

### 3G for Sovaboti!

Sovaboti Hembram, a mother of three living in the tribal-dominated Kendua village of Bankura has always find difficulties to run the family with limited income opportunities. Her husband, the soul breadwinner of the family



is a small farmer from the rainfed region. Bounded with the woes, she joined Kendua Adibashi JiorJharna Mahila Dal five years ago. Coming under the umbrella of DRCSC, she first learned to secure nutrition for the household using the sustainable techniques of utilizing homestead land.

Being enthusiastic, she started using every inch of her space. At first, she saw that the bottle gourd is not bearing any fruit.

When shared the problem with our field staff, she came to know about 2G and 3G cutting. The meaning of “3G” is Third Generation. In simple terms, it means third-generation branches. The lateral branch



growing directly from the main branch or 1G branch is called a 2G branch. The branches that arise from 2G branches are 3G branches.

*“The first time I saw the branches growing after pruning, I find it magical. I also learned about how this technique works by increasing the female flowers in every plant. It feels great when I see the fruits hanging from the plant”,* said Sovaboti with zeal. Now she cultivates bottle gourd in 1 katha of homestead land along with other crops which not only been consumed by the family but also earning hard cash. *In the last two months, we have taken 50kgs of bottle gourd in the local market and got cash of Rs. 1000. Another thing is, my produced are sold fast as these are fresh, organically grown and tasty”* she added. *“This is just a small technique that has helped me a lot, I also cultivate different crops in my nutrition garden all over the year from which I can sell the surplus. Now I use this money in the*

*wellbeing of my family.*" Sovaboti is now hopeful and wishing to broaden her venture in the coming days.