

Ensuring nutritional security and economic empowerment in the aspirational districts of Odisha

By Bilqeesa Bhat

The Department of Biotechnology's autonomous institution, the Institute of Life Sciences (ILS), Bhubaneswar has developed an agri-model to promote second crop and nutri-kitchen gardens in Nabarangpur district, which is one of the ten aspirational districts of Odisha.

Nabarangpur district gets scarce rainfall for only 2-3 months during monsoon. Further, its agriculture landscape is characterized with traditional agriculture system with limited exposures to integrated and improved management practices.

Thus, ILS is essentially proposing to demonstrate low external input based agriculture system that would require interventions on the existing operations in agriculture being practiced. Institute promotes catalyzing the changes that requires enhanced productivity and profitability. The agri-model based on nutri-gardening and community gardens has been proposed for better economic and nutritional security of tribal farmer communities of the district.

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