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research is very essential. We need to make some in-situ tests to understand how much it is stabilized particularly when you are working in a man-made slope. The roots of the grass get joined together that's why they have the capacity of holding it. On a natural slope vetiver could resist landslides. The roots penetrate to more than 50cm in 2 months and they grow in contaminated areas also. Here one thing we should do, nobody in India has done so far, is Eco Mortar. Once you put Eco Mortar and then you do the plantation, then even hostile areas will have plants coming. There are numerous products that can be produced using Vetiver and it should be in the Make In India scheme because this way we can save our forests. Also, bamboo reinforced concrete which was used 70-80 years ago. From bamboo we can get fibre mixing with silk and it also protects the erosion and the silk sarees that cost 30,000 rupees can come in 10,000 rupees while the same bamboo is still stabilizing the slope.

Senaara Ailawadi: Thank you Dr. Pathak. Before we close this session, I want to talk about one of the most talked about techniques, hydroseeding. How effective is it and what is the success ratio when we talk about hydroseeding?

Dr Chandan Ghosh: There is a group in Chandigarh who have hired the vehicle and are using it but without knowing the technique. Since design and everything is made outside India, we only have to provide soil samples, elasticity parameters, PH balance, etc but we have not owned the technology. We can do it here, but we have to do certain site-specific experiments.

Dr. Khanindra Pathak: It is not a very big technology. Given an opportunity we can do almost 90% of the ratio. I got to know about the hydroseeding from the marble industry in Italy, technically nothing grows in those mines. These are just high-pressure slurry pumps. We can do it here. But now the government has to agree on this. We can design a container, select slurry pumps, create the nozzle design, select the particular type of grass and do it. We should not hire any foreign company or foreign people to do this job.

Audience Question: Can vetiver grow on ash ponds for fugitive dust mitigation?

Dr. Chandan Ghosh: Yes, it is being applied in ash ponds and several such contracts are now given. In that case, the grass has to have some kind of microbes and we need to know which kind of microbes is to be used. Some kind of bacteria are used there to grow the grass and we can keep the grass alive for two months without any water or nursery. It can even be made a substitute in the coastal area. It can increase the fertility of the ground and can be grown in the areas where the main crop exists to protect it.

Dr. Khanindra Pathak: When fugitive dust is concerned it is from the surface. When you have an ash pond and you have to add the grass over there, initially in inter row space you have to give the required nutrients. I did another experiment. I used to mix cow dung with ghee and keep it for three days and pour cow urine, cow milk and cow curd. Then I took the standard coconut water and sugarcane juice and stirred it every day for 18 days. Now when you put this solution even in the ash pond, your grass will grow. And for the fugitive dust, between the two rows you will have to put rice straw and then once after three months you will find the grass growing and from that no dust will come at all. Always maintain vetiver to 1.5 ft high.

CRACKING YOUR FIRST MILLION IS A FEAT! READ MORE ABOUT MALINI SABA'S EXPERIENCE AND CELEBRATE HER FIRST ON PAGE NO. 72



Dr Malini Saba
Founder & Chairman, Saba Group

Closing my **FIRST MILLION**

When I closed my first million it was very surreal, almost an anti-climax. I worked insane hours, made risky decisions, listened, strived and hustled as my life depended on it. I have had my fair share of losses and let downs as we live in a man eat man world. I had to improvise when potential investors disappeared and it caused an avalanche of hell for the business and got out of it slowly.

During the Journey, I experienced Gender bias is real, and there is a true backlash against women who are assertive, strong and powerful. I learned to speak up more influentially, advocate for my needs, values, and wishes, the saying "The loudest bird gets the worm" is very true. Eventually, it happened. I "made it" I banked a million bucks from scratch.

My parents were immigrants. They worked hard to provide for my sister and their native families. I grew up as a normal middle-class kid and made sure to always donate clothes, food and books from my allowance and to spend time at shelters.

Having grown up the hard way, putting myself through school, working part-time, doing jobs like babysitting, setting home cleaning business etc. I am aware of what

it is like to have no money, struggle for food, pay rent and take care of siblings. Since childhood, I aspired to make a difference in the world of the needy and make enough money for charity.

Earning the first million was the hardest, but once you know how to make it, gets easier from there. I used my energy wisely and always believe in 'Working hard first and Party later'.

You are rich when you have a great career that you're passionate about; you can't wait to go to work and you have terrific people around you; you can provide for your family; you have financial security, are happy and able to give back to society.

The day I was able to make a million, I visited a temple, prayed and thanked God for opening the doors, I invested the money, saved some, branched out into other businesses and laid a stone for 'Anannke Foundation' to support women & girl's education, health, art and culture, livelihood generation and rights.

At the end of the day, I do not look for glory or praise, my main goal is to make a difference in the world and to ease the plight of people who have little hope.