

Agrocrats' Society for Rural Development

Annual Report 2024-25



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Annual Report 2024-25 of Agrocrats' Society for Rural Development (ASORD) based on the attached project and grant reports:

Annual Report 2024-25

Organization: Agrocrats' Society for Rural Development (ASORD)

Reporting Period: April 2024 – March 2025 (extending to Sept/Oct 2025 for specific grants)

Headquarters: Shailendra Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh

1. Executive Summary

During the 2024-25 period, ASORD solidified its role as a key implementing agency for rural transformation in Chhattisgarh. The organization successfully managed diverse projects ranging from large-scale watershed management and sustainable water usage to women's entrepreneurship and skill development. Key partnerships with **NABARD**, **Nab Foundation**, **Azim Premji Foundation**, and the **Axis Bank Foundation & Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation** have enabled impactful interventions across Bilaspur, Gariyaband, Dhamtari and Tikamgarh districts.

2. Key Project Achievements

A. Sustainable Water Management (Dhamtari/Magarlod)

- **Grant Support:** Azim Premji Foundation.
- **Objective:** Improving adaptive capacities of tribal farmers through water use efficiency.
- **Key Milestones:**
 - Operationalized a dedicated project office in **Magarlod**.
 - Prepared **16 Village Detailed Project Reports (DPRs)** and successfully developed GIS maps for 9 villages.
 - Completed field interventions including the deepening of **7 farm ponds**, 5 new farm ponds, and 2 new irrigation ponds.
 - Trained **50 Krishi Sakhis** in collaboration with the BIHAN team to lead local resource leveraging.



B. High Impact Mega Watershed Project 2.0 (Gariyaband)

- **Partners:** BRLF, Axis Bank Foundation, and Govt. of Chhattisgarh.
- **Location:** Gariyaband and Chhura blocks.
- **Impact:** Commenced Phase 2 in October 2024, focusing on a population of approximately 6.56 lakh where 50% are Scheduled Tribes.
- **Strategy:** Implementing a "Ridge-to-Valley" approach to combat soil erosion and water stress for small and marginal farmers.



c. Kanchanpur Watershed Development Project (Bilaspur)

- **Phase:** Capacity Building Phase (CBP) completed July 2025.
- **Grant:** NABARD.
- **Key Activities:**
 - Treated **98.027 hectares** of land.
 - Formed and registered a **Village Watershed Committee (VWC)** with 10 members.
 - Implemented drainage line treatments including **Loose Boulder Structures (LBC)** and **Water Absorption Trenches (WAT)**.
 - Conducted exposure visits for local farmers to successful watershed sites in Korba to encourage community contribution (Shramdaan).



3. Women's Empowerment & Micro-Entrepreneurship

Micro-Enterprise Development Program (MEDP)

- **Focus:** Cloth Bag Manufacturing Training.
- **Location:** Village Rajpur, Takhatpur Block, Bilaspur.
- **Direct Impact:**
 - **30 SHG members** trained in tailoring, branding, and marketing.
 - Participants produced over **117 bags** (handbags, shopping bags, and school bags) in the initial months.
 - **Market Linkage:** Products listed on **mystore.in** and sold in local village markets.
 - **Financial Linkage:** Facilitated loan applications at the State Bank of India (Mocha branch) for SHG members to start their own businesses.



4. Financial Highlights

- **Total Approved Budget (APF Grant):** ₹1.22 Crore (disbursed ₹48.30 Lakh for Year 1).
 - **NABARD Grant (Kanchanpur CBP):** ₹17.48 Lakh fully utilized.
 - **Climate Risk Mitigation:** Funds utilized for Vermicompost and Nadep units to improve soil fertility.
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5. Future Outlook (2025-26)

ASORD is transitioning into the full implementation phase of the **Samriddh Gramin Udyamita Cluster (SGUC)**. The focus will remain on:

- Transforming **2,000 SHG members** into "Agri-Entrepreneurs".
- Expanding the "**Kurud Didi Naturals**" brand.
- Scaling the use of **agricultural drones** and custom hiring centers for modern farming.