

# Success story

## of Traditional Muga rearer

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Mrinal Kakati, S/o- Thaneswar Kakati, Vill-Maicha Chapori, P.O- Deori Borbam in the Dhemaji district of Assam is a prominent Sericulturist. He is 48 years old and has been actively working on muga culture since last 15 years. Muga culture is the main source of livelihood for his family. He possesses 35 bighas of land out of which he has good systematic plantation of 2,310 Som plants and 90 Soalu plants in 17 bighas of land. Every year he conducts 2-3 rearing's in his rearing site and engages 11 local youths of that particular area in the rearing activities. Due to his hard work and perseverance, he has been successful in achieving a good production of muga cocoon each year. He achieved commendable production in the year 2021 where he harvested 1,80,000 cocoons; in the year 2022 he harvested 3,20,000 cocoons and during the year 2023-24 he harvested 3,50,000 muga cocoons. Every year he has been able to supply 25,000 to 30,000 of seed cocoons to other muga rearers throughout various districts of Assam. Recently on 13th of March 2024 he had organized a subsidized muga seed cocoon distribution programme among the muga reares of different districts of Assam in the presence of eminent people viz. Honorable District Commissioner Dhemaji, I/C Assistant Director of Sericulture Department and Senior Scientist cum Head of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. He was able to sell a total of 35,000 seed cocoons among the 27

participated muga rearers belonging to different parts of Assam at a subsidized rate.

Apart from rearing activities he is maintaining 2 CSTR I reeling cum twisting machines and 4 power looms in which he has engaged 2 reelers and 4 local weavers. Weavers produce different muga silk products viz. Gamusa, Mekhela Sador, Coat, Tie etc. Every year during the rearing period, visitors from different states and countries comes to visit his rearing field. Recently he has taken up agriculture as well as fishery and animal husbandry in addition to Sericulture for giving a boost to his income. Kakati has prepared 10 nos. of compost unit near his plantation area and uses the harvested compost for som and soalu plantation. In the near future he is planning to set up an integrated farming system in his farml and so that he can utilize every piece of land efficiently and double his income.

He was awarded as the highest commercial cocoon producer of Assam for the year 2022-2023 from the Directorate of Sericulture. He was awarded with a certificate and cash prize of Rs. 25,000/- , in the presence of honourable Chief Minister of Assam along with different dignitaries of the Sericulture Department. He was also awarded with Environmental worker award during the year 2014 by the honourable District Commissioner of Dhemaji in 70th Independence Day. It has been seen that Mrinal Kakati has become a role model as a 'Muga Culturist' in not only Dhemaji district but throughout the Assam.



Harvesting of Ripen Muga silkworm



Compost unit



Muga seed cocoon distribution programme among the Muga rearers