**From Poverty to Prosperity**

My name is Kosmas Barla, son of Simon Barla. I am a farmer from Buru Kenduda village, Beda Kenduda Panchayat, Anandpur Block, West Singhbhum District, Jharkhand. My family consists of five members, and we are entirely dependent on agriculture for our livelihood.

Earlier, our financial condition was very poor, and we struggled to have enough food throughout the year. In 2019, I attended a farmers' committee meeting where an organization’s representative, Richard, was present. During the meeting, discussions were held on indigenous seed selection, vegetable farming, and improved farming techniques. At the end of the meeting, I personally met Richard and sought more information about farming.

Following this, I participated in a Panchayat-level training program, where trainers Rothin Sir and Bhagat Sir provided valuable insights on proper farming techniques and increasing productivity through livestock and vegetable farming. I started by selecting 10 kg of indigenous paddy seeds and preparing seedlings. By transplanting at the right time, I was able to harvest approximately 6 quintals of rice from those 10 kg of seeds. Since then, I have been using the same method every year for paddy cultivation, ensuring that my family never faces food shortages again.

Alongside paddy farming, I also cultivate vegetables on 50 decimals of land, generating an annual income of ₹40,000–₹50,000. In addition to farming, I have ventured into animal husbandry. My goat farming business earns me ₹30,000–₹40,000 annually. Currently, I have 65 goats, and from their manure alone, I produce around four tractor loads of organic fertilizer every year. After using some for my own farming, I sell the remaining manure, earning an additional ₹7,000–₹8,000.

Through vegetable farming and animal husbandry, I now generate an annual income of ₹1 lakh to ₹1.5 lakh. My association with the organization has brought a significant transformation in my life and improved my family's financial situation. I am now able to educate my three children at Omra Private School and meet their needs.

I sincerely thank the organization for guiding me on the right path and helping me achieve a better life.

 