**Farming Became the Foundation of Life**

Name: Sahadev Nayak

Village: Tudi, Panchayat - Tentla,

Block - Potka

District East Singhbhum

Sahadev Nayak, a resident of Tudi village in East Singhbhum district, once struggled to sustain his family due to financial difficulties. His family of five relied solely on paddy farming, but limited resources and low yields forced them into labor work to make ends meet. With no stable income, the future seemed uncertain.

In 2021, Sahadev’s life took a turn when he joined the *Maa Vaishnavi Farmers’ Club*. Through regular meetings, he learned new farming techniques from Mariam Didi, a mentor who guided him in modern agricultural practices. He was introduced to the **line-sowing method** and the benefits of vegetable farming.

With a small investment of ₹2,000, he decided to experiment with **brinjal, tomato, and chili farming** on 60 decimals of land. His efforts paid off, and he earned a profit of ₹3,500. Encouraged by this success, Sahadev decided to expand his farming activities.

He and his wife, who once worked as laborers, left wage labor behind and focused entirely on farming. Additionally, he took Mariam Didi’s advice and **invested ₹4,000 in goat farming**, purchasing two young goats to supplement his income.

In 2023, with support from *Catholic Charities*, he received **bamboo and seeds** to construct a **trellis system** for better crop growth. With his family’s support, he built a sturdy **16-bamboo trellis structure** and started composting for organic farming. He successfully prepared one **compost pit** and is working on another.

Now, Sahadev is planning to cultivate **1 acre of land** next year. His family’s financial condition has improved significantly, and they no longer have to struggle to meet basic needs.

Sahadev expresses his deep gratitude to **Catholic Charities and Mariam Didi**, whose guidance transformed his life. Today, he stands as an inspiration for others in his village, proving that **hard work, knowledge, and determination can turn farming into a sustainable livelihood.**