

# INDIAN INSTITUTE OF FOREST MANAGEMENT

## Working Paper

### **Bhowmick's thoughts and action in the World of Development**

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Professor Probodh Kumar Bhowmick, the doyen of Development Anthropology, commencing his academic career on a writing of an ethnography of an ex-criminal tribe latter in his working life attempted to give insights into the definition of Anthropology from 'Science of man' to the 'Science of man for the service to the mankind' deriving out of his empirical and action-oriented researches and programmes at the grass-roots level. He utilized the ethnographic and ethnological techniques to address the issues and consequently prioritizing those in the action-oriented developmental programmes to bring into the main-stream by provisioning the constitutional benefits. Thus whole Ethnographic document helped in designing and managing the developmental programmes by promoting their indigenous knowledge system, institutionalizing the disorganized tribal group on developmental paradigms, protecting their forest rights, generating the forest-based livelihoods and involving them in agricultural and allied sectors envisioning the participatory development in the India's rural setting, which was strengthened in 1990s by the different rural development sectors. For the human resources development the basic education for socialization and regenerating the cultural ethos within Ashram School system framework in the rural setting boosted the morale for achieving Sustainable development. The dissemination of the output of the fundamental and action-oriented research in his pro-long activity of a half a century opened different dimensions to focus on the crux of the problems, which would be investigated or researched by the Academic Community and also built a nexus between the grass roots and the world of development.

**Key words:** Anthropology, Ethnography, Ethnology, Indigenous Knowledge, Forest Rights

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