

SOILS OF SANTHALPARGANA

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ABSTRACT

Almost all the economic activities are directly or indirectly dependent on soil. The production of crops, exploitation of raw materials, construction of roads and railways and availability of sites for settlements, all these are related to soil. Thus soil is the backbone of agricultural and industrial development. In a country like India whose economy is primarily based on agriculture and where majority of the people are engaged in agricultural activities and are there fore, dependant on land for their living, soil is of primary significance.

Bastu or Bhita land (Santhali ora barge) is homestead land growing sugarcane, chillies, tobacco, maize, mustard and all kinds of vegetables. Saline soils which are unfit for agricultural purposes are called Usaar, Kharwa etc.

KEYWORDS: *The Solls, The Balsundar, Kalamati*