

Success story of Khergam:

The village named *Khergam* is one of the famous market areas of the *Chikali* Block of *Navsari* District. Majority of the population of this village consists of Dodiya people belonging to the Tribal group. Like other villages, Khergam also conducts Gramsabha for discussing about the wellbeing and other issues of the village. Among many topics discussed in the meeting, one topic for discussion was about the employment and livelihood schemes and its benefits for rural people. During such discussions, Sakhimandal Scheme was emphasized with a motto of spreading awareness among rural BPL Women. By getting inspired with the benefits of the Schemes offered by the Government, Saraswatiben, a resident of *Khergam* village had a thought why not join the group, if she can stay at home and earn for livelihood. She motivated other local women residing near her house and formed a group which was collectively named as “*Om Parmatma Sakhi Mandal*”. The group opened an account in Bank of Baroda in the same village and started their internal saving of Rs. 50 from each member. They also qualified for the Revolving fund of Rs. 5000/- and by this amount along with the savings, they started internal landings.

After looking into the progress and financial situation of the group, Saraswatiben thought of starting an economic activity which resulted into formation of “*Om Parmatama Dairy center*”. The group started with the collection of 60 liters milk. Gradually the collection of milk rose to 350-400 liters per day which was sent to dairy. The dairy used to provide cattle fodder to the group on monthly credit basis which was then deducted from the monthly income through milk delivered to the dairy.

The profit amount is equally divided among the members of the group providing them a livelihood platform. The members have now become an important source of sustainable income for supporting their families.



