



**MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF LIFELONG LEARNING AND
EXTENSION**



**INDIGENOUS ORGANIC FARMING PROJECT
AN ORGANIC FARMING PROJECT
FOR SUPPORTING THE TRIBAL FARMERS**

***REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE
UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN PROJECT***

ADOPTED VILLAGES UNDER THE UBA AND JAIVAM PROJECT

Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension, Mahatma Gandhi university has adopted 14 tribal villages as part of the Indigenous Organic Farming Project.(IOFP). Kerala has a vast forest reserve area and there are many tribal settlement areas in Idukki ,Kottayam & Ernakulam Districts . Mala Arayan, Urali, Ulladan, Muthuvan, Mannan and Hill Pulaya are the major tribal groups inhabited in the various parts of these districts. Tribal Organic Farming Promotion Project initiated by Mahatma Gandhi University Kerala will help the tribal people for securing the access to food security/ Education/Health /Sanitation / /Drinking Water/ Afforestation / skill Development / Bioenergy, and increase in their per capita income through Organic Farming.

VISION

To reinstate the organic culture among tribal farmers through University System

OBJECTIVES

Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension, Mahatma Gandhi University is instrumental in bringing the Organic Farming to the forefront and that mission turned out to be a state wide programme. Major objectives of project are:-

1. To promote sustainable organic agricultural practices in selected tribal villages of Idukki , Ernakulam & Kottayam districts.
2. To assist the tribal framers financially and technically for land design, planting, organic fertilizing, irrigation, harvesting, storage and effective marketing.
3. To develop organic tribal farmers groups in villages and establish organic seed banks,organic fertilizer units and sustainable market system
4. To help the tribal people for securing the access to food security/ Education/Health /Sanitation /Drinking Water/ Afforestation / skill Development / Bioenergy , and increase in their per capita income through Organic Farming.

PROJECT OUTPUT

Almost 500 tribal families become self-sufficient and trained in organic farming.

PROJECT OUTCOME

More than 14 Grama Panchayaths strictly follow an organic agriculture principle in farming.

PROJECT IMPACT

Organic farming culture and practices throughout Idukki, Ernakulam and Kottayam districts of Kerala.

LIST OF ADOPTED VILLAGES

- | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 1 KARIPIPPILANGADU | 2 METHOTTY | 3 DEVARUPAARA | 4 MOOLAKKADU | 5 MOONNILAVU |
| 6 PATHIPPALLY | 7 PERINGASSERY | 8 PINAVARKKUDI | 9 POOCHAPRA | 10 POOMALA |
| 11 UPPUKUNNU | 12 VALLIVAMAVU | 13 VELLELLU | 14 VELLIYAMTHOTTY | |

FUNDING AGENCIES

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Unnath Bharath Abhiyan | : 50000/- |
| 2. Jaivam | : 10,65000/- |
| Total | : 1,115,000/- |

ACTIVITIES UNDER THE PROJECT TILL DATE

INDIGENOUS ORGANIC FARMING PROJECT –SOCIO ECONOMIC SURVEY

Identification of the project beneficiaries is the kernel part of any project and the keen selection is the important component in the successful implementation of the project. The project beneficiaries also called the target group or the target beneficiaries of the project are those who will benefit from the project. They are the people whose circumstances, this project want to change by implementing the idea.

The identification and the selection of the beneficiaries of the project was assigned to the Sree Shabareesha College, Murikkumvayal. The NSS volunteers of the college conducted a survey in the selected villages for identifying the tribal farmers who are willing to be part of the project. The survey method was adopted in order to get a clear understanding of the Socio-Economic Status of the beneficiaries. The survey report was submitted by the college authorities to the Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension.

VISIT TO THE TRIBAL SETTLEMENTS AND SREE SABAREESA FOR PROJECT ORIENTATION - 08TH AUGUST 2018

Dr. Bibin Jojo, Professor at the Tata Institute of Social Science has visited the tribal settlements under the project on 8th August 2018. The visit was in connection with the implementation of the Indigenous Organic Farming Project. Dr. Bibin Jojo is an eminent scholar in tribal studies. He had enlightened the Sree Shabareesha College and it's students on the importance of the project and also the strategies to be adopted for the successful implementation of the same. The staff and students who are engaged in the Block Placement in the Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension also participated in the visit.



UYIRPPU 2018
TWO DAYS RESIDENTIAL CONFERENCE – SEPTEMBER 24 & 25, 2018

Kerala has faced the most devastating flood in August 2018. The most literate state of the country woke up and acted according to the situation. But the reconstruction of the State was the need of the hour. The reconstruction of the state should be in accordance with the local need.

The main focus of the state being the reconstruction and the department is actively involved in the development of the tribal people and the project was going on at that period. So the department organized two days' conference Uyirppu 2018 for collecting the information for the sustainable development and post flood reconstruction of the tribal people and the related areas. The two days conference was a success in collecting information regarding the reconstruction of the tribal areas. The main highlight of the programme was that the tribal people from various parts of Kerala has participated and actively contributed for the conference.



TRAINING FOR BEE KEEPING AND BEEHIVE BOX DISTRIBUTION TWO DAYS PROGRAMME

Session 01 : 07-11-2018 - 08-11-2018

Session 02 : 19-11-2018 - 20-11-2018

Sustainable development of the tribal area being the focus of the project, the department has designed various methods for it through the adoption of Organic Farming Method. The very first step was to give training for the tribal people from two districts on Bee Keeping. Anything organic is on a high demand in the present society and honey is something which is mostly found in the adulterated form. So a training to produce good quality honey will be a good and sustainable source of income for the tribal farmers.

The sessions were handled by the experts from the HortiCorp, Mavalikkara. After the training, each of the beneficiaries were given a beehive box.



MUSHROOM FARMING TRAINING

28-12-2018

A Training programme for mushroom farming was organized for the tribal farmers at the Moonnilavu Panchayath Complex. The faculty for the training session was Sri.Velappan, a well-known organic farmer from Ernakulam District. Almost hundred farmers from the panchayath have participated in the training programme. Seeds and Mushroom beds were distributed for the participants. The programme was also a tool for sustainable development through organic farming.



TRAINING ON FISH FARMING

29-01-2019

A workshop was organized at the Moonnilavu Panchayath Hall and Idukki on Fish Farming. The idea was to give a comprehensive training on Fish Farming. Both the training programmes were conducted exclusively for the tribal farmers of both districts. Ten farmers from Idukki District were selected from the Idukki district for the implementation of the Project. For these tribal farmers of the Idukki districts, a financial aid of Rs. 20,000/- per farmer was also provided for the construction of Fish Pond and for purchasing fishes. The tribal farmers were provided with training and the financial aid to equip them to be financially independent.



DISTRIBUTION OF VEGETABLE SEEDS, FRUIT SAPLINGS AND CREATION OF A MODEL FARM

29-01-2019

The tribal farmers who are willing to and who possess half an acre of land were selected and were provided with Vegetable seeds and Fruit Saplings for making a model farm at their houses. The seeds were collected from the Organic Farmers and the fruit saplings were collected from an organic farm.



DISTRIBUTION OF CALVES TO TRIBAL FARMERS AT MOONNILAVU

22-03-2019

Fifteen tribal farmers of Moonnilavu Panchayath were distributed with calves. The beneficiaries were identified from the survey conducted initially and also with the help of the panchayath. The prime focus was to make the farmers economically independent and also on agreement that the first calf from them will be handed over to the department and there by the process can be rotated and it can be given to the other eligible tribal farmers.



The Project Closed on March 2019











