

Case study - Hetasunra adivasi Marangburu Mohila Dol Community grain bank, Bankura

DRCSC have undertaken efforts to motivate women community (11 members) of project area at Hetasunra, Chhatna, Bankura (mostly SC, ST and OBC population) to set up and regularly maintain a community grain bank. The group received help from DRCSC who provided the necessary investment to make the cement floor. A well-built community grain store locally called 'Gola ghar' was constructed with the full participation of group members. It is made sure that stored grain is kept dry and free of pests by constructing the store in a well litted place and making a thatched roof. The preliminary grain collection for storage of 100 kg was shared equally by DRCSC and community members. Stored grain has been kept in waterproof conditions by using traditional method of binding the exterior of the Gola ghar with plaited straw ropes and putting straw packing buffer next to it inside. Within that the rice grains were kept. When local grain prices begin to rise,



and grain supplies fall, the bank make grain available to villagers and even

people of adjacent village can avail the facility. When people outside the group members need to buy grain as their own supplies have run out, they were provided loan of grains against an interest of 8 ser (7.46 kg) on a original loan of 20 ser (18.662 kg). Whereas group members can get the facility at a lower interest rate of 5 ser (4.66 kg) against 20 ser of original loan.

Since 2018, the women's group of Hetasunra has stored grain for the critical



periods of the year. Straight after harvest time, around November to December, the group, decides where the price is best and stock up the bank. The villagers of Hetasunra have welcomed the grain bank warmly and understand the advantage of safeguarding their grain.