

SUCCESS STORY

Name of the Farmer: **Mrs. Jun Kalita**
 W/o. Mr. Khogen Kalita
 Village: Zajarbodi, Nohira, Kamrup (R)



Mrs. Jun Kalita

It always gives a delightful sense of success to see the level of confidence in the face of **Mrs. Jun Kalita**, one of the residents cum beneficiaries of Nohira Field Unit of the "AICRP on Goat Improvement", Assam Hill Goat Field Unit. Though agriculture was the main source of income for her family, but due to unpredictable weather conditions and flood, managing her day-to-day expenses alone from agriculture became a futile business. Moreover, her family has lost a sizable area of cultivable land due to erosion by river.

Presently the family has one bigha(one seventh of a an acre) of cultivable land which by no means can support their family expenses including the educational expenditure of her three children. Due to this gloomy situation, Mrs. Kalita's husband Mr. Khogen Kalita was forced to work as a wage labourer to meet the expenses of the family.

Though, Mrs. Kalita has been rearing 3 to 4 goats for the last ten years as a backyard venture, the income from her goats were very meager. Most of the animals could not make it to marketable age due to different parasitic infestations and infections. Her goats even could not provide any financial respite to the family at the time of flood when they required it most.



However, like many others, with the execution of the project "AICRP on Goat Improvement" in Nohira Field Unit, things started moving in the right direction. With all the necessary inputs like technical guidance, feed, medicine, timely vaccination etc. from the project, Mrs. Kalita's so called backyard goatery has turned into a successful endeavour. Mrs. Kalita took keen interest in

various training programmes organized by the project and has adopted scientific measures in all aspects of goatery like feeding, breeding, housing, health care etc.

Previously, she had to restrict the number of goats to below five, but now, she is the owner of 14 healthy goats and has sold 4 goats during the last year earning Rs. 9,500.00. The earnings from her goats have necessary not only helped her to meet up the livelihood expenses of her family but also to provide aid towards the education of her children. This year she is expecting to earn more than Rs. 12,000.00 from selling of her animals. "At times, my goats were like some responsibilities from which I always tried to escape! But now, they are the only source of definite income for me and my family. Thanks for the support and timely help that I am receiving from the goat project"- said Mrs. Kalita when she expressed her experiences with goat husbandry.

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