# Name of Product

Lac value added products i.e. Bangles making, metal enameling, lacquering of toys made of terracotta, wooden articles and in jewellery etc...

### Name of the Developer/KVK

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-II, Sitapur

#### Name of the ATARI

ICAR- ATARI- Kanpur, Zone –III

## **Background/ Rationale**



A considerable portion of the rural poor remains reliant on land and water resources for their modest livelihoods. Regrettably, various factors such as deforestation, drought, soil erosion, farmers' low risk tolerance, small landholdings, traditional farming methods, inadequate transportation infrastructure, and limited market access have led to reduced incomes for agricultural families.

Lac, a harmless and valuable resin produced by the insect Kerria lacca, is cultivated on branches of various tree species, including Palas (Butea monosperma), Ber (Zizyphus mauritiana), Kusum (Schleichera oleosa), Flemingia (F. semialata), among others. This insect provides resin, lac dye, and lac wax.

India stands as the world's largest producer of lac. Within India, Chhattisgarh leads in production, followed by Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Odisha, Bihar, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, and Uttar Pradesh. The top five states together contribute approximately 95% of the nation's total lac production.

The district of Sitapur is particularly rich in lac host plants like Butea monosperma, Zizyphus mauritiana, and Schleichera oleosa. These plants are found in scattered locations, but due to a lack of awareness and enlightenment, farmers often overlook these trees, cutting them down for fuel instead.

Primary crops in this district include sugarcane, rice, millets, pulses, and oilseeds. The region is characterized by its dual nature of agriculture: it is prone to both rainfed conditions and flooding. There is a growing financial crisis among farmers, who traditionally rely on income from the sugar industry. This situation poses a significant challenge, as the industry's downturn deeply affects their cash flow.

### **Target Made**

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-II Sitapur has taken the initiatives on Introduction of Lac Culture technology and its Value added products in the district for income and employment generation in 2013 with technical collaboration of IINRG, Ranchi.

#### **Interventions Taken**

The technology was showcased using Flemingia semialata and Zizyphus mauritiana, incorporating the Kusumi lac lifecycle. Over 3000 farmers from Sitapur, as well as those from Hardoi, Barabanki, and Kanpur Dehat, witnessed this technology. It was also featured at various Kisan Melas organized by different universities, institutes, and organizations.



## **Impact**

Initially, lac culture technology was implemented in the district on a 3-hectare area, closely supervised by KVK. Currently, this farming technique has been adopted in 8 blocks of the Sitapur district, covering 24 acres. On average, this technology yields an income of Rs. 1000 per Ziziphus tree and Rs. 50 per Flemingia plant within 6-7 months. To ensure the sustainable management of this technology, a group of farm women are being trained in managing and utilizing value-added lac products. The harvested lac is also used by these women to create various value-added products, enabling them to earn Rs. 50-70 per day over 3-5 hours. The increased interest in this technology is partly due to market facilitation by KVK. KVK has developed various farming modules that promise more significant interventions, higher returns, and job creation.



Fig.1. Expansion of cultivation area year by year

### Transfer of technology

We might only know that Maheshpur village, located about 75 kilometers from the district headquarters, is a flood-affected village. However, in the minds of people from many other cities like Delhi, Hyderabad, Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, this village holds a different image. Many industrial houses are also admirers of this village. This village is not just a village but a cluster of adjoining houses. Under the thatched roofs of these houses, women can be seen crafting lacquer. They polish it with natural colors. Companies that make decorative items, toys, and many other products purchase these from them. The scientists of the Agricultural Science Center have worked like catalysts for this passion of the villagers. Initially, the showpieces from this village were sold only in the domestic market, but over time, industrial houses that make special kinds of toys and showpieces grew very fond of this handicraft, and the fortunes of the women in the village shone. Now, the women of this village are making a wide range of products, whether it's a vase made of lacquer, candle stands, plates, or bells.

Prior to the fiscal period of 2014-15, the average yearly revenue for each family in Maheshpur village was roughly INR 200,000 to 250,000, predominantly derived from agricultural activities, animal husbandry, and miscellaneous manual labor. During the 2014-15 timeframe, inhabitants of the village underwent specialized training in lac-related entrepreneurial skills, imparted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra-II in Sitapur. Subsequently, in the financial year 2015-16, Krishi Vigyan Kendra-II, Sitapur transferred this lac cultivation technology to the local populace. Presently, observing the economic status of Maheshpur village, it is evident that the mean annual income per household has escalated to about INR 400,000 to 500,000.

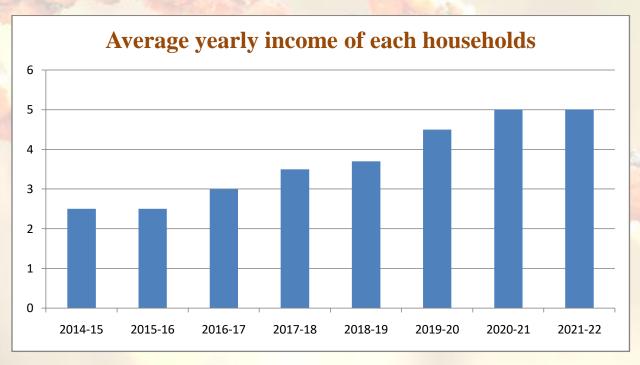


Fig.2. Average yearly income of each household

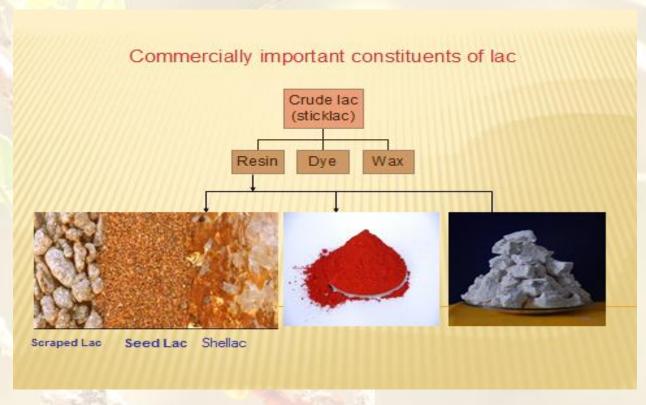


Fig.3. Important constituents of Lac

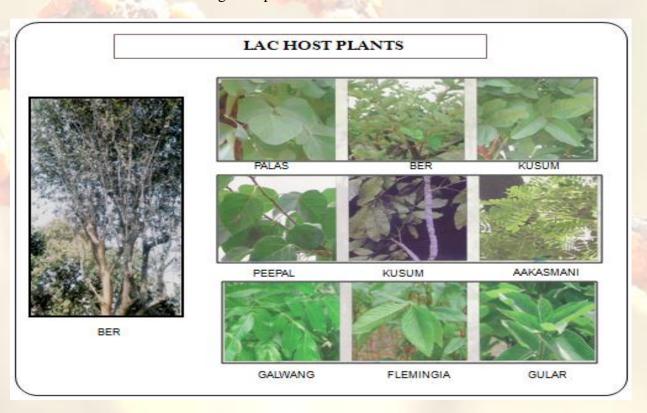


Fig.4. Lac host plants



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लोंक का खता में राच रखत ह लेंकिन उनके पास लाख का कीट पालने के लिए उपयुक्त पेड़ नहीं है उनके लिए भालिया सबसे अच्छा पेड़ है।

# पर का महेशपुर गांव ट्वाय टाउन बना

राजीव गुप्ता, सीतापुर

ताली पुरुवात्वय से 75 किलोमीटर दूर महेशपुर वाय के बार में शायद आपको सिर्फ इतना औ पता हो कि यह एक बाद प्रभवित गाँव है, लेकिन दिल्ली, हैदर्सबाद, चेनाई, मुंबई, लोकिन दिल्ली, हैदर्सबाद, चेनाई, मुंबई, लोकिन दिल्ली, हैदर्सबाद, चेनाई, मुंबई, लोकिना की से अन्य कई सहरों के लागी के मानव पटल पर इस गांव की एक अलग तत्वी है। कई शीधोगिक घराने भी इस गाँव के मुरीद है। यह गांव नहीं बल्लिक सटे, हुए घरी का एक अलगदर है। हर घर ये छन्मर के नीचे महिलाएं लाइ' तराबती नवर आती है। वे उन्हें कुपरती रंगों से रंगती है और पोविष्म कर देता है। सराबद है।

• ग्रामीण महिलाओं ने लाख के खिलीने बना रचा नया इतिहास

• महानगरों के बाजारों में अपनी पहचान बना चुके है खिलौने

बंचित हो गया शुरुआती से इस गांव के होगीस अरंग अपना प्रेरुआती से इस गांव के होगीस अरंग अपना में हो विकत से, लेकिन समय के साथ हो खात किस्म के खिलीने और नेपीस बनाने बात की अपिताक प्रमाने को यह हस्तज्ञिल बेहद भाषा और गांव की महिलाओं की किस्मत प्रमान जेंगी इस गांव की महिलाओं अब तमान पीजों को बात इसी हैं। लाख का बंना पूरुलदान हो या फिर मोमबत्ती स्टैंड, तस्तरी हो



महेशपुर गांव में लाख से खिलीने बनाती महिलाएं व युवतियां

यह है कमाई

चंद दिन पहले तक यह महिलाएं रोजाना 70 रुपये के हिसाब से प्रति माह करीब 2000 रुपये कमाती थीं, लेकिन आज इनकी कमाई 15,000 रुपये तक पहुंच गई है।

उन्हें रंगने के लिए कुदरती रंगों का प्रयोग किया जाता है। महिलाएं हल्दी से पीला, नील के पीघे से नीला और कांची कुमकुम पाउडर से नारंगी और लाल रंग बनाती है।

और लाल रंग बनाती हैं। पुरुष करते हैं लाख की खेती। बाइग्रस्त गांव में खेती की स्थित ठीक नहीं है। ऐसे में लोगों ने पेड़ी पर रोजागर तलाश कर लिया। गांव के लोगों ने खेतों के किगार और बागों के पेड़ी पर लाख की खेती कुरू की। पुरुष लाख की खेती करते हैं और महिलाएं आकर्षक पेड़ों पर लाख की की खेती करते हैं शोपीस बनाती हैं।

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