



**Acharya Narendra Deva University of
Agriculture and Technology, Kumarganj,
Ayodhya-224229**



Best Practices

Best Practice 1:

Title of the practice: “Socio-economic upliftment of Tharu community”

Objectives of the practice

- To provide sustainable livelihood opportunities to the people of “Tharu” community (Scheduled Tribes) for their socio-economic upliftment
- To enhance the livelihood of the community through backyard poultry, goat husbandry and fish farming
- To provide agricultural and other resources free of cost to the community
- To establish the computer lab to educate the children of the community
- To organize skill training to women on different aspects

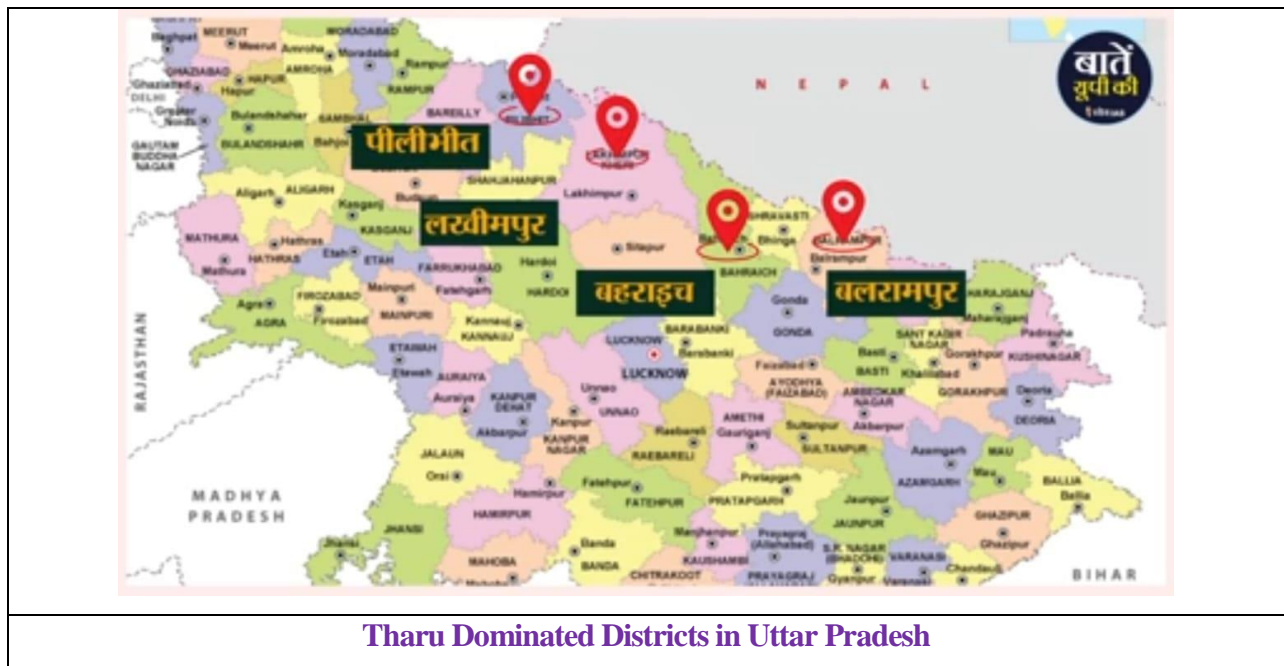
The context

The university is practicing on “Socioeconomic upliftment of Tharu community” since 2018, but after visit by Hon’ble Chancellor in Tharu dominated villages in Balrampur district, Uttar Pradesh and inspiration from Hon’ble Chancellor, the university is now practicing more efficiently by utilizing more budget and covering wide area of Tharu dominated villages in Balrampur and Bahraich districts of Uttar Pradesh.

The Tharu tribe is an ethnic group of indigenous people living in the Terai plain on the Indo-Nepal border of Uttar Pradesh (UP). Tharu as a tribe closely connected with Land (*Jamin*), Water (*Jaal*) and Forest (*Jungle*) for their habitat and livelihood. The total population of Tharu in UP is 105,291(53,687 males and 51,604 females) and mostly engaged in agriculture, raise cattle, hunt, fish, and collect forest products. The university conducted the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) surveys to assess the socioeconomic condition of Tharu community in Balrampur and Bahraich districts covered under university jurisdiction and observations revealed

that the socio-economic status of the Tharu community in both areas was characterized by significant deprivation.

Most of the people of the community were unaware about technical agricultural and animal husbandry practices. In order to ensure the sustainable livelihood of the Tharu community, it is imperative to equip them with technical expertise in agricultural and animal husbandry operations, as well as offer them with financial assistance. Following the identification of a significant need, the Narendra 97 rice variety has been disseminated to farmers through a front line demonstration. A tribal support initiative has been implemented with financial support from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to enhance the socio-economic status of the Tharu community. Tharu communities have embraced the practice of fishing subsequent to the introduction of the Frontline demonstration of fish seed and fingerlings. The adoption of animal husbandry and fishing, along with agricultural practices, has led to an enhancement in the livelihood of the Tharu population. The university has also supported them by educating their children for basic as well as higher education including support of computer labs for imparting the basic computer knowledge as well as internet facilities to interact regionally and globally.



The practice

The university conducted the survey in Tharu dominated areas in Balrampur and Bahraich districts and after identifying the gaps, demonstration with multi disciplinary approaches on oil seed (147), pulses (149), cereals (4036), vegetables (11), poultry (3), fisheries (44) dairy (48) and goatery (12) has been carried out since inception of TSP in 2016-17 as per their requirements and needs of the area. The university has also organized 63 agronomical practices training with 2140 beneficiaries and 60 Vocational Trainings with 1362 beneficiaries. The training and demonstration has direct transformed the farmers into income-generation activities in different enterprises.



Training Organized on “Backyard Poultry Rearing” and Free of Cost Distribution of Kadakhath Poultry Chicks and Goats to the People of Tharu Community in Balrampur District (U.P.)

Through its Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pachpedwa, district Balrampur (U.P.), the university distributed free Kadakhath poultries, Barbari, and Sirohi goats to Tharu people in Balrampur. Each selected family received goats (five females and one male) and poultry (twenty-five), as well as a kit containing a feeder and waterer, basic feed additives, five kilograms of poultry feed,

and a training manual. Four hundred goats and fifty thousand backyard poultry have been distributed.



Goshthi Organized And Tharu Farmer's Field Visit By The University Scientists In Pachpedwa, District Balrampur (U.P.) on 18 February, 2020



Training Organized and Vegetable Mini Kits Distributed to 132 Women Tharu Farmers by the University Scientists in Pachpedwa, District Balrampur (U.P.) on 12 May, 2021

Fish Fingerlings Distributed to Tharu Farmers by the University Scientists in Pachpedwa, District Balrampur (U.P.) on 21 Sept., 2021

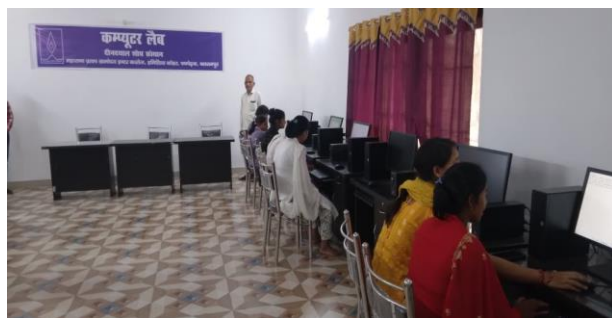
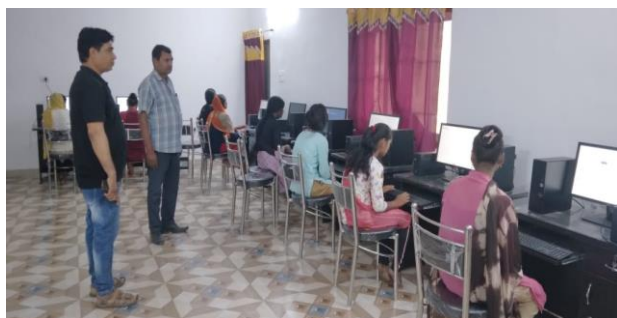
Through field demonstrations, trainings, goshties, and awareness programs, the university is helping the Tharu population in the areas where they are the majority in the Uttar Pradesh districts of Balrampur and Bahraich. On the 18th of February, 2020, the Tharu community in the hamlet of Pachpedwa, District Balrampur, participated in a goshti focused on the cultivation of high-quality grains and the Front-Line Demonstration (FLD) of an improved variety of wheat. From September 14-

18, 2021, a five-day training session focused on mushroom production techniques, and from May 9-13, 2022, women from the Tharu community in the village of Pachpedwa, District Balrampur, received training in the cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants. Free fish fingerlings and training sessions on fish farming were provided to the Tharu people on September 21, 2021. Seeds, PVC pipes, a battery-powered Napsek Sprayer, a steel tank for storing grain, the university's own "NDR-2065" paddy seed variety, fruit and vegetable saplings, and fish fingerlings are all being distributed for free by the university. A Five Days Rural Youth Training was organized at a Village "Vishanapur", Block Mihipurva, Bahraich (U.P.) During 22-26 June, 2019 in which training of tailoring was given to the Tharu women for their socioeconomic upliftment. Dr. Seema Jaggi, ADG (HRD), ICAR, as an Expert counseled the Tharu women and distributed the free of cost Sewing Machine to them on 9 June, 2022. Under DBT Kisan Biotech Hub Project (2019-2022), 153 demonstrations on different agronomical practices (90 on paddy, 16 on wheat, 13 on Mustered and 34 on Marigold crop) and 15th trainings were conducted to boost the productivity of crops.











Free of Cost Distribution of Seed, Fertilizer, Napsek Sprayer and Plant Saplings to Tharu Farmers by the University Scientists in Pachpedwa, District Balrampur (U.P.)

During the Rural rapid appraisal (RRA) Survey conducted in September 2020 to understand the relationship between the socioeconomic status of the Tharu, it was identified that the Tharu Community lacks the computer knowledge necessary to disseminate the latest development via the internet and other communication systems. The problem was brought to the attention of the Hon'ble Chancellor by the Hon'ble Vice chancellor, and it was resolved by the Hon'ble Chancellor/Governor of Uttar Pradesh through the establishment by financial assistance of Rs 800,000 only and inauguration of a computer lab with 15 computers on March 18, 2021 at Maharana Pratap Gramoday Inter College, Emiliya Koder, Pachperawa, Balarampur. Since the establishment of the lab, 360 students have benefited, and 60 students are presently enrolled. The university always creates awareness among students in the Tharu dominated areas to take admission in our university and other higher institutions.



Computer Lab Established in Tharu Dominated Village Area at Imaliya Coder, District Balrampur (U.P.)

Total 8 Tharu students have taken admission in our university. A Ph.D. student (Ms Akanksha Yadav, Id. No. C-13013/22) of our university is also conducting research on “Prevalence of anaemia among antenatal women in tribal, urban and rural area of U.P.”.

 <p>Scanned with CamScanner</p> <p>Shiv Kumar Rana, Id No.A-9199/16/20/22</p>	 <p>Scanned with CamScanner</p> <p>Ashutosh Kumar, ID. No. A-</p>	 <p>Scanned with CamScanner</p> <p>Pramod singh, id. No- A-10806/19</p>	 <p>Scanned with CamScanner</p> <p>Dinesh Rana , Id No- A-10777/19</p>
 <p>Scanned with CamScanner</p> <p>Jasmine Rana, ID. No.- A-12576/22</p>	 <p>Scanned with CamScanner</p> <p>Manoj Kumar, Id. No. A-17719/21</p>	 <p>Scanned with CamScanner</p> <p>Vipin Kumar Rana, ID. No.- A-11440/20</p>	 <p>Scanned with CamScanner</p> <p>Karam Singh Rana, ID. No- A-10790/19</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Students of Tharu Community Registered in the University (Student's Photograph with Caste Certificate)</p>			

Socioeconomic condition of the community plays a significant role in the physical, social and mental health of individuals, education, enterprise etc. In this regard, the university contributed significantly in enhancing the livelihood and socioeconomic upliftment of Tharu community by providing technical knowledge and need based input through field demonstrations, trainings, goshties, and awareness programmes regarding technical agricultural, animal husbandry, fisheries and other practices, and free of cost distribution of improved varieties of seeds, fertilizers, Napsel sprayer, PVC pipes, goats, backyard poultrys and kits. The evidence of success was reported as Tharu community initially engaged in traditional farming practices and they have improved their household income by adopting improved agronomical scientific practices. The implementation of diversified agricultural practices led to an increase in the average annual income derived from

agriculture, amounting to INR 1,12,007. This income was comprised of INR 57,537 from crop production and INR 54,470 from livestock & fish production. The gross return of livestock production was found to be higher than that of agriculture. In a nutshell, it was found that livestock production was more beneficial than crop production. A sustained endeavor led to approximately 35% of the Tharu farmers being involved in commercial-scale agricultural practices, while the remaining 65% were engaged in subsistence farming. The farmers regularly contact to the expert for problem diagnosis through WhatsApp or ask for diagnostic visits to their farms in order to gain scientific solution of their problems.

The university has made a significant contribution to the socioeconomic upliftment and sustainable livelihood of Tharu people through the distribution of free sewing machines to Tharu women during rural youth training. This has resulted in direct employment for the women, as they are now performing tailoring and selling beautiful dresses that they have made themselves as an entrepreneur. This initiative by the university has made a noteworthy contribution to the socioeconomic advancement and long-term sustenance of the Tharu community.



**Dr. Seema Jaggi, ADG (HRD), ICAR,
Counselling and Distributing Sewing Machine
to Schedule Caste Women on 9 June, 2022.**



**Five Days Rural Youth Training at a
Village “Vishanapur”, Block Mihipurva,
Bahraich (U.P.) During 22-26 June, 2019**



Training Organized and Visit of Bee Keeping Units of Tharu Farmers by the University Scientists in Pachpedwa, District Balrampur (U.P.) on 8 June, 2022



Demonstration of Sprinkling of Pesticide/ Fertilizer Through Drone on Farmer's Field

Through the initiatives undertaken by the university, the children belonging to the Tharu community are being provided with educational opportunities to acquire theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of computer science. In addition, they are acquiring up-to-date knowledge on agricultural technology, including weather forecasting, in order to ensure that their family may reap the benefits of computer labs. Since the establishment of the computer lab, a total of 360 students have received training of computer skill and presently, 60 students have been enrolled. Tharu farmers are also getting information regarding scientific animal husbandry and agricultural practices from their wards. Technical support has been given to women Self-Help Group in the districts Balrampur and Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh and they are working efficiently to enhance their livelihood and socioeconomic upliftment.

The university has made the following Women Self Help Group (WSHG) and Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) for upliftment of Tharu Community:

Puja Women Self Help Group

Sl. No.	Name	Husband/ Father's name	Designation
1	Sashi Kala	Mohan	Chairman
2	Pawitra Devi	Prem Sagar	Secretary
3	Sumita	Umesh	Accountant
4	Devi	Rajendra	Member

5	Poonam	Satyadev	Member
6	Indrakala	Nanbabu	Member
7	Chameli	Ramabhilakh	Member
8	Sunita	Ajay	Member
9	Shyam Kali	Chinnu	Member
10	Meena	Vipin	Member
11	Rukmani	Brijendra	Member

Ekla Women Self Help Group

Sl. No.	Name	Husband/ Father's name	Designation
1	Manna	Brijmohan	Chairman
2	Manjani	Vijay Sagar	Secretary
3	Rinju	Rakesh	Accountant
4	Anjani	Anil	Member
5	Brijman	Chinku	Member
6	Ramrati	Budhai	Member
7	Mohila	Sadhu	Member
8	Nayka	Pitai	Member
9	Kamla	Prem	Member
10	Nanka	Punwasi	Member
11	Kaushalya	Prem Kumar	Member
12	Ananta	Bharat	Member

Shanti Women Self Help Group

Sl. No.	Name	Husband/ Father's name	Designation
1	Ilaichi	Shatrughan	Chairman
2	Nirma	Vijay Kumar	Secretary
3	Gayan Maya	Lallu	Accountant
4	Gulaba	Shiv Sagar	Member
5	Swaliya Begam	Shamiullaha	Member
6	Sujita	Dinesh	Member
7	Gudaiya	Pawan	Member
8	Ranjana	Hariom	Member
9	Imirta	Chandrabali	Member
10	Geeta Devi	Bhup naryan	Member
11	Laxmi Devi	Ganeshman	Member

Suraj Women Self Help Group

Sl. No.	Name	Husband/ Father's name	Designation
1	Santoshi Chaudhary	Dadhees Chaudhary	Chairman
2	Vidya Devi	Saroj	Secretary
3	Laxmi Devi	Maneesh	Accountant
4	Ringla	Ambika	Member
5	Ganga wati	Ram shanker	Member
6	Arti	Rjman	Member
7	Sumitra Devi	Rameshwar	Member
8	Pramila	Raj Govind	Member

9	Akalmati	Chinku	Member
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FPO

Name of FPO	Name of CEO
Balrampur Spices Farmers Producers Company Ltd, Kohargaddi, Pachperwa, Balrampur	Gaurav Kumar Tiwari

The socioeconomic upliftment of the Tharu Community was pursued through the establishment of Women Self-Help Groups (WSHG), namely Puja Women Self-Help Group, Ekla Women Self-Help Group, Shanti Women Self-Help Group, Suraj Women Self-Help Group, and the Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) known as "Balrampur Spices Farmers Producers Company Ltd., Kohargaddi, Pachperwa, Balrampur".





Activities of Women Self Help Group of Village “Vishanapur”, Mihipurva, Bahraich (U.P.)