTICULTURE IN *PASCHIMANCHAL* DISTRICTS

District	Achievement (Ha)	No. of Beneficiary
Bankura	405	1150
Birbhum	838	2780
Paschim Bardhaman	157	1500
Purulia	437	890
Paschim Medinipur	473	800
Jhargram	525	673
Grand Total	2835	7793

PASCHIMANCHAL

STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT OF HORTICULTURE (2017-18)



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PASCHIMANCHAL

DEVELOPMENT OF HORTICULTURE IN PASCHIMANCHAL DISTRICTS

The western tract of West Bengal comprising of the *Paschimanchal*

districts of Bankura, Purulia, Jhargram, Paschim Medinipur, Birbhum and Paschim

Bardhaman districts have relatively less fertile soil and is scarce in rainwater as compared to other parts of the State.

The cultivation of traditional agricultural crops is limited in this area. A pilot project has been taken up by the

Department of Food Processing Industries and Horticulture in the *Paschimanchal* districts

through development of horticulture in the area with the intent to increase

farmers' income and improve their socio-economic status. A total

area of 2953 hectares in 147 Gram Panchayats across the identified six districts covering 7000 beneficiaries was taken up in the pilot phase of the project for the year 2017-18. In 2018-19 plantation in 2835 hectares has been completed.

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PASCHIMANCHAL

ADVANTAGE IN CULTIVATION OF HORTICULTURE CROPS

The climatic conditions and nature of soil of *Paschimanchal* have been found to be ideal for fruits with better aroma and taste, rich in food value, low moisture content, better sugar/acid ratio and bright flesh/skin colour of fruits which have been found to be less prone to diseases and pest attacks, thereby having better acceptability in domestic and export markets. There is an immense scope for production of fruits such as Mango, Guava, Sweet Orange, Pomegranate, etc. and vegetables in this area. The area has been found to be very suitable for production of Grapes as also corroborated by research conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research - National Research Centre for Grapes, Pune. Attempts are being made towards organic cultivation which would increase the quality, yield and suitability of fruits/vegetables for export.



CONVERGENCE

WITH OTHER SCHEMES

The project has been envisaged by the Department of Food Processing Industries and Horticulture in convergence with the schemes of other allied departments, wherever necessary i.e., Agriculture, Panchayat and Rural Development, Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs, Backward Class Welfare, Surface Water, Animal Resource Development, Fisheries, etc.

PASCHIMANCHAL

PLAN OF WORK/STRATEGY

The suggested plan of works include orchard establishment (30 hectares/Panchayat for 9 Panchayats in 3 Blocks each year in 6 districts of *Paschimanchal* with the targeted area development of 16200 hectares by 5th year, 2020-21), selection of beneficiaries, augmenting source of irrigation, selection of fruit crops and availability of planting materials of fruits, establishment of progeny orchard and nursery, planning for planting, intercrop, supply of organic matter, vermi-composting facility (including training) at all levels, crop management practice and Post-Harvest Management facility, rejuvenation and management of neglected/non-productive orchards, marketing, vegetable cultivation (early cultivation of high value vegetables in 5 hectares area in each Panchayat of 3 identified Blocks in each district in open and low-cost poly-house for a targeted area development of 2700 hectares by 5th year, 2020-2021), cut flower production of high value flowers under protection, vegetable seed production, bee keeping, block level nursery establishment, etc.



ASSISTANCE

TO BE GIVEN TO FARMERS

Various kinds of assistance will be provided to the farmers and beneficiaries such as provision of elite planting material from accredited nurseries, water resources for providing irrigation, digging of pits for planting, application of insecticide for plant protection, provision of quality high-yielding vegetable seeds, creation of poly-house, shade-net, etc.

TRAINING

Intensive training to all stake holders including Technology Demonstration and Farm Practices, Publication of Training materials in local language.