Transforming Tribal Agriculture for Resilient Livelihoods:

ICAR-CCARI's Interventions and Impact under Jan Jatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada-2025



ICAR - Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute

Ela, Old Goa, Goa



Bhagwan Birsa Munda

Technical Bulletin No. 81/2026
Financial support under TSP

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ICAR – CCARI's Intervention and Impact under Jan Jatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada - 2025

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Correct citation:
Mayekar Trivesh, Sahu Amiya Ranjan, Vishwakarma Shashi, Prajapati Vishwajeet, Shetye Harshvardhan and Parveen Kumar. (2026). Transforming Tribal Agriculture for Resilient Livelihoods: ICAR – CCARI's Intervention and Impact Under Jan Jatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada - 2025 Technical Bullet No: 81/2026. ICAR-Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute, Ela, Old Goa-403 402, Goa, India. Pp 72.

Published by:
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Preface



Tribal communities represent an integral component of India's socio-cultural fabric, possessing rich traditional knowledge systems and a deep connection with natural resources. Despite their invaluable contributions to sustainable resource management, these communities often face challenges related to livelihood security, access to technology, institutional support, and market integration. Addressing these challenges requires location-specific, participatory, and inclusive approaches that combine scientific advancements with indigenous knowledge. The ICAR–Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR–CCARI), Goa, under its Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) initiatives, has been actively engaged in strengthening the livelihoods of tribal communities through need-based interventions in agriculture, fisheries, and allied sectors. In this context, the "Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada – 2025" was organized as a focused effort to promote awareness, capacity building, and sustainable livelihood enhancement among tribal populations across Goa.

This technical bulletin documents the interventions, activities, and outreach undertaken during the fifteen-day programme. It highlights key thematic areas including socio-economic development, skill enhancement, agri-entrepreneurship, health and nutrition, digital inclusion, and conservation of indigenous resources. The bulletin also captures field-level experiences, stakeholder interactions, and the collaborative efforts of scientists, extension personnel, local governance institutions, and community members. While the primary objective of this document is to present the outcomes of the programme, it also aims to serve as a reference for researchers, policymakers, and development practitioners working towards inclusive and sustainable tribal development. The insights presented herein underscore the importance of integrated approaches, community participation, and continuous institutional support in achieving long-term livelihood resilience. It is hoped that this bulletin will contribute to strengthening future interventions and policy initiatives aimed at empowering tribal communities in coastal regions and beyond.

Parveen Kumar
Director, ICAR – CCARI

Executive Summary

In accordance with the directions received from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the ICAR–Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR–CCARI), Goa, successfully conducted a 15-day Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada 2025 from 1st to 15th November 2025 to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda. A total of 461 tribal participants benefitted from the initiative, comprising 244 females and 217 males. The programmes were conducted across 14 different locations, including: Indrawada (Gaodongrim), Cotigaon, Corlim, Karmali, Old Goa (ICAR campus), Badsarem, Priol, Piligao, Madkai, Taleigao, Cumbarjua, Carambolim, Dhulapi, Azossim, Cumbharjua and surrounding villages. This ensured broad outreach to tribal communities across Canacona, Ponda, Tiswadi, Bicholim and Bardez.



The programmes addressed a wide range of developmental priorities, including Socio Economic Development and Awareness; Education and Skill Development; Livelihood and Entrepreneurship SHGs, Startups,

Tribal Product Branding; Health and Wellness, Health Unit, Nutrition, AYUSH, Disease Screening; Art, GI-tagged crafts etc; Culture and Heritage, Digital Tribal etc; Infrastructure development; Governance and Institutional strengthening; Awareness of on-going schemes and field presence; Digital Inclusion and sustainable Development; Educational initiatives that highlight the legacy of tribal freedom fighters; Public awareness campaigns in area with predominantly tribal population; Hold tribal Agri-entrepreneurship summits connecting farmers and Agri-start-ups; Establish Tribal farmers markets for direct sale of produce; and Set up Seed Banks to preserve indigenous crop varieties. Key achievements of the programme included hands-on demonstrations on aquaculture, integrated farming, nursery management, organic inputs, value-addition, digital tools (MyScheme, eNAM, Sachet, Fertilizer Calculator), GI and craft promotion, seed bank training, exposure to 166 indigenous rice varieties and 40 freshwater fish species, widespread dissemination of government schemes, identification of local operational issues, and strengthened linkages between tribal farmers, SHGs, Panchayats, agri-startups and ICAR experts.

A valedictory session of the Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada 2025 was held on 15th November 2025 at ICAR–CCARI, Goa, marking the successful completion of the fifteen-day series of programmes. Shri Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), and Shri Trivesh Mayekar, Scientist (Fish Genetics & Breeding) presented an overview of the achievements and outreach accomplished during the entire Pakhwada, highlighting the extensive participation of tribal farmers, the wide range of thematic programmes covered, and the strong field-level impact created across multiple villages. The session was graced by Dr. Parveen Kumar, Director, ICAR–CCARI, Goa, who delivered the valedictory address, commending the efforts of the organizing team and appreciating the enthusiastic participation of tribal farmers and community members throughout the programme. He emphasized the importance of sustaining the momentum generated during the Pakhwada and urged the participants to adopt conservation-oriented practices, promote indigenous crop varieties, and continue engaging with the institute for technical guidance. The Director also encouraged the farmers to strengthen community-level initiatives such as seed banks, traditional knowledge preservation, and integrated farming systems for long-term ecological and livelihood security.

The valedictory programme concluded with an expression of gratitude to all participants, facilitators, field functionaries, SHGs, and local stakeholders,

reaffirming ICAR–CCARI's commitment to ongoing support for tribal development, capacity building, and sustainable agricultural transformation in coastal states. This 15-day programme resulted in enhanced awareness, improved access to schemes, empowerment of tribal communities, and the promotion of sustainable, culturally rooted and technologically enabled livelihood opportunities.



Background

India's Scheduled Tribe (ST) Population Overview

India is home to one of the world's largest tribal populations. According to Census 2011 data and subsequent estimates, Scheduled Tribes constitute approximately 8.6% of India's total population — numbering over 104 million people across 705 officially recognised tribal communities. These communities are spread across 26 states and 6 union territories, with highest concentrations in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, and the North-Eastern states.

Tribal communities in India are characterised by their distinct language, culture, traditions, and close dependence on forests and natural ecosystems for their livelihoods. Agriculture — primarily subsistence farming — fisheries, animal husbandry, collection of minor forest produce, and traditional crafts form the core of their economic activities. Despite comprising a significant share of the national population, ST communities continue to face disproportionate challenges in education, health, income, and access to institutional support.

Indicator	Data (Census 2011 / GoI estimates)
Total ST Population (India)	~10.45 crore (8.6% of total population)
No. of Recognised Tribal Comm.	705 communities (PVTG: 75)
Literacy Rate (ST)	59.0% (National avg: 73%)
ST Population – Goa (Census 2011)	~1.49 lakh (11.5% of Goa's population)
Major Tribes in Goa	Gawda, Kunbi, Velip, Dhangar, Siddi, Dhangar-Agri
Primary Livelihoods (Goa STs)	Paddy cultivation, horticulture, pig/poultry rearing, fisheries, forest-based activities
Developmental Gap – ST vs General	Significant gaps persist in health, education, income & digital access

Institute and Its Mandate for Tribal Development

The ICAR–Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR–CCARI), located at Ela, Old Goa, is a premier national agricultural research institute under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Government of India. Established to address the unique agricultural and allied sector challenges of

coastal ecosystems, ICAR-CCARI conducts cutting-edge research in crops, fisheries, animal husbandry, soil science, and natural resource management.



Under its Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) and Sub Tribal Component (STC) mandates, the institute actively engages with Scheduled Tribe farming communities in Goa, Karnataka, and Maharashtra — implementing capacity-building programmes, distributing improved inputs, conducting field demonstrations, and facilitating technology transfer for sustainable livelihoods. The institute's Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), North Goa also plays a pivotal role in directly engaging with tribal farmers through front-line extension activities. ICAR-CCARI maintains a Live Fish Gene Bank housing 40 indigenous freshwater fish species, a rice germplasm collection of 166 indigenous varieties, and active research programmes in integrated farming systems, organic agriculture, aquaculture, and soil health — all of which have direct relevance to the livelihoods and food security of tribal communities in the coastal belt.

Tribal Communities of Goa

Goa's tribal population is officially estimated at approximately 1.49 lakh (Census 2011), representing about 11.5% of the state's total population. The major Scheduled Tribe communities in Goa include the Gawda (the largest group), Kunbi, Velip, Dhangar, Siddi, and Dhangar-Agri. These communities predominantly reside in the interior talukas of Sattari, Canacona, Sanguem, and parts of Ponda, Bicholim, and Bardez. Their livelihoods are closely linked to subsistence paddy cultivation, horticulture, animal husbandry (pig, poultry, cattle), and fishing.

Challenges faced by tribal communities in Goa include wild animal crop damage, limited market access, unfamiliarity with government scheme application procedures, saline intrusion in khazan lands, lack of value-addition skills, and inadequate access to quality agricultural inputs. The Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada 2025 programme by ICAR-CCARI directly addressed these gaps through targeted, field-level interventions across key tribal talukas.

Bhagwan Birsa Munda: Legacy of Tribal Resistance and Empowerment

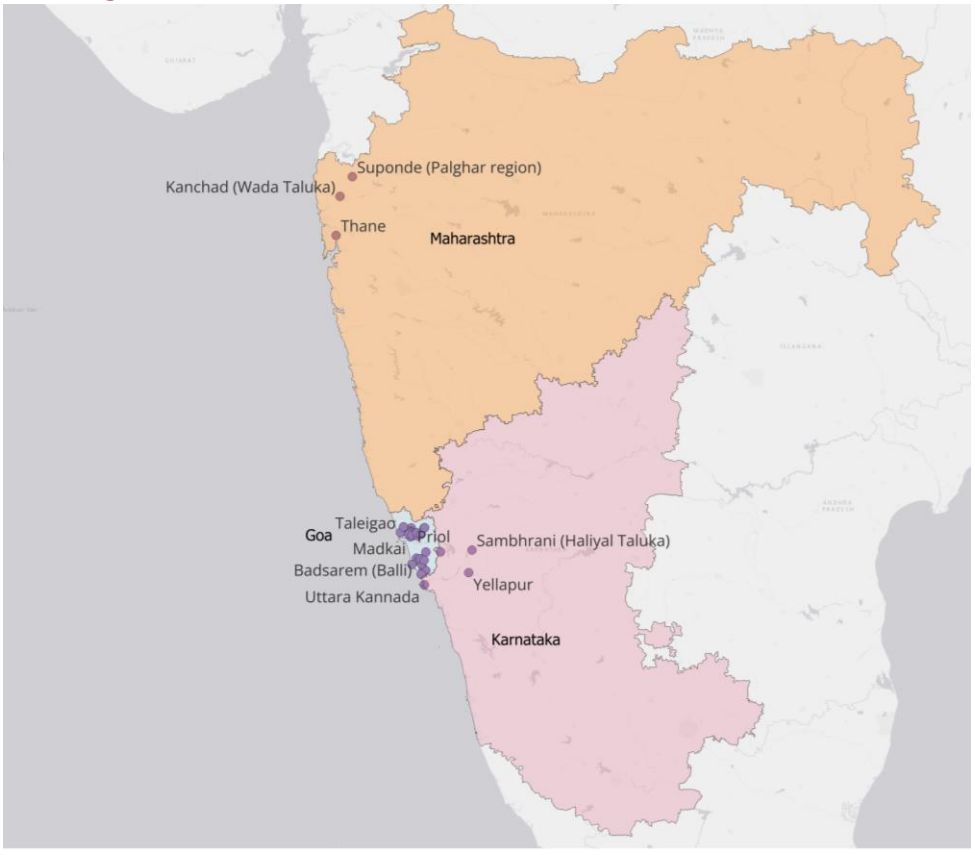
Birsa Munda (1875–1900) is one of the most revered tribal freedom fighters and social reformers in Indian history. Born on 15 November 1875 in Ulihatu village in present-day Jharkhand, he emerged as a powerful leader of the Munda tribal community during the late nineteenth century. Despite his short life of only 25 years, Birsa mobilized indigenous communities against colonial exploitation, oppressive landlords, and moneylenders who had dispossessed tribal people of their traditional lands and rights. His leadership symbolized the struggle for tribal identity, justice, and the protection of indigenous socio-cultural systems. Because of his extraordinary courage, vision, and dedication to the welfare of tribal communities, he came to be revered as "Bhagwan" among his followers.

Birsa Munda is best remembered for leading the historic Ulgulan (The Great Rebellion) against the authority of the British Raj and the exploitative feudal system imposed on tribal lands. Through this movement, he sought to restore the traditional rights of tribal communities over forests and land that had been taken away under colonial policies. His efforts awakened widespread awareness among tribal communities and inspired collective resistance against oppression. Although he was imprisoned by the British and died at a young age, his struggle significantly influenced later tribal rights movements and contributed to protective land legislation such as the Chotanagpur Tenancy Act. Beyond his revolutionary leadership, Birsa Munda was also a visionary social reformer who encouraged ethical living, discouraged harmful social practices, and promoted unity, dignity, and self-respect among tribal communities. His philosophy emphasized harmony between humans and nature, sustainable resource use, and community-driven development.

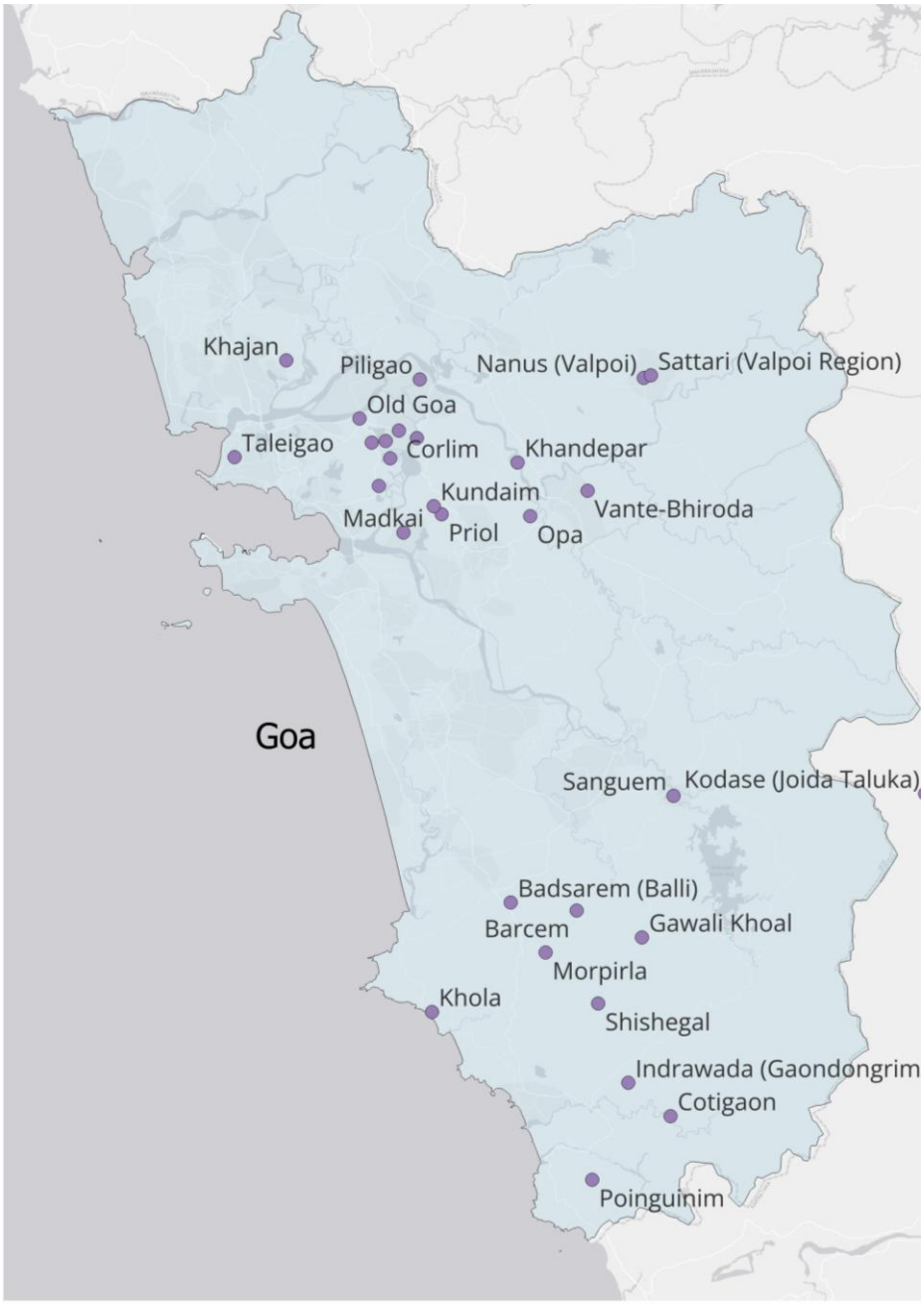
Today, Birsa Munda's legacy continues to inspire initiatives focused on tribal welfare, environmental stewardship, and the preservation of indigenous knowledge systems. In recognition of his extraordinary contributions, the Government of India observes Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas on 15 November to

celebrate the invaluable role of tribal communities in the nation's history and development. As part of the Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada, the ICAR – Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR–CCARI), Goa organized a series of extension, awareness, and stakeholder interaction programmes from 6–15 November 2025. These initiatives aimed to empower Scheduled Tribe communities in Goa through capacity building, promotion of sustainable livelihoods, digital inclusion, governance awareness, agri-entrepreneurship, and the preservation of cultural and agricultural heritage, thereby fostering participatory knowledge sharing and inclusive rural development.

Coverage area



Map of locations covered along the west coast of India



Map of locations covered in Goa

Inaugural Sessions and Key Dignitaries

The programs were inaugurated and coordinated by key officials and scientists from ICAR–Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR–CCARI), Goa. The activities were led by Shri Trivesh Mayekar (Scientist, Fish Genetics & Breeding) and Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma (Senior Technical Officer, Soil Science), along with the active support and coordination of Mr. Vishwajeet Prajapati, Shri Dilkush Velip, Shri Payak Padkar, Mr. Daksh Raikar, Mr. Harshvardhan Shetye, and Mr. Sidhesh Ugadekar.

Various local leaders and representatives also participated in specific programs, including Sarpanch's, Panchayat members, and officials from line departments, ATMA, and other institutions. Their participation ensured strong community engagement, effective coordination with local governance bodies, and meaningful participatory dialogue with tribal communities during the course of the programs.

Objectives

The main objectives of the program were to:

- To promote tribal heritage, indigenous knowledge, governance capacity, and awareness on legal, digital, and welfare initiatives.
- To improve tribal livelihoods through sustainable agriculture, fisheries, entrepreneurship, direct marketing, and skill development, with special focus on women empowerment.
- To promote biodiversity conservation and strengthen institutional linkages for integrated and sustained tribal development.



Date wise Action Plan for Jan Jatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada 2025

Date	Theme
01.11.2025	Socio Economic Development and Awareness
02.11.2025	Education and Skilled Development
03.11.2025	Livelihood and Entrepreneurship: SHGs, Startups, Tribal Product Branding
04.11.2025	Health and Wellness: Health Unit, Nutrition, AYUSH, Disease Screening
05.11.2025	Art: GI-tagged crafts etc.
06.11.2025	Culture and Heritage: Digital Tribal etc.
07.11.2025	Infrastructure development
08.11.2025	Governance and Institutional strengthening
09.11.2025	Awareness of on-going schemes and field presence
10.11.2025	Digital Inclusion and sustainable Development
11.11.2025	Educational initiatives that highlight the legacy of tribal freedom fighters
12.11.2025	Public awareness campaigns in area with predominantly tribal population
13.11.2025	Hold tribal Agri-entrepreneurship summits connecting farmers and Agri-start-ups
14.11.2025	Establish Tribal farmers markets for direct sale of produce
15.11.2025	Set up Seed Banks to preserve indigenous crop varieties.

Activities undertaken:

Socio-Economic Development and Awareness for Scheduled Tribes



The programme aimed to promote awareness among tribal farmers on improved agricultural and allied practices, enhance their socio-economic status, and facilitate access to institutional support systems. The inaugural session was conducted by Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), ICAR–CCARI, Goa, followed by a session by Shri Trivesh Mayekar, Scientist (Fish Genetics & Breeding), who emphasized capacity-building for sustainable livelihoods. Participants received guidance on agriculture, horticulture, fisheries, animal husbandry, soil health, pest and disease management, vermicomposting, and natural farming practices. PROM was distributed to encourage organic nutrient management. Special focus was laid on constructing farm ponds for rainwater utilization and aquaculture to enhance productivity and species diversification. A scientist–farmer interaction session addressed challenges such as stem borer infestation, wild animal damage, and crop losses. Farmers mainly cultivated rice, millets, ladyfinger, sweet potato, chilli, and other crops.

The programme also involved local leaders, including Shri Mandesh Gaonkar, Assistant Agriculture Officer, Mr. Pawan Gaonkar, Chairman, Indreshwar Youth Club, and members of six SHGs. Post-event field visits provided on-site technical guidance and advisory support to address practical challenges in crop cultivation. Farmers expressed keen interest in adopting improved practices and requested continued technical support from ICAR–CCARI. The interaction helped strengthen the link between scientists and farmers, encouraging knowledge exchange and promoting sustainable agricultural development in the region.


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Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025
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Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada

Education and Skill Development for Scheduled Tribes



The programme focused on enhancing awareness and capacity among tribal farmers regarding education, skill development, and adoption of improved agricultural practices for sustainable livelihood enhancement. A total of 32 ST farmers (28 females and 4 males) participated actively. The inaugural session was conducted by Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), ICAR–CCARI, Goa, who emphasized the importance of education, continuous skill development, and soil health management through testing and nutrient optimization. Shri Trivesh Mayekar, Scientist (Fish Genetics & Breeding), ICAR–CCARI, provided guidance on improved technologies and crop varieties in agriculture, horticulture, fisheries, and animal husbandry, and discussed practical interventions to address challenges such as wild animal intrusion, water scarcity, and marketing constraints for crops like millets and turmeric. He highlighted strategies including construction of rainwater harvesting ponds, collective marketing, branding of local millet products, and contract farming linkages to ensure fair prices.

The programme also showcased the traditional skill of local women farmers in weaving coconut leaf mats, emphasizing its potential as a value-added livelihood activity. Participants were encouraged to explore entrepreneurship opportunities based on traditional crops and skills. An interactive session allowed farmers to share their experiences and challenges, fostering knowledge exchange between scientists and the community. The programme concluded with encouragement for farmers to adopt improved practices and strengthen local livelihood opportunities through skill-based initiatives.


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Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025

Livelihood and Entrepreneurship Development for SHGs and Startups

The initiative aimed to strengthen the entrepreneurial skills of Scheduled Tribe (ST) farmers and SHG members by introducing sustainable livelihood opportunities, value addition technologies, and enterprise development models across agriculture and allied sectors. The session began with a welcome address and briefing on objectives, highlighting inclusive growth through livelihood diversification and micro-enterprise promotion. Shri Trivesh Mayekar, Scientist (Fish Genetics & Breeding), ICAR–CCARI, delivered an interactive lecture on agripreneurship, rural enterprise development, and the role of small-scale enterprises in enhancing household income, women's empowerment, and rural employment. He also discussed the importance of adopting locally suitable enterprise models that utilize available natural resources and traditional knowledge. Participants were introduced to opportunities in value addition, small-scale processing, and marketing of agricultural and fishery products to improve profitability. The session further emphasized the role of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and collective action in strengthening rural entrepreneurship and improving access to financial and institutional support.

Participants undertook an exposure-cum-demonstration visit to various field units, receiving hands-on training in freshwater aquaculture, brackish water cage culture, crab culture, ornamental fish production, and fish-based integrated farming systems. Dr. Shashi Vishwakarma demonstrated plant nursery establishment, rice cultivation, and good agronomic practices. Trainees also explored livestock- and crop-based enterprises such as millet cultivation, goat rearing, backyard poultry, piggery, vermicomposting, and organic manure preparation, illustrating the benefits of integrated farming systems. Sessions on financial planning and enterprise feasibility further helped participants understand investment needs, cost–benefit considerations, and profit potential. The interactive and field-oriented approach encouraged participants to consider small-scale agribusiness ventures and adopt diversified livelihood strategies for sustainable income generation. Participants also expressed interest in forming collective enterprises through SHGs to improve market access and bargaining power. The programme concluded with discussions on linking rural enterprises with government schemes and institutional support for long-term sustainability.


Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025
Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada


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Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada
01st - 15th November, 2025

Health and Wellness: Nutrition, AYUSH, and Disease Screening

The programme aimed to promote health awareness, nutritional literacy, and preventive healthcare among Scheduled Tribe (ST) farmers, integrating traditional health practices, balanced diets, and modern medical knowledge. A total of 17 tribal participants (11 males and 6 females) from Goa actively participated. The session commenced with a welcome address and briefing on objectives, emphasizing the importance of hygiene, nutrition, and overall well-being for sustainable livelihoods. Shri Trivesh Mayekar, Scientist (Fish Genetics & Breeding), highlighted the link between nutrition, health, and productivity, encouraging balanced diets rich in locally available foods such as fish, millets, pulses, and leafy vegetables. Dr. Juhi Kumari delivered a lecture on health management and conducted check-ups for participants. The programme included a free medical and disease screening camp covering general health assessments, blood pressure and sugar testing, BMI evaluation, and lifestyle counselling. Participants were sensitized to early detection and management of common ailments such as hypertension, diabetes, and anaemia.

A dedicated session on nutrition and diet diversification explained the role of food groups, portion balance, and locally sourced nutritious ingredients. Practical guidance was provided on integrating kitchen gardens, backyard poultry, and fish consumption to enhance household nutrition and food security. The session concluded with an interactive discussion where participants shared health challenges and traditional practices, enhancing their understanding of preventive healthcare, nutrition planning, and the integration of modern and traditional health approaches for improved community well-being. Participants appreciated the opportunity for health screening and expressed interest in regular awareness programmes to support healthier lifestyles. The programme also highlighted the importance of regular medical check-ups and maintaining a balanced diet for long-term health benefits. Overall, the initiative helped create greater awareness about preventive healthcare and encouraged participants to adopt healthier lifestyle practices within their communities.




Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025
Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada


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ICAR - Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute, Goa
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Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada
01st - 15th November, 2025




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Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025
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Promotion of Tribal Arts, Crafts, and GI-Tagged Products

The programme aimed to create awareness among tribal artisans and farmers about preserving traditional arts and crafts, promoting local products, and enhancing livelihoods through Geographical Indication (GI) tagging and value addition. A total of 20 tribal participants (15 females and 5 males) from Goa actively participated. Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), explained the concept and benefits of GI-tagged products, citing examples like Khola Chilli of Goa to illustrate how such certification adds value, protects traditional knowledge, and boosts income. Shri Trivesh Mayekar, Scientist (FG&B), emphasized innovation and entrepreneurship in tribal handicrafts, showcasing a bamboo aquarium and encouraging bamboo-based value-added products combining traditional skills with modern designs.

The event featured an exhibition of tribal arts and crafts from across India, including Warli, Tanjore, Madhubani, and Kavad paintings, along with Goa's traditional Kunbi saree. Shri Payak Padkar demonstrated handicraft techniques using coconut leaves to make brooms, mats, baskets, caps, and decorative items. Women participants also showcased their crafts from coconut shells and leaves, highlighting indigenous creativity. Following the programme, the ICAR–CCARI team visited a nearby vegetable stall to interact with tribal vendors and provide guidance on enhancing the value of local produce and crafts. The programme successfully motivated participants to adopt value addition and GI-tagging to improve income opportunities while preserving cultural heritage. Participants also expressed interest in developing market linkages and branding their traditional products. The initiative encouraged greater recognition of tribal craftsmanship and emphasized the importance of preserving indigenous knowledge systems for future generations. It also highlighted the role of community-based enterprises and SHGs in promoting traditional crafts at local and regional markets. Participants were encouraged to explore packaging, branding, and online platforms to expand the reach of their products. Overall, the programme reinforced the potential of tribal arts and crafts as sustainable livelihood opportunities while safeguarding cultural identity.


COMMUNITY BASED EVENT
Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025
Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada








COMMUNITY BASED EVENT







Promotion of Tribal Cultural Heritage of Goa



The programme aimed to raise awareness among tribal communities on preserving, documenting, and digitally promoting their indigenous cultural heritage. A total of 19 tribal participants (15 females and 4 males) from Goa actively participated. Shri Trivesh Mayekar, Scientist (Fish Genetics & Breeding), ICAR–CCARI, delivered a technical session emphasizing the documentation of traditional knowledge, folk arts, ritual dances, oral narratives, and intangible cultural heritage, while highlighting the role of digital tools, social media, and virtual exhibitions in promoting cultural identity and community pride. He also discussed heritage agriculture and heritage tourism as avenues for sustainable livelihoods. Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), briefed participants on government schemes, digital initiatives, and online platforms for tribal welfare, skill development, and entrepreneurship.

The programme featured a cultural demonstration of the traditional "Tribal Fugdi dance" by local women, illustrating its social, ceremonial, and gender-empowering significance. Participants were encouraged to establish community-managed digital archives, cultural centres, and ethno-botanical documentation systems to preserve and promote Goa's tribal heritage. The session concluded with interactive discussions on integrating digital literacy with traditional practices to enhance livelihood opportunities, cultural conservation, and access to welfare schemes, fostering inclusive and sustainable tribal development. Participants also shared their experiences and local cultural traditions, enriching the dialogue on heritage preservation. The programme highlighted the importance of youth participation in documenting and promoting indigenous culture through digital platforms. Overall, the initiative strengthened awareness about safeguarding tribal heritage while linking it with modern tools for sustainable community development.



Infrastructure Development and Sustainable Livelihood Enhancement for Scheduled Tribes

The programme aimed to identify infrastructural challenges and develop sustainable solutions in collaboration with the tribal community and Panchayat representatives. A total of 20 Scheduled Tribe (ST) farmers (17 males and 3 females) participated, along with key members of the Priol Panchayat, including Shri Damodar Naik (Zilla Panchayat Member), Smt. Disha Satarkar (Sarpanch), Smt. Harsha Gaude (Panch), Smt. Nutan Gaude (Director, Goa Bagayatdar), and Shri Sushant Naik (Panchayat Secretary). Shri Trivesh Mayekar, Scientist (Fish Genetics & Breeding), ICAR–CCARI, highlighted the institute's initiatives in sustainable farming, soil and water conservation, integrated farming systems, and reconstruction of local ponds to enhance irrigation and aquaculture potential. Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), assured the farmers that their infrastructural and input-related challenges would be communicated to central authorities and emphasized participatory approaches for tribal empowerment.

During open discussions, participants raised concerns about delayed subsidy disbursement, crop damage from wild animals, labour scarcity, procedural hurdles, and limited awareness of government schemes. Proposed infrastructure improvements included pond and water outlet upgrades, road and drainage repairs, community halls, rainwater harvesting systems, solar lighting, and electrification projects. The session also acknowledged the positive impact of ICAR-promoted bio-fertilizers like "Jeevamrut" on soil health and productivity. Farmers appreciated the opportunity to directly share their concerns with scientists and local representatives. The programme emphasized the importance of coordinated action between research institutions, local governance bodies, and communities for effective rural development. It concluded with a commitment from ICAR–CCARI to provide ongoing technical support and advocate for the integration of these infrastructural needs into future development initiatives.












Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025
Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada

Governance and Institutional Strengthening for Scheduled Tribes

The programme aimed to empower tribal farmers through participatory governance, institutional development, and legal awareness, strengthening frameworks for inclusive rural development. A total of 22 tribal farmers (13 females and 9 males) participated, along with representatives from line departments and local governance institutions. Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), ICAR–CCARI, Goa, highlighted the importance of tribal participation in grassroots decision-making, capacity building of local institutions, and digital literacy for effective community management. Shri Trivesh Mayekar, Scientist (Fish Genetics & Breeding), elaborated on the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA) and the Forest Rights Act (FRA) for legal empowerment, and emphasized the role of SHGs, cooperatives, and producer organizations in enhancing livelihoods.

Ms. Poonam R. Mahale (ATMA) shared ongoing technical support and capacity-building initiatives for local agriculture, while Smt. Mohini M. Jalmi (Sarpanch) raised concerns on crop damage from wild animals and the need for fencing support. Shri Shankudas V. Salelkar discussed challenges in managing khazan lands affected by salinity, marketing constraints, and delayed subsidies affecting 75–100 farmers. The session concluded with a call for stronger coordination among government departments, local governance bodies, and research institutions to provide infrastructural, financial, and technical support. Participants appreciated ICAR–CCARI's facilitation of a platform for dialogue and knowledge sharing among stakeholders. The programme also encouraged farmers to actively participate in local governance processes and community institutions. Overall, the initiative strengthened awareness on legal rights, institutional support systems, and collective action for sustainable tribal development.




तटीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान, गोवा
tal Agricultural Research Institute, Goa
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tiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada
01st - 15th November, 2025




Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada
01st - 15th November, 2025




Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025
Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada
01st - 15th November, 2025

On-Going Schemes and Field Presence for Scheduled Tribes

The programme aimed to raise awareness among tribal farmers about central and state government schemes, welfare initiatives, and institutional support mechanisms for socio-economic upliftment. A total of 16 tribal farmers (10 males and 6 females) participated in interactive sessions facilitating experience sharing and knowledge exchange. Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), ICAR–CCARI, Goa, inaugurated the session and highlighted the significance of Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada and Bhagwan Birsa Munda Jayanti in recognizing tribal contributions and promoting empowerment through inclusive development. Shri Trivesh Mayekar, Scientist (Fish Genetics & Breeding), ICAR–CCARI, elaborated on the implementation and accessibility of government schemes in agriculture, fisheries, and entrepreneurship, emphasizing outreach strategies through SHGs, village notice boards, and regular monitoring.

Participants, primarily engaged in fishing and marginal farming, discussed challenges such as navigating bureaucratic procedures, delayed responses, and limited scheme awareness. They showed interest in improving access to watershed management benefits and other welfare schemes. The session emphasized the role of field visits, village-level awareness camps, and local leadership in ensuring last-mile connectivity of government initiatives. Farmers appreciated the opportunity to directly interact with scientists and clarify doubts regarding scheme eligibility and application procedures. The programme also encouraged participants to disseminate the information within their communities to improve awareness at the grassroots level. It concluded with a consensus on the importance of continuous field engagement, institutional collaboration, and proactive information dissemination to empower tribal farmers and enhance their access to government support.


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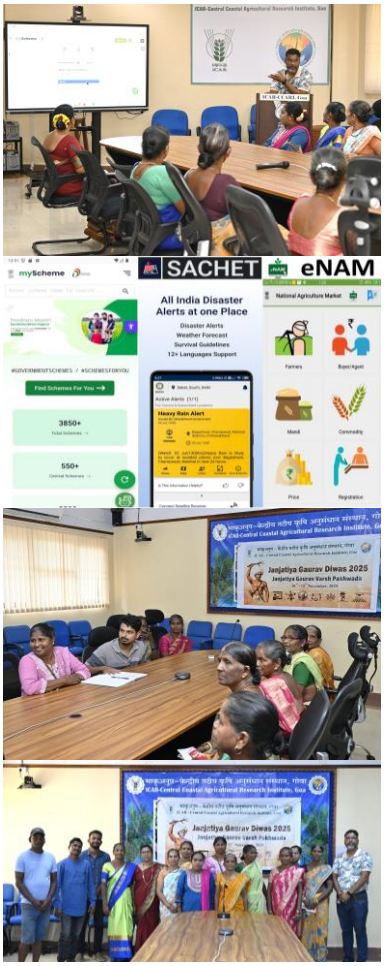

भाकृअनुप – केंद्रीय तटीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान, गोवा


केंद्रीय तटीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान, गोवा




Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025
Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada

Digital Inclusion and Sustainable Development Programme for Tribal Communities



The programme aimed to empower Scheduled Tribe farmers through digital literacy, online skill training, and awareness on e-governance platforms to enhance livelihoods and promote sustainable development. A total of 15 tribal farmers (4 males and 11 females) from Taleigao, Cumbarjua, Corlim, and Carambolim participated in the event. Mr. Vishwajeet Prajapati, Technical Officer (Soil Science), ICAR–CCARI, highlighted the importance of digital tools for inclusive rural development and demonstrated key platforms, including the "MyScheme" portal for welfare schemes, "eNAM" for market linkages, the "Sachet" mobile app for weather advisories, and the ICAR–CCARI Fertilizer Calculator for soil health management. Farmers actively engaged in hands-on sessions and raised local challenges such as waterlogging, with discussions on how digital technologies could support better monitoring, planning, and productivity enhancement.

The programme emphasized integrating digital tools across agriculture and allied sectors, particularly fisheries, to improve efficiency, transparency, and economic resilience. Participants were guided on using smartphones and digital applications to access market prices, weather forecasts, and government services in real time. The training also highlighted the potential of digital platforms for promoting local products, networking with buyers, and accessing technical advisory services. The programme concluded with assurance of continued institutional support from ICAR–CCARI to promote technology-driven rural transformation and sustainable tribal development.

Educational Initiative Highlighting the Legacy of Tribal Freedom Fighters



The programme aimed to raise awareness among students about the rich legacy of tribal leaders and their contributions to India's freedom struggle. Dr. Shripad Bhat, Senior Scientist (Agricultural Economics), and Dr. Raghunandan K., Scientist (Genetics & Plant Breeding), were present on the dais, and a total of 49 students (34 males and 15 females) from the College of Agriculture, Old Goa, participated. The session focused on fostering respect for the valour, resilience, and sacrifices of tribal freedom fighters, with discussions on their role in safeguarding land, culture, and identity. Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), highlighted the contributions of Birsa Munda, emphasizing his fight against exploitation, promotion of tribal rights, and influence on socio-economic and agricultural practices.

Participants reflected on how the values of leadership, resilience, and community solidarity demonstrated by tribal leaders continue to guide present-day development initiatives. The session also encouraged students to explore tribal history and indigenous knowledge systems through research and community engagement. Overall, the initiative strengthened awareness about the historical contributions of tribal communities and inspired young learners to carry forward the spirit of social justice and inclusive development.

Public Awareness Campaign in Predominantly Tribal Areas for Scheduled Tribes (STs)

The programme aimed to promote awareness among tribal communities about developmental, health, and welfare initiatives using participatory communication and community-led activities. A total of 16 tribal participants (5 males and 11 females) attended, engaging in dialogue, knowledge sharing, and experience exchange with local farmers, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and ICAR–CCARI scientists. Key discussions included awareness rallies, village meetings, health, education, and sanitation drives, and explanations of welfare schemes in local languages. The session emphasized active involvement of SHGs, youth clubs, and local leaders for effective community outreach. Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), highlighted the contributions of Birsa Munda as a symbol of tribal empowerment, resistance, and social reform, linking his ideals to modern agricultural practices and sustainable livelihoods.

During the interaction, a woman farmer from Carambolim shared challenges related to saline intrusion and unseasonal monsoon effects, and the ICAR–CCARI team provided guidance on improved land management, salt-tolerant crop varieties, and scientific interventions. Participants appreciated the opportunity to discuss their local issues and receive practical recommendations from experts. The programme emphasized the importance of community participation and local leadership in spreading awareness about welfare initiatives. Farmers were encouraged to actively engage in village-level awareness campaigns and share the knowledge gained with other community members. Overall, the programme reinforced the role of effective communication and grassroots participation in achieving sustainable tribal development.



Tribal Agri-Entrepreneurship Summits Connecting Farmers and Agri-Startups for Scheduled Tribes

The programme aimed to promote agri-entrepreneurship among tribal farmers, facilitating connections with agri-startups, innovators, and opportunities for value-added agricultural practices to enhance sustainable livelihoods. A total of 12 Scheduled Tribe participants (6 males and 6 females) attended. Discussions focused on organizing tribal entrepreneurship summits and fairs, showcasing tribal agri-products and technologies, providing training on value addition and agribusiness models, and enabling market linkages and funding support. The Sarpanch of Corlim Village Panchayat addressed the gathering, highlighting the ideals of Birsa Munda and emphasizing the challenges posed by high soil salinity due to Manas aquaculture practices, which adversely affect vegetable cultivation. Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), ICAR–CCARI, elaborated on Birsa Munda's legacy, the role of agricultural startups, the importance of seed quality and soil testing, and the potential of vermicomposting and organic product development as avenues for rural entrepreneurship.

During the farmer interaction session, concerns were raised regarding Khazan land management and the need for collective approaches to balance aquaculture with agriculture. Participants discussed the importance of sustainable land-use practices and community cooperation to address salinity-related challenges. The programme also highlighted opportunities for tribal farmers to collaborate with agri-startups for product development, processing, and improved market access. Participants appreciated the knowledge-sharing platform that enabled dialogue between farmers, scientists, and local leaders. The session concluded with a consensus on strengthening innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable agricultural practices to enhance livelihoods and ecological balance in tribal regions.





Establishing Tribal Farmers' Markets for Direct Sale of Produce with Scheduled Tribe Farmers



The programme aimed to address ground-level challenges faced by Scheduled Tribe farmers and raise awareness about the benefits of direct farmer-led markets for ensuring fair income and promoting traditional agricultural products. A total of 15 tribal farmers (4 males and 11 females) participated in individual and group interactions. Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), ICAR–CCARI, engaged with the farmers, discussing the significance of Birsa Munda's legacy and linking it to empowerment, self-reliance, and land rights. Participants shared challenges related to production, transportation, marketing, and middlemen involvement, highlighting difficulties in maintaining quality and obtaining fair prices.

The discussions emphasized the need for structured tribal farmers' markets to enable women and small-scale cultivators to sell produce directly, sustainably, and profitably. Participants also explored the possibility of organizing periodic village markets and community-based sales platforms to improve accessibility for local consumers. The programme highlighted the role of collective marketing and Self-Help Groups in strengthening bargaining power and improving income stability. Farmers appreciated the opportunity to discuss their marketing challenges and receive guidance on practical solutions. The session concluded with a shared commitment to promote direct marketing initiatives that support traditional agriculture and enhance the economic well-being of tribal communities.












Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025
Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada

Setting up Seed Banks to Preserve Indigenous Crop Varieties



The programme aimed to empower tribal farmers with knowledge, resources, and practical exposure for conserving traditional crop diversity. A total of 30 farmers (12 men and 18 women) from Corlim, Azossim, and Cumbharjua participated actively. The session covered technical aspects of establishing and managing community seed banks, including seed collection, drying, scientific storage, and promoting seed exchange networks to ensure wider distribution and preservation of indigenous crop varieties. Shri Shashi Vishwakarma highlighted the importance of decentralized seed conservation, while Shri Trivesh Mayekar emphasized the use of climate-resilient local seeds to sustain biodiversity, improve food security, and enhance resilience against climate change.

Participants visited the ICAR–CCARI Farm Section to observe five rice varieties developed by the institute and learn about 166 indigenous rice varieties conserved for future crop improvement. At the Fisheries Farm, farmers were briefed on the Live Fish Gene Bank housing 40 indigenous freshwater fish species, demonstrating conservation and sustainable aquaculture practices. The KVK Seed Unit visit focused on vegetable seed conservation, and seeds of ladyfinger and cluster bean (Chitki) were distributed to encourage on-farm conservation. Farmers appreciated the opportunity to gain hands-on exposure to seed conservation and biodiversity management practices. The programme also highlighted the role of community participation in safeguarding traditional crop varieties and strengthening local food systems. It concluded with a valedictory session summarizing the achievements of the Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada 2025, where the Director, ICAR–CCARI, Goa, commended the organizing team and participants and encouraged the adoption of conservation-oriented agricultural practices for long-term ecological and livelihood security.




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बीज घटक Seed Unit




Celebration of
Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025
Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada



Exposure visit and input distribution to ST farmers from Cotigao, South Goa under TSP

An exposure visit and input distribution programme was organized on 05th December 2025 at ICAR-CCARI, Goa. The programme aimed to promote inclusive development and provide livelihood support to Scheduled Tribe (ST) farmers through technological exposure and input assistance. A total of 25 ST women beneficiaries from Cotigao village, Canacona, South Goa actively participated in the programme. During the exposure visit, the participants were introduced to the Fisheries Farm section, where they were taken through the various freshwater fish ponds and given practical insights into scientific freshwater fish farming. Demonstrations covered the principles of polyculture, focusing on Indian Major Carps (IMC), Asian seabass, tilapia, and their compatibility under integrated farming systems. The beneficiaries gained hands-on understanding of pond management, stocking strategies, and species-specific culture methods. The beneficiaries also learned about integrated duck–cum–fish cage culture, highlighting how nutrient recycling and space-efficient cage farming can enhance productivity. Additionally, they were oriented to the floating crab barrel culture system, an innovative low-cost method suitable for coastal and estuarine regions. These demonstrations provided hands-on knowledge of species selection, feeding, maintenance, and system management.

As part of livelihood and farm-resource enhancement, essential agricultural and aquaculture-related inputs—including arecanut saplings, black pepper saplings, Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM), and vermicompost—were distributed to all participants.





Exposure visit and input distribution to ST farmers from Gaodongrim, South Goa under TSP

As part of the Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada 2025 celebrations, an input distribution programme for Scheduled Tribe (ST) farmers was organized by ICAR–Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR–CCARI), Goa, on 13th March 2026 at the institute campus. The programme was conducted for farmers from Indrawada, Chal and Bhuper areas of Gaodongrim village in Canacona, Goa, with a total participation of 20 farmers from different parts of the village. Various planting materials and agricultural inputs were distributed among the farmers, including 20 saplings each of curry leaves, nutmeg, guava and coconut, along with 40 mango saplings, and 20 bags of vermicompost, aimed at promoting sustainable horticulture and soil health management among the participating farmers.

Following the distribution programme, the visiting farmers were taken for a field exposure visit to the aquaculture demonstration facilities at ICAR–CCARI. During the visit, they were introduced to several innovative aquaculture systems and technologies being practiced and demonstrated at the institute. These included aquaculture pond systems, floating crab barrel culture, duck-cum-fish cage culture, hapa-based nursery rearing techniques, culture practices of Pangas catfish (*Pangasius pangasius*), and the real-time AI-based water quality monitoring system. The farmers showed keen interest in the different technologies demonstrated and actively interacted with the scientists and technical staff to understand the practical applications, management practices and potential benefits of these systems for livelihood enhancement





Institute's Activities for Tribal Welfare and Development

The Institute implemented various interventions under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) for strengthening livelihoods, enhancing agricultural productivity, and promoting sustainable farming practices among tribal communities. The initiatives comprised capacity-building trainings, awareness programmes, field demonstrations, technology dissemination, and input distribution tailored to local agro-ecological needs. Farmers benefited from the supply of seed kits, micronutrients, organic inputs, planting materials, fertilizers, farm machinery, poultry birds, pigs, feed, medicinal supplements, agricultural equipment, coconut climbing machines, ice box, honey bee boxes with colony, and other essential resources that supported adoption of improved agricultural practices and income generation.

The Institute organized trainings and demonstrations on integrated farming systems, organic nutrient management, backyard poultry rearing, biomass recycling, and climate-resilient agriculture etc. Special outreach initiatives, including women-focused programmes and technical sessions, provided practical exposure to scientific farming, soil health management, resource recycling, and diversified livelihood opportunities. These efforts enabled skill development, facilitated identification of field-level constraints, and supported adoption of location-specific technologies, further reinforced through input distribution to beneficiaries.

Overall, a total of 30 programmes benefiting 1,900 participants were conducted during the reporting period, demonstrating extensive outreach and measurable impact in the coastal states of Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Odisha. The STC initiatives significantly enhanced farmers' technical capacity, improved access to institutional support, promoted sustainable production systems, and contributed to the socio-economic development and resilience of tribal communities, reaffirming ICAR–CCARI's commitment to inclusive and sustainable agricultural development.




भाकृअनुप–केन्द्रीय तटीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान, गोवा
ICAR-Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute, Goa
Empowering Scheduled Tribe (ST) Farmers through
Vermicompost & Organic Manure Production


CHEDULED TRIBE COMPONENT (STC)
ICAR-Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute, Goa


AICRP ON PIGS
GOA CENTRE


AICRP ON PIGS
GOA CENTRE


CrumEgg


CrumEgg


Scheduled Tribe


ICAR Central Coastal Agriculture Research Institute
CRUMEGG


ICAR Central Coastal Agriculture Research Institute
Institute Scheduled Tribe Component
CRUMEGG


AR-Central Coastal Agriculture Research Insitute
Tribe Component


କୃଷି ଜିଲ୍ଲା ଅଧିକାରୀ, ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର
AGRICULTURE DISTRICT OFFICER, BHUBANESWAR


ICAR-Central Coastal Agriculture Research Insitute
Institute Scheduled Tribe Component


ICAR-Central Coastal Agriculture Research Insitute
Institute Scheduled Tribe Component

Highlights (1 Jan 2025 – Feb 2026)

Distribution of Planting materials

Under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) Programme, 290 arecanut seedlings and 200 cashew grafts were distributed to 5 Scheduled Tribe farmers of Villiana Bhatti, Sanguem, Goa, in June 2025 to support plantation crop cultivation and enhance farm-based livelihoods in the area.



Soil Health Campaign and Distribution of Agro-Inputs

A one-day Soil Health Awareness Programme along with distribution of agro-inputs was organized on 4 July 2025 in Thane district, Maharashtra, targeting Scheduled Tribe (ST) farmers. The programme was conducted in the presence of the District Agriculture Officer, Thane, and the village Sarpanch, with the participation of about 40 farmers. During the programme, 45 vegetable seed kits, 50 kg PROM, and 25 kg Goa Bio-1 were distributed to the farmers to promote soil health management and vegetable cultivation. The event also received coverage in the local Marathi newspaper.



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कृषी विभाग आत्मा ठाणे आणि आय.सी.ए.आर - सेंट्रल कोस्टल अग्रीकल्चर रिसर्च इन्स्टिट्यूट गोवा यांच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने इन्स्टिट्यूट शेड्युल्ड ट्रायबल कंपोनंट अंतर्गत

भाजीपाला मिनिकीट ग्रामपंचायत नडगाव येथे वाटप

Farmer Awareness Programme for ST Women

A Farmer Awareness Programme was conducted for 30 Scheduled Tribe (ST) women farmers of Kundaim, Goa, on 23 September 2025. The programme focused on creating awareness about vegetable cultivation, kulagar farming, dairy and poultry management, wild animal management, and harvesting of plantation crops. The initiative aimed to enhance the knowledge and livelihood opportunities of the participating farmers through improved agricultural and allied farming practices.





Field Day at Indrawada

A Field Day under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) programme was organized on 15 September 2025 at Indrawada, Gaondongrim to create awareness on diversified and sustainable agricultural practices among tribal farmers.





The programme also served as an interactive platform for farmers to learn about improved farming practices suited to local conditions. During the programme, quality arecanut planting materials and Phospho-Enriched Organic

Manure (PROM) were distributed to the participating farmers. A total of 40 tribal farmers participated in the programme.

Input distribution to Scheduled Tribe Beneficiaries from Usgao and Quepem, Goa



Under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) Programme, essential agricultural equipment was distributed on 21 September 2025 in Goa to support the livelihoods of tribal farmers. A total of two brush cutters were distributed to 10 Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries from Nanus village (Usgao) and Morpirla village (Quepem) to facilitate farm operations and improve productivity. The programme aimed to provide practical support to tribal farmers by promoting the use of modern farm tools.

Input distribution to Scheduled Tribe Beneficiaries from Shishegal, Poinguinim, Canacona, Goa



Under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) Programme 2024–25, essential agricultural equipment was distributed on 24 September 2025 in Shishegal, Poinguinim, Canacona (Goa) to support the livelihoods of tribal farmers.

A total of one coconut climbing device, one coconut dehusker, and one arecanut dehusker were distributed to 5 Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries to facilitate farm operations and improve productivity in plantation crop management.



Training and Input Distribution Programme on Integrated Nutrient Management in GI-Certified Khola Chilli



A one-day Training and Input Distribution Programme on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) in GI-certified Khola Chilli was organized on 12 June 2025 at Khola village, Canacona, South Goa, under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) programme of ICAR. The programme aimed to promote sustainable nutrient management practices and improve soil fertility in chilli cultivation. During the programme, 600 kg of Phospho-rich Organic Manure (PROM / Phospho Urja) was distributed to the participating farmers to encourage the adoption of organic nutrient management practices.



Three-Day Training Programme on "Empowering Scheduled Tribe (ST) farmers through Production of Organic Manure and Natural Formulations

A three-day Training Programme on "Empowering Scheduled Tribe (ST) Farmers through Production of Organic Manure and Natural Formulations" was organized during 24–26 November 2025 at ICAR–CCARI, Goa, under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) programme. A total of 30 Scheduled Tribe farmers from Opa and Khandepar (Ponda taluka), and Cumbharjua and Corlim (Tiswadi taluka), Goa participated in the training. The programme focused on production of organic manure and preparation of natural farming formulations, including demonstrations on vermicomposting and natural inputs.



Training on Poultry Farming and Input Distribution to ST Farmers in Yellapur, Karnataka

A Training Programme on "Scientific Management of Backyard Poultry" was conducted on 9 December 2025 at Kodase village, Yellapur, Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka, under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) programme of ICAR–CCARI, Goa. A total of 32 Scheduled Tribe farmers (30 women and 2 men) participated in the programme. During the programme, 550 Giriraja birds and 2.5 tons of poultry layer feed were distributed to the beneficiaries to promote scientific backyard poultry farming and strengthen livelihood opportunities.



Input distribution to Scheduled Tribe Beneficiaries from Usgao and Quepem, Goa

Under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) Programme 2025–26, agricultural equipment was distributed on 12 December 2025 in Goa to support the livelihoods of tribal farmers. A total of three brush cutters with accessories were distributed to 15 Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries from Carambolim (Tiswadi), Khola (Canacona), and Barcem (Quepem) to facilitate farm operations and improve productivity.



Training on Biomass recycling in Agriculture Under STC

A one-day Training Programme on "Biomass Recycling in Agriculture" was organized on 23 December 2025 at ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), North Goa to create awareness on the sustainable utilization of agricultural biomass for improving soil health and farm productivity. A total of 75 participants (30 males and 45 females) attended the programme. During the programme, 10 kg vermicompost and one coconut sapling were distributed to each participating farmer.





Training on Poultry and Pig Farming with Input Distribution to ST Farmers in Uttar Kannada, Karnataka

A Training Programme on "Scientific Poultry and Pig Farming" was conducted on 04 February 2026 at Sambhrani village, Haliyal, Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka, under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) programme of ICAR–CCARI, Goa. A total of 38 Scheduled Tribe farmers (31 women and 7 men) participated in the programme. As part of input support, 550 Giriraja birds, 3 tons of poultry layer feed, veterinary medicinal supplements, piglets, and pig feed were distributed to the beneficiaries to promote scientific poultry and pig farming.





Training programme on package of practices for cultivation of Khola chillies organized at Gawal Khola, Canacona

A one-day Farmers' Training Programme was organized on 04 February 2026 at Gawali Khoal, Canacona, South Goa by ICAR–Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR–CCARI) under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) programme to enhance the livelihood of tribal farmers. A total of 25 Scheduled Tribe women farmers participated in the programme. During the programme, yellow sticky traps and azadirachtin were distributed to the beneficiaries to promote improved pest management practices in chilli cultivation.



Training on Organic Farming cum Input Distribution under STC

A Training Programme on Organic Farming and Input Distribution was organized on 19 January 2026 at Cumbharjua, Tiswadi, North Goa by ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), ICAR–CCARI to enhance farmers' knowledge on sustainable organic farming practices. A total of 25 farmers (10 males and 15 females) participated in the programme. As part of the programme, farm implements such as pikaxe, sickle, rose can, knapsack sprayer, bucket, khurpi, hand hoe, spade, baskets, and sharpening stone were distributed to 20 beneficiaries under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC).



Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), North Goa Activities for Tribal Welfare and Development

Under the Sub Tribal Component (STC), ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), North Goa conducted a series of training and input distribution programs for Scheduled Tribe (ST) farmers in the villages of Vante-Bhiroda, Sattari, and at KVK North Goa during the year 2025. These initiatives were aimed at empowering the agricultural community by enhancing their knowledge, skills, and access to essential farming resources. A comprehensive training program was conducted, engaging 46 male and 24 female participants. The sessions focused on improving farming skills and practices, with special emphasis on sustainable agriculture, integrated crop management, and modern techniques to enhance productivity and efficiency. Farmers were also sensitized on the importance of soil health management, efficient water use, and climate-resilient farming practices to address emerging environmental challenges. The training encouraged participants to adopt scientific farming methods and diversify their agricultural activities to enhance farm income and sustainability.

In addition, three input distribution programs were organized, benefiting a total of 115 farmers (81 male and 34 female). Beneficiaries received essential agricultural inputs, including drums, jaggery, gram flour, seed kits, spades, pickaxes, Ghamelas, sickles, plastic sprayers, sharpening stones, Agri-Zari (10 Liters), buckets, Khurpis, garden hoes, polythene bags, plant trays, Kirl Kante, Koyta, wooden danda (spade & pickaxe), and knapsack sprayers. These efforts not only aimed to improve crop quality and yield, but also promoted gender equality by ensuring both male and female farmers had equitable access to resources. The distributed inputs supported farmers in carrying out field operations more efficiently and adopting improved crop production practices. Participants appreciated the practical support provided by KVK, which helped address resource constraints commonly faced in small-scale farming. The programme also encouraged farmers to share the knowledge and benefits gained with other members of their communities, thereby strengthening collective agricultural development. Overall, the initiative significantly enhanced the agricultural capabilities of ST farmers, enabling them to adopt efficient, sustainable farming practices and improve their livelihoods.


Scheduled Tribe Component (STC)
ICAR - Krishi Vigyan Kendra, North Goa










Activities of
ICAR - KVK, North Goa


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Scheduled Tribe Component (STC)
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Scheduled Tribe Component (STC)
ICAR - Krishi Vigyan Kendra, North Goa

Success Stories

Tribal farmer of Karnataka turns backyard piggery into thriving commercial venture

Authors: **Dr. Amiya Ranjan Sahu**, Scientist (Animal Genetics and Breeding)
Dr. Nibedita Nayak, Scientist (Poultry Science)
Dr. Gokuldas P.P., Senior Scientist (Animal Reproduction)

Problems / constraints

Mr. Yohan Siddi from coastal district of Uttara Kannada, Karnataka, has been rearing local breed pigs and he relied primarily on hotel waste for feeding, and due to the poor genetic potential of local breeds, both body weight and litter size remained low, severely limiting his economic returns.

Interventions

Mr. Siddi along with 10 other farmers attended a training on "Scientific Pig Farming" under the Scheduled Tribe Component of AICRP on Pig at ICAR-CCARI, Goa in 2023. During the program, he received one pair of crossbreed piglets and half a ton of concentrate feed mixture. He was also guided on scientific practices such as the importance of selecting unrelated breeding stock to avoid inbreeding, regular vaccination and deworming, and balanced feeding of sows to improve overall reproductive and productive performance.

Impact

By successfully adopting these practices, Shri Siddi expanded his herd from just two piglets to 30 adult pigs within a short period. He now sells pigs at ₹145 per kg, earning a net annual income of about ₹ 2,08,000. With his growing herd and improved knowledge, Shri Siddi is on the path to scaling up his enterprise and securing sustainable profits from pig farming.





Piglets received



Feed distributed (Farrowing and Growers)



Farmers' field

Tribal pig farmer of Maharashtra

Authors: **Dr. Amiya Ranjan Sahu**, Scientist (Animal Genetics and Breeding)
Dr. Gokuldas P.P., Senior Scientist (Animal Reproduction)
Dr. Nibedita Nayak, Scientist (Poultry Science)
Dr. Shirish Narnaware, Senior Scientist (Veterinary Pathology)

Problems / Constraints

Mr. Radhya Karbat is a tribal farmer from Brahmangaon, Kanchad in the coastal district of Palghar, Maharashtra. Initially he faced several challenges in his pig farming venture. He was rearing Large White Yorkshire and local pigs in his backyard without proper management. The pigs were fed unboiled hotel waste, which often led to digestive disordes. Inbreeding within his herd further reduced litter size and affected the performance of the piglets. These issues became major obstacles during the early years of his farming journey.

Interventions

With a strong interest in improving his livelihood, Mr. Karbat approached scientists of ICAR-CCARI, Goa for guidance in pig husbandry. He along with six fellow farmers, attended a training programme on "Scientific Pig Rearing" under the AICRP on Pig (Tribal Sub-Plan) from 26–27th February, 2021. During the training, he received practical knowledge on modern pig farming practices. He was also provided with crossbred piglets, concentrate feed, mineral supplements, and an extension folder in Marathi for easy reference. The training focused on important aspects such as selecting unrelated breeding animals to avoid inbreeding, the role of artificial insemination, vaccination, deworming, concentrate feeding of sows to improve litter size, and the importance of boiling hotel and bakery wastes before feeding. He was also advised to group pigs according to their size and age to reduce competition for feed and minimize fighting. Regular follow-up and guidance were provided to support his farming venture.



Impact

As a result, Mr. Karbat's farming practices improved significantly. Proper vaccination and mineral supplementation enhanced the health and growth of his pigs, reduced mortality, and improved reproduction. Today, his herd has grown to more than 120 pigs. He sells fatteners at ₹160 per kg live weight and earns a net annual income of about ₹12 lakhs. Through scientific interventions and his own dedication, Mr. Karbat has successfully transformed his small backyard piggery into a profitable and sustainable enterprise, serving as a role model for other tribal farmers in his community.



Piglets and feed distribution



Commercially viable farm



Pig shed

Tribal pig farmer of Maharashtra rising from the backyard to commercial

Authors: **Dr. Amiya Ranjan Sahu**, Scientist (Animal Genetics and Breeding)
Dr. Gokuldas P.P., Senior Scientist (Animal Reproduction)
Dr. Nibedita Nayak, Scientist (Poultry Science)

Problems / Constraints

Mr. Kiran Bhoir is a Scheduled tribe farmer from Suponde, Palghar district of Maharashtra maintaining a small pig farm of the locally found breeds. His pigs were fed hotel wastes without proper boiling that caused gastro-intestinal diseases. He was also facing problems like low litter size and poor progeny performance due to inbreeding that led to major hindrances during initial years of his pig farming.



Interventions

With his keen interest to take up this farming, he requested for training at ICAR-CCARI, Goa to obtain practical knowledge on scientific pig rearing. Kiran along with 19 other farmers from Palaghar had attended a training program on "scientific pig farming" in the year 2024 under the Scheduled tribe component of AICRP on pig at ICAR-CCARI, Goa. He was supplied with three piglets and half a ton of concentrate feed mixture. Having understood his difficulties, it was suggested to him on different aspects like selection of breeding boars and sows from unrelated parents to avoid inbreeding, importance of Artificial Insemination, vaccination and deworming of herd and concentrate feeding of sows to improve litter performance. He was also encouraged to boil the hotel and bakery wastes before feeding and suggested to keep growing pigs based on size and age to avoid fighting and competitive feed intake within the group. He was frequently contacted and interacted about his farming and on success. He subsequently attended one more training-cum-demonstration on pig farming at ICAR-CCARI in September, 2024. He also received three piglets, feed, mineral supplements and

one extension folder on scientific pig farming prepared in Marathi language for his reference.

Impact

The supplementation of mineral mixture and proper vaccination led significant improvements in the body weights, overall herd health and reproductive efficiency of the herd. The mortality rate is substantially decreased and the herd size increased to over 23 pigs. He is selling the fattening pigs @Rs. 160/- per kg live weight and getting good returns with net annual income of 2.5 lakh rupees.



Piglets and feed distribution



Commercially viable pig farm

Successful dairy farmer through adoption of scientific rearing practices

Authors: **Dr. Gokuldas PP**, Senior Scientist (Animal Reproduction)

Dr. Sanjay Udharwar, Subject Matter Specialist (Animal Science)

Problems / Constraints



Shri. Girish Jalmi, a resident of Khajan, Ponda, had started dairy farming around 7 years back. Dairy farming along with paddy cultivation were the sources of livelihood for his family. His farm had 11 cattle of which majority had low productivity in 2017. Dairy farmers in the region face problems like low productivity, lack of availability of quality feed and fodder, incidence of diseases like mastitis and repeat breeding. Shri Girish faced problems like low milk yield and milk fat content, poor growth rate and mastitis.

Farmer Name: Shri. Girish Jalmi
Age: 42 years
Village: Khajan, Veling
Taluka: Ponda
State: Goa
Pincode: 403115

Qualification: 12th Standard
Land holding: Rainfed- 20234 m^2
Irrigated: 4047 m^2
Total: 24281 sq. m

Interventions

ICAR-CCARI team led by Dr. Gokuldas PP and Dr. Sanjay Udharwar, SMS, KVK North Goa made him aware of benefits of schemes for scheduled tribe community supporting developmental aspirations and livelihood options. Interventions included technical guidance on scientific dairy farming practices, Field training on scientific dairy farming. He was given technical advice on scientific dairy farming including reproductive and health management, feeding and fodder production. Institute also extended required support through supply of feeds, rumen-protected bypass fat, veterinary medicines and farm inputs to improve farm productivity.

Impact



Girish adopted scientific ways of feeding, shelter management improving air flow and sunlight exposure, fodder production, shed hygiene and clean milking practices like use of teat dip, dry cow therapy etc. Over the period, daily milk production increased to the tune of 44% continuously for two years and now averages 8.5 litre per animal with average total daily milk production of 60 litres which he sells to the neighbourhood and also to local market. Also, with the introduction of bypass fat and balanced feeding, there was a marked increase in both milk yield and milk fat percentage which enabled him to fetch increased milk price up to Rs 36 per litre. After these interventions, his dairy enterprise has become profitable with annual income increasing by more than three times and fetching enhanced monthly income to the tune of Rs.49,000. Annual income has enhanced to the tune of Rs 5.98 lakhs from milk sale and with an expenditure of Rs 3.42 lakhs, Benefit-Cost Ratio is 1.75. He also started making compost manure from dung for his agricultural field. With organized collection, storage and sale of segregated cow dung and compost, he is also fetching additional income of around Rs 30,000. There is also an additional cost saving of Rs. 8,000 towards reduction in treatment costs due to significant reduction of diseases like mastitis. The social acceptance and recognition he and his family receive give them more satisfaction and joy in addition to the economic gains and higher living standards achieved.



Field Training organized by CCARI

Delegates visits to Tribal Areas



RAC Chairman and Members



Board of Trustees for CIFOR-ICRAF





QRT Chairman and Members





International Training Participants

Tribal Products















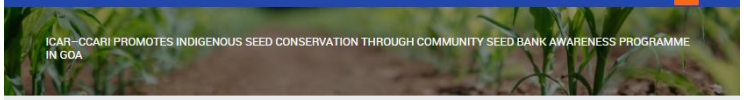



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मुख्य पृष्ठ / ICAR–CCARI Promotes Indigenous Seed Conservation Through Community Seed Bank Awareness Programme In Goa

ICAR–CCARI Promotes Indigenous Seed Conservation Through Community Seed Bank Awareness Programme in Goa

15 November 2025, Goa

As part of the ongoing Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada 2025, the ICAR–Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute, Goa, organised an awareness programme on 'Community Seed Banks for Conservation of Indigenous Crop Varieties' at its Old Goa campus today. The initiative aimed to strengthen the capacity of tribal farmers in conserving traditional crop diversity and promoting long-term seed sovereignty through community-managed seed systems.

The programme began with a technical orientation on establishing and maintaining community seed banks, highlighting scientific methods of seed collection, drying, grading, and storage. The importance of decentralised seed banks in safeguarding local varieties threatened by the growing use of commercial hybrids was emphasised.



ICAR - Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute
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JanJatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhawada– 2025

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2025

List of activities undertaken under JanJatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhawada- 2025 (01 to 15 November, 2025)

A. 01-11-2025

ICAR CCARI organized program on Socio-Economic Development and Awareness for Scheduled Tribes (STs) at Gaondongrim village, Goa

As part of the Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada 2025 celebrations, ICAR–Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute, Goa, organized a programme on "Socio-Economic Development and Awareness for Scheduled Tribes (STs)" at Indrawada, Gaondongrim village, Goa, on 1st November 2025. The programme aimed to promote awareness among tribal farmers regarding improved agricultural and allied practices, enhance their socio-economic status, and facilitate better access to institutional support systems. A total of 41 ST farmers (26 females and 15 males) actively participated in the event. The inaugural session was conducted by Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, Senior Technical Officer (Soil Science), ICAR–CCARI, Goa, who welcomed all the participants and coordinators and briefed everyone on the objectives of the programme. Following this, Shri Trivesh Mayekar, Scientist (FG&B), ICAR–CCARI, Goa, discussed the importance of socio-economic development of tribal farmers and emphasized capacity-building for sustainable livelihoods.

The ICAR–CCARI team provided guidance on technological interventions developed by institute in the field of agriculture, horticulture, fisheries and animal husbandry. Further guidance on soil health, disease management, pest management, use of vermicompost, and natural farming was provided. PROM was distributed to the participating farmers to encourage the adoption of organic nutrient management practices for soil fertility improvement and sustainable crop production. Shri Mayekar also laid special emphasis on the construction of farm ponds for the utilization of rainwater as well as for aquaculture activities, thereby increasing productivity and promoting species diversification. A scientist–farmer interaction session was also organized, during which farmers shared their major challenges in agriculture such as stem borer infestation, crop losses due to waild animal attacks, and destruction of crops by monkeys. The farmers practiced the culture mainly of rice, millets, ladyfinger, sweet potato, chilli and other crops. The programme witnessed participation from local community leaders including Shri Mandesh Gaonkar, Assistant Agriculture Officer, and Mr. Pawan Gaonkar, Chairman, Indreshwar Youth Club, along with members of six Self Help Groups — Jay Santoshi Ma SHG, Sai SHG, Indreshwar SHG, Indrayani SHG, Bhumika Mahila Mandal, and Indrawada Watershed Group. After the completion of the event, the ICAR–CCARI team visited nearby farmers' fields to gain first-hand understanding of the practical challenges faced in crop cultivation and to provide on-site technical guidance and advisory support. The event was coordinated by Shri Trivesh Mayekar and Mr. Shashi Vishwakarma, with technical assistance from Mr. Vishwajeet Prajapati, Shri Dilkush Velip, Shri Payak Padkar, Mr. Mrudul Pendurkar, Mr. Daksh Raikar, and Mr. Harshvardhan Shetye.

Key Achievements & Outcomes

Quantitative Achievements

Achievement	Metric/Outcome
Total tribal participants benefitted (ICAR-CCARI Pakhwada)	**461 (244 Female, 217 Male)**
Total beneficiaries (KVK STC training + input distribution)	**185+ (M:127, F:58)**
Student participants (educational programme)	**49 students**
Thematic programmes conducted	**15 distinct programmes**
Villages/locations covered	**14+ locations across 5+ talukas**
Indigenous rice varieties accessible to participants	**166 varieties (ICAR-CCARI germplasm)**
Freshwater fish species in Live Gene Bank shown	**40 indigenous species**
Rice varieties developed by institute demonstrated	**5 new varieties**
Seed distribution (vegetable seeds)	**Ladyfinger and Chitki (cluster bean) seeds**
Digital tools demonstrated	**MyScheme, eNAM, Sachet App, Fertilizer Calculator**
Government schemes disseminated	**Multiple central and state schemes**
SHGs engaged	**6+ SHGs across programme locations**

Qualitative Achievements

- Strengthened institutional linkages between ICAR-CCARI, KVK, Panchayats, ATMA, SHGs, and tribal communities
- Raised awareness of PESA, Forest Rights Act, and other legal protections among tribal participants
- Documented local infrastructural gaps (pond upgrades, road repairs, drainage) and escalated to central authorities
- Promoted biodiversity conservation through community seed bank training and live gene bank exposure
- Empowered tribal women through SHG-based enterprise promotion, coconut mat weaving, and value-addition training
- Inspired tribal youth through educational programmes highlighting the legacy of Birsa Munda and tribal freedom fighters
- Demonstrated 'Tribal Fugdi' dance — fostering pride in traditional art forms and their gender-empowering significance
- Facilitated dialogue on khazan land management and salt-tolerant crop strategies for coastal tribal farmers
- Promoted digital literacy enabling tribal farmers to access market prices, weather forecasts, and government services
- Created platform for agri-startups and tribal farmers to explore collaborative enterprises and value-chain integration

Summary of Impact

Across the fifteen-day Pakhwada, over 200 tribal farmers and 49 students actively participated in programmes that enhanced knowledge, skills, and awareness on multiple fronts. The initiatives strengthened the capacity of tribal communities in sustainable agriculture, fisheries, agri-entrepreneurship, seed conservation, digital literacy, and preventive healthcare. Participants gained practical exposure to government welfare schemes, e-governance tools, biodiversity conservation, and market linkage opportunities for agricultural produce and traditional crafts.

Demonstrations on integrated farming systems, aquaculture practices, vermicomposting, and community seed banks improved understanding of climate-resilient agriculture and the conservation of indigenous crop varieties. The programmes also promoted awareness on nutritional security, health screening, and the importance of balanced diets using locally available resources. Exposure visits and hands-on sessions enabled farmers to explore value addition, small-scale enterprises, and entrepreneurship opportunities through SHGs and local institutions.

Initiatives focusing on governance, infrastructure planning, and institutional coordination strengthened the participation of tribal communities in decision-making processes and improved awareness about legal rights and development schemes. Cultural programmes and heritage-focused activities fostered pride in tribal traditions, arts, and indigenous knowledge systems. Overall, the Pakhwada successfully created a platform for knowledge exchange between scientists, local leaders, students, and tribal communities, integrating scientific knowledge with traditional practices for inclusive rural development, biodiversity conservation, and socio-economic empowerment.

Gaps Identified & Recommendations

Gaps Identified During Programmes

- Delayed disbursement of government subsidies — particularly affecting farm input procurement among small ST farmers
- Persistent crop damage from wild animals (especially in border villages) with inadequate fencing support
- High soil salinity in khazan lands (Corlim area) affecting vegetable cultivation, with limited guidance on mitigation
- Lack of structured tribal farmers' markets leading to dependence on middlemen and low-income realisation
- Limited digital literacy, particularly among women, restricting access to eNAM, MyScheme, and other portals
- Inadequate awareness of eligibility and application procedures for central and state government schemes
- Absence of a formalised community seed bank infrastructure — most seed conservation is informal and unstructured
- No formal GI registration for several traditional tribal crafts and products of Goa
- Limited value-addition facilities for agricultural produce (millets, turmeric, cashew) in tribal villages

Recommendations

- Establish a dedicated Tribal Farmers' Market at a nodal location in each tribal taluka of Goa
- Develop a formally constituted Community Seed Bank network linking ICAR-CCARI, KVK, and Panchayats
- Conduct focused camps on scheme application procedures (PM-KISAN, Soil Health Card, NRLM) in tribal villages
- Facilitate GI registration for Goa's tribal crafts (Kunbi weave, tribal pottery, bamboo products) through DPIIT linkage
- Install weather stations and crop advisory boards in tribal villages for real-time weather and market information

- Establish a dedicated fencing scheme and fast-track wildlife compensation mechanism for tribal farmers
- Implement a regular (quarterly) digital literacy programme for ST women in collaboration with CSCs and KVK
- Create a Tribal Agri-Product Processing Centre in partnership with NABARD and state government

Way Forward

Building on the momentum and insights generated during the Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada 2025, ICAR-CCARI is committed to strengthening its engagement with tribal communities through the following forward-looking initiatives:

- Establishment of at least two Community Seed Banks in tribal-dominated villages of Goa by 2026, incorporating 166 indigenous rice varieties and local vegetable germplasm
- Scaling up the Digital Literacy Programme for tribal women in partnership with Common Service Centres (CSCs), reaching at least 500 ST women by end of 2026
- Formalisation of Tribal Farmers' Market platforms in Canacona, Sattari, and Ponda talukas for direct produce sale
- Organising annual Tribal Agri-Entrepreneurship Summits connecting ICAR, KVK, agri-startups, and ST farmers
- Strengthening the AICRP on Pig (Tribal Sub-Plan) to benefit more tribal pig farmers in Goa, Karnataka, and Maharashtra
- Exploring GI registration and market linkages for selected tribal products (Kunbi rice, traditional millet products, tribal crafts)
- Deepening partnerships with Panchayats, ATMA, line departments, and NGOs for integrated tribal development
- Regular follow-up field visits (bi-annual minimum) to Pakhwada programme villages to assess adoption of technologies
- Documenting and publishing tribal knowledge systems, indigenous farming practices, and biodiversity conservation case studies

- Preparation of a comprehensive Tribal Development Action Plan for ICAR-CCARI covering 2026–2030

ICAR-CCARI remains committed to the empowerment of tribal communities through science-led, community-centred, and culturally sensitive interventions.

Together, we carry forward the legacy of Bhagwan Birsa Munda — rooted in the land, rising through knowledge.

Acknowledgement

Financial support provided by the Council under the Institute Scheduled Tribe Component is duly acknowledged. Guidance and support extended by the Director, ICAR–CCARI, Goa, are sincerely acknowledged. Gratitude is also expressed to all participating scientists, staff members, stakeholders, and tribal farmers, whose active involvement made the programme successful.

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Notes




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ICAR - Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute

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