

MATANGINI KRISHAK DAL

West Bengal, South 24 Parganas.



*Farmer member of 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). In 2022, due to a critical seed shortage in the area, female farmers from the village united to collect and rescue local varieties and initiated conservation activities to preserve their agricultural heritage.

This CSB is located in the village of Paschim Sridhar Pur in the South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, India.

The seed bank is overseen by a committee of 15 to 17 female farmers and benefits approximately 60 to 70 families in the village. Participating farmers have enhanced their seed networks and engaged in active seed exchanges, fostering community collaboration and resilience.

The main aim of the community seed bank is to conserve local varieties, focusing predominantly on vegetables, and as of 2024, it conserves approximately 16 local varieties of different crops, including lady's finger, brinjal, green amaranth, cucumber, bitter guard, pumpkin, snake guard, arum, yam, green beans, ridged guard, basil, bottle guard, hyacinth beans, water amaranth, and spinach.

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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