

The story



Successful women entrepreneurship through scientific pig farming

Sustainable pig farming has a significant role in guaranteeing the livelihood security of marginalized societies, particularly in the North-Eastern states of India. ICAR-National Research Centre on Pig has always fostered a supportive milieu to enhance the growth of the piggery sector through human resource development initiatives and farm support to potential farmers. Smt. Kanmoy Hira was such a promising farmer identified through the institute's SCSP programme. She received farm inputs like biosecurity kits, farm equipment and pig feed. In addition, she was also supplied with one breeding male and two female pigs. Later, she attended a residential training programme on "Scientific Pig Production and Management" from March 21st to 23rd, 2022 at ICAR -National Research Centre on Pig, Rani, Guwahati. This was the beginning of her entrepreneurial journey.



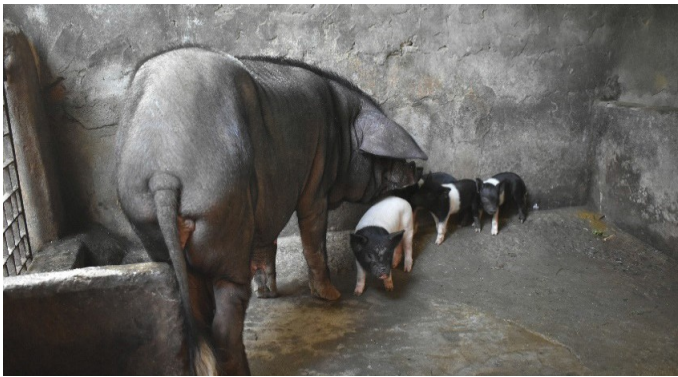
Smt. Kanmoy Hira started raising pigs to support her and her husband Sri. Hira Takuria's livelihood. In her words "it was a life-changing moment!". She was able to sell two litters of piglets within a period of 8 months and two more are due to deliver shortly. She was able to sell piglets for five thousand rupees per piglet, thus earning one lakh rupees in such a short span of time.

The most notable accomplishment was during the recent African swine fever (ASF) outbreak when most of the farms shuttered due to heavy mortality. As she recalled, "the biosecurity measures learned from NRC were strictly implemented, which saved (her stock) from

the disaster. The biosecurity kits supplied as a part of the SCSP programme have proven to be a blessing during times of uncertainty". She and her husband adhered to strict biosecurity protocols for routine farm management and as a result, their animals are still safe.

Moreover, she is receiving technical help through regular farm visits from the scientist from ICAR- ICAR -National Research Centre on Pig. In her words, the visits helped her "to identify biosecurity risks in her farm and maintain health management in a better way".

She is also adopting interventions to minimize input costs, like relying on agricultural byproducts



viz., rice bran and brewery waste etc., thus facilitating better biomass utilization. She is using pig manure as an input for her aquaculture. She is cultivating common carp using pig excreta, and was able to harvest 60 Kg of fish during the current year

thus, fetching an additional income of Rs30000/-. The saga of Smt. Kanmoy brilliantly demonstrates the capacity of the piggery sector to rapidly advance underprivileged women's status, within a short span of time.



I feel independent now. My family values my contributions and words more than ever before. This is a matter of great pleasure for me."

- Smt. Kanmoy Hira

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