

## **Backyard Poultry Rearing For Women Empowerment and Food Security in Rural Assam**

This is the story of the women of Barampur Village under Pachim Mangaldai block of Darrang district, Assam. These determined ladies were updated their backyard poultry practice with scientific technology like maintaining hygiene, suitable poultry house, balance feeding and also by replacing their flock with high yielding LIT birds. Now, they are successfully doing it and enjoying the job.

### **Rationale for intervention:**

- Assam, being a state where majority of the population are non-vegetarian, there is a huge demand for eggs and poultry in the form of meat.
- Backyard poultry farming is an age-old practice in rural areas of Assam, which can contribute to a great extent in terms of egg and meat production.
- Backyard poultry rearing involves low investment and serves as an important ally for poverty alleviation.
- Poultry rearing can enhance household food security and contributes to poverty reduction through provision of food, income and employment
- Significant scope for 'productivity' increase in most small holders households.
- Urban households' exhibits high willingness to pay for local traditionally raised poultry/ livestock products/ varieties.
- Accessing market participation by small holders which otherwise is generally plagued by high access costs and information failure.
- The female rearers/ beneficiaries will be benefitted under a short interval between investment and earnings makes, the backyard poultry rearing, an attractive and low risk option

### **Interventions made by CLA:**

As a part of my field work for Module III session of CLA on Poultry, I have to visit many villages of my study areas of Darrang district. During my visit, I interact with the women of the villages regarding their backyard poultry. From these meetings, I learnt that most of these ladies were already practicing poultry farming in a very small scale in their backyard. They are unable to benefit themselves from the modern technology in this field, due to lack of proper knowledge.

I felt, I can do something for them to make them technically sound. In our society, women, especially from the areas are depriving from good life. Thus, my target is Women Empowerment.

As a woman, it becomes easy to approach other women and teach them all about the possibilities of Animal Husbandry, for their social upliftment.

As a CLA on Poultry, I decided to provide them scientific knowledge of backyard poultry production and also to help them to doubling their income and ultimately to make them economically independent.

I tried to provide door-to-door training on Backyard Poultry farming to the rural women. I prepared one leaflet on backyard poultry farming in regional language (Asamese) and distributed them to needy rural women. I also used some videos for better demonstration.

### **Outcome:**

As a very positive feedback of the above mentioned extension works, many women showing interested for scientific method of backyard poultry rearing. They were interested to utilize their money in hand on backyard poultry rearing in order to increase their income.

These determined ladies were ready with all the updated practice for backyard poultry rearing and prepared their poultry house with all the necessary arrangements. They received minimum 30 nos. of high yielding variety of LIT bird per head for their backyard.

They brought day old chicks of LIT bird and kept for brooding in a Mother Unit, established in the village itself for the purpose of brooding of day-old chicks up to 14 days of age prior to distribution. Thus, they managed the quality chicks in low cost by community purchasing.

I consider it as a very positive feedback of my field work that could manage to motivate the rural women to utilize their fund in Poultry Rearing. Also, the participants of the program defiantly will be benefited with a good income.

### **PHOTOGRAPHS:**

1. Photographs during training program on Backyard Poultry Rearing at Chamuwapara, Darrang





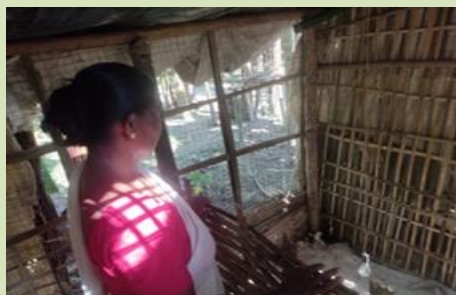
## 2. Photographs of the event of LIT chicks distribution







**3 Photographs of Poultry houses after getting Training on Backyard Poultry rearing**







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