

Date: 12 November 2025

**Report on the
Tribal Agri-entrepreneurship Meet & Tribal Capacity Building
Programme**

Organised during Janajatiya Gaurav Pakhwada 2025

Venue: School of Agriculture, GIET University, Gunupur

Date: 12 November 2025

Collaboration: ICAR–Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (CIWA), Bhubaneswar

Organised Under Janajatiya Gaurav Pakhwada 2025 on 12 November 2025

School of Agriculture, GIET University, Gunupur

In Collaboration with

ICAR–Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (ICAR-CIWA), Bhubaneswar

1. Introduction

As part of the nationwide celebration of **Janajatiya Gaurav Pakhwada 2025**, the School of Agriculture, GIET University, organised two significant programmes:

Tribal Agri-entrepreneurship Meet & Tribal Capacity Building Programme on 12 November 2025.

This programme aimed at strengthening farmer-scientist–startup linkages and empowering tribal farmers especially women through knowledge sharing, skill development, and exposure to entrepreneurial opportunities. The events were jointly conducted with **ICAR–Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (CIWA)**.

Highlights of the Event

- Dr. Devdas addressed the importance of linking farmers with innovative agri-startups.
- Dr. Lakshmipriya Sahu delivered an inspiring talk encouraging **women farmers and agri-entrepreneurs** to adopt new technologies.
- Representatives from NGOs and SHGs discussed ground-level challenges and opportunities for entrepreneurship.
- Dr. Rajeswari Das shared insights on sustainable agricultural innovations and startup-led solutions.

2. Inaugural Session and Dignitary Participation

The programme was smoothly coordinated by **Mrs. Sucharita Panda**, Assistant Professor, School of Agriculture and she welcomed all the dignitaries and participants to grace the event.

The programmes were graced by eminent personalities whose presence greatly enriched the proceedings:

- **Dr. V. S. Devdas**, Dean, School of Agriculture, delivered the inaugural remarks, highlighting the university's commitment to promoting agricultural innovation, startup engagement, and tribal empowerment.
- **Dr. Lakshmi Priya Sahu**, Senior Scientist, ICAR–CIWA, provided expert insights on women-led technology adoption, community mobilisation, and CIWA's continued support to the region.
- **Dr. Rajeswari Das**, Director, Vrikshaa Sampanna Agrocare Pvt. Ltd., shared her expertise in sustainable soil and crop care technologies, motivating youth and women to explore agri-entrepreneurial pathways.
- **Shri P. Venugopal**, Programme Coordinator, ASHA NGO, discussed community-driven development models and highlighted the importance of NGO linkages in strengthening tribal livelihoods.
- **Mrs. Ranjita Pattanayak**, Head of Sai Samruddhi SHG, shared experiences on SHG-led enterprises and encouraged collective action among rural women.

Their contributions played a pivotal role in shaping the technical sessions and interactive discussions that followed.

3. Tribal Agri-entrepreneurship Meet & Capacity Building Programme

Organised under the theme of **Tribal Capacity Building**, this programme aimed at uplifting tribal farmers and rural SHGs by providing hands-on knowledge and encouraging entrepreneurial thinking.

Stakeholders participated:

1. Vrikshaa Sampanna Agrocare Pvt. Ltd., Gunupur
2. Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO), Gunupur
3. ASHA NGO, Gunupur
4. Sai Samruddhi SHG
5. SAI Baibhav SHG
6. Subarna SHG
7. Mandakini SHG
8. Ma'am Mangala SHG
9. Om Sai SHG

Sessions included training on value addition, startup opportunities, market linkages, organic-based technologies, and group-based entrepreneurial models. The presence and guidance of **Dr. Lakshmi Priya Sahu**, **Shri P. Venugopal**, and **Mrs. Ranjita Pattanayak** played a vital role in encouraging active participation from tribal women and youths.

4. Interactive Sessions and Demonstrations

Throughout both days, technical demonstrations, success stories, and startup displays were organised. Faculty members of GIET University, along with CIWA representatives, interacted with participants to address field-level challenges and offer solutions.

The contribution of **Dr. Rajeswari Das** in demonstrating sustainable agricultural inputs, and the motivational interactions facilitated by **Dr. V. S. Devdas** and **Dr. Lakshmipriya Sahu**, created a highly engaging learning environment.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by **Dr. Suman G. Sahu**.

5. Outcomes of the Programme

- Strengthened collaboration between farmers, scientists, NGOs, SHGs, and startups.
- Enhanced technical and entrepreneurial awareness among tribal women and youth.
- Exposure to innovative agricultural solutions, value-addition opportunities, and market-oriented approaches.
- Formation of potential linkages for future training, demonstrations, and entrepreneurship promotion.
- Reinforcement of GIET University's role as a regional centre for agricultural knowledge and rural development.

7. Conclusion

This programme was a significant milestone in promoting agricultural entrepreneurship and tribal empowerment in the region. The meaningful contributions of **Dr. V. S. Devdas**, **Dr. Lakshmipriya Sahu**, **Dr. Rajeswari Das**, **Shri P. Venugopal**, and **Mrs. Ranjita Pattanayak** provided strong leadership and inspiration to the participants.

The combined efforts of GIET University and ICAR–CIWA successfully created a platform for knowledge exchange, capacity building, and empowerment—perfectly aligning with the spirit of **Janajatiya Gaurav Pakhwada 2025**.

Dean
School of Agriculture
GIET University, Gunupur
Dean
School of Agriculture
GIET University, Gunupur
11/21/2025

Glimpse of Tribal Agri-entrepreneurship Meet & Capacity Building Programme organised by School of Agriculture, GIET University in collaboration with ICAR-CIWA



Tribal Agri-entrepreneurship Meet & Tribal Capacity Building Programme

School of Agriculture (ICAR ACCREDITED), GIET University
In Collaboration with
ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar



**Expert Talk on Women-led
Technology adoption, community mobilisation by
Dr. Lakshmipriya Sahu, Senior Scientist, ICAR-CIWA**



Rayagada, Odisha, India
Gunupur, Rayagada, Odisha 765022, India
Lat 19.048638, Long 83.833399
Wednesday, 12/11/2025 11:24 AM GMT+05:30
Note: Captured by GPS Map Camera

Expert Talk on importance of Community-driven Development models and NGOs by Shri P. Venugopal, Programme Coordinator, ASHA NGO,



Expert Talk by Mrs. Ranjita Pattanayak, Head of Sai Samruddhi SHG





Visit to Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gunupur by Dr. Lakshmi Priya Sahu, Senior Scientist, ICAR-CIWA



