

MAJHERA KRISHAL DAL

West Bengal, South 24 Parganas.



*Exhibition of seeds at the CSB
Photo: Indraprastha Srijan Welfare Society*

This CSB was formally established in 2023 with the support of the NGO Indraprastha Srijan Welfare Society (ISWS). This CSB is located in the village of Ramnagar Abad in the South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, India.

This seed bank is managed by its members directly through an elected committee that is made up of 10 farmers; and around 20 households from the village benefit from the CSB.

The committee members and beneficiaries of this CSB are mainly women farmers committed to organic farming practices that prioritize soil health, climate resilience, and environmental protection. A central component of their efforts is the conservation of local varieties, which is crucial for maintaining biodiversity and ensuring the sustainability of the agricultural system.

As of 2024, the CSB primarily emphasizes the conservation of vegetables, preserving around 16 local varieties, which include pumpkin, green amaranth, bottle gourd, spinach, cucumber, bitter melon, arum, green beans, lady's finger, brinjal, snake gourd, ridged gourd, basil, hyacinth beans, water amaranth, and yam. This diverse collection not only supports local agriculture but also contributes to biodiversity and food security.

ISWS provides ongoing support to the community seed bank by offering training on climate-resilient livelihoods and strategies for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the seed bank.

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