Equator Initiative Award 2002

For tribal communities' relentless efforts to conserve biodiversity & reduce poverty

Krishi Bisharad Sanman 2003

ICAR Delhi recognises tribal farmers Trilochana Ghiuria & Kamala Pujari for conserving & enhancing 100 paddy landraces in Jeypore tract

Felicitation by Hon'ble CM Odisha

Shri Naveen Patnaik felicitates Kamala Pujari for her leadership in the Equator Initiative Award

Folk Fair Award 2008

Chandrama Mashiha awarded for work towards conservation & sustainable livelihoods with Panchabati Gramya Unnayan Samiti & SHGs

Plant Genome Saviour Community Awards 2007 & 2010

PPVFRA, Govt. of India, awards Panchabati Gramya Unnayan Samiti, recognising outstanding service in conserving, improving and making plant genetic resources available for the development of new plant varieties

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems 2012

United Nations FAO recognises Koraput as first GIAHS in India, from efforts led by MSSRF & tribal communities to ensure biodiversity conservation, food security, & preserving traditional wisdom and cultural diversity

National Water Award 2012

Ministry of Water Resources, Govt of India, award for Bio-Industrial Watershed work in Tolla Watershed Area, Koraput

Agriculture Leadership Award 2013

Conferred on Mitsubishi Corporation of India, to recognise outstanding work towards improving tribal livelihood security in Koraput, collaborating with MSSRF under CSR engagement

Global Water and Food Award 2014

May 2023

Community-managed Bio-industrial Watershed work won second place for water & food security initiatives in Jeypore

Padma Shri for Kamala Pujari 2019

India's 4th highest civilian award of India reflecting MSSRF's efforts to empower tribal communities on biodiversity conservation & organic farming systems



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Biju Patnaik Tribal Agrobiodiversity Centre, Jeypore

M S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) began work in Jeypore, Odisha, during 1998 to preserve plant genetic resources of the Eastern Ghats highlands in the region. In 2005, the Government of Odisha allotted five hectares of land in Phulbad village, where the Biju Patnaik Tribal Agrobiodiversity Centre (BPTAbC) is now located. The Jeypore Centre serves as a living 'Gene Bank' for the predominant tribes (Paroja, Bonda, Kandha, Koya, Saura, Gond, Gadaba, Bhumia, and Bhatra) of the region. BPTAbC reaches out to almost 50000 tribal and rural people across the districts of Koraput, Malkangiri, Rayagada, Ganjam, Nabarangpur, Nayagarha, Kendrapara, Jagatsingpur, Kandhamal and Kalahandi in Odisha state.

Our Reach

- 794 Villages
- 1567 GRIs
- 17 PBRs & 32 BMCs
- 2548 Nutrition Gardens
- 384 Medicinal Plants
 conserved
- 363 Paddy & 74 Millet landraces conserved



Tribal Livelihoods

BPTAbC offers a basket of livelihood options with innovative technologies and value-addition activities related to on-farm and off-farm enterprises, which ensure better time-use plus income, and reduces agri-labour costs for almost 20000 families

Water Security

Bio-industrial Watershed model fosters a holistic approach that guarantees irrigation enabling cultivation of 610 acres of fallow land for various crops during kharif, rabi, and off-season, also safe drinking water in 30 villages

Medicinal Plants

Ex-situ conservation gardens of nine tribes maintained by tribal community healthcare practitioners at BPTAbC house 384 species of medicinal plants including 129 trees; 94 shrubs; 41 climbers; 102 herbs; 6 orchids, and 12 grasses, ferns, etc.



Conservation of landraces and local varieties are interlocked with production of quality seeds and strengthening of traditional seed-distribution systems. The germplasm collection of landraces at BPTAbC is now 363 paddy; 74 millets; 16 pulses; 27 vegetables; also 22 yams and tubers

> Biodiversity Conservation

Food, Nutrition & Health

Using food-based approach, BPTAbC established 2548 Nutri-rich Gardens in 200 villages of Koraput improving dietary diversity. And, to ensure nutrition awareness, 212 community members are engaged through the Community Hunger Fighter initiative

Grassroots Institutions

Ensuring collective action at scale, BPTAbC formed five FPOs; 1534 SHGs; 20 producer groups; and eight farmer clubs, etc., facilitating better profits for small famers



Gender Empowerment

Building entrepreneurial capacity of women to enhance income earning capabilities with post-harvest processing; value-addition; packaging, branding, marketing training; plus business management exposure visits

OUR WORK

Techniques like modified System of Rice Intensification; System of Millet Intensification; large scale multi-tier vegetable cultivation with pulses with advanced agri-input and pest management, plus Community Seed Bank system ensured increase yield

