Success Story: Tribal Sub Plan

Enhancement of livelihood security of tribal farmers of Makaltala and Farmania villages of Habra block, North 24 PGS Under Tribal Sub Plan, Govt. of India.

Makaltala and Farmania villages are located in Kumra Gram Panchayat under Habra block-I of North 24 PGS. These villages are relatively backward and not so economically sound. Major source for livelihood for these tribes in the village is farming either in their own land or in leased land. Some youths and family heads are involved in other works like masonry and in the meantime their other family members are involved in farming to meet their livelihoods. Some are engaged in agriculture fields on daily wages. As per the preliminary survey of the village, the major crops grown by the villagers are jute, paddy, til and mustard. It was observed that the farmers were not following improved cultivation practices because of lack of knowledge about various improved production methods.

A Survey on the livelihood of tribal farmers of Makaltala and Farmania villages revealed that there are various economic activities that can profitably be carried out by the tribal families and Keeping this in mind under Tribal Sub Plan, various activities for enhancing the livelihood security was introduced by ICAR-Central Research Institute for Jute and allied Fibres from 2014-15 to 2017-18. The major interventions were Improved jute varieties, line sowing, jute intercrop with mung, nail weeder, retting with CRIJAF Sona, improved package of practices of mustard, coriander, nigella, kharif and boro rice etc, entrepreneurship development through various training programmes, duckery, poultry etc.

The extension approach followed was group approach. Eleven self help groups in the villages which were non functional was made active by motivating the members. All the technology demonstration and input distribution were made through these farmers and farm women groups.

Special emphasis was given on women empowerment and nutrition security. For empowering farm women various initiatives were taken by the institute like making of jute bags, jute ornaments and introduction of poultry and duckery in jute based integrated farming system. Several trainings were given to women Self Help Groups (SHG) on preparation of jute bag and other handicraft. Trainings were also organised for the farm women on rearing of improved breeds of poultry (Vanaraja) and duck (Khaki Campbell). Eleven Self Help Groups of two villages of North 24 Pgs became active by these trainings and initiated fresh impetus among the tribal farmers particularly the women to generate earnings for the SHG.
The salient achievement of the TSP programme were

1. Increase in area under crops and yield
2. Introduction of vegetable cultivation in soil columns in rice field
3. Introduction of mung crop and nigella in the village
4. Adoption of technology like jute variety JRO 204, Line sowing of jute, Microbial retting using CRIJAF SONA etc
5. Eleven self help groups were made active
7. Increased income of farmers
8. Gain in knowledge and skill
9. Gain in confidence in farming
10. Enhancement in the livelihood security.

Change in area and production of major crops in the village over the last four years is shown graphically.

1. Jute

![Jute Production in quintal per ha](image1)

![Jute Area in ha](image2)
2. Boro Rice

Boro rice Production in quintal per ha

3. Mustard

Mustard Production in quintal per ha

4. Kharif rice

Kharif rice Production in quintal per ha
Perceived impact of tsp on tribal farmers’ livelihood

A schedule was developed to study the perceived impact of Tribal sub plan interventions on the livelihood security of tribal farmers and it was found that as a result of the interventions the tribal farmers had gained confidence in farming. Farmers have also reported an increase in knowledge and skill on improved technologies, improvement in living condition, children education, income from agriculture etc. The perceived impact along with score is given below in the table. The maximum possible score was 160.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Gain in confidence in farming</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Gain in skill in proper use of inputs and implements</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Gain in knowledge</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Increased decision making capacity</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Increased food availability</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Improvement in living conditions</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Optimum use of resources</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Increased social interaction</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Cropping intensity increased</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Increased income</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Area under the crops increased</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Improvement in children education</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Optimum use of family labour</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Provided employment opportunity</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Reduced migration</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Could arrange irrigation facility</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Complete adoption of profitable improved technologies of crop production</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Could ensure nutrition security</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Access to market information</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Assistance from other programmes</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

--- Shamna. A, S.K Jha, S. Kumar and S.Sarkar
Success Stories : TSP

“TSP interventions had changed my life”
Montu Singh
Village : Makaltala

• I could get increased yield and income from crops
• I have gained confidence in farming
• I could arrange marriage for daughter from a well to do family because of increased income from the farm
• Could gain knowledge on many improved technologies.
• The new interventions had changed my life

“Farming was never so easy; CRIJAF interventions empowered me”
Savitha Sardar
Village : Makaltala

• I do farming in 5 bigha area
• I do all the work alone from sowing to harvesting, as my husband work as labour outside village
• CRIJAF Technologies had made my work easy, reduced drudgery
• I could educate my daughters as I could earn more income
• My Self Help Group also became more active and we started income earning activities.
• I thank TSP-ICAR CRIJAF for empowering me.

“New Farm interventions under TSP brought me back to my village”
Khakon Sardar
Village : Makaltala

• I have one bigha land of my own but I am doing farming in 14 bigha area now.
• I had Adopted all the interventions demonstrated in the village
• Gained knowledge and skill on various farming practices
• Earned more income from farming since last three years
• I used to work as migrant labour (in Kerala) before ,but now I am settled in my village
• I have gained more confidence in farming and I need not run to other states for earning my bread.

Sources: Shamna. A, S.K Jha, S. Kumar and S.Sarkar