

CONSERVATION AND PROMOTION OF TRIBAL ARTS & HANDICRAFTS: **BETTER LIVELIHOODS**

Introduction

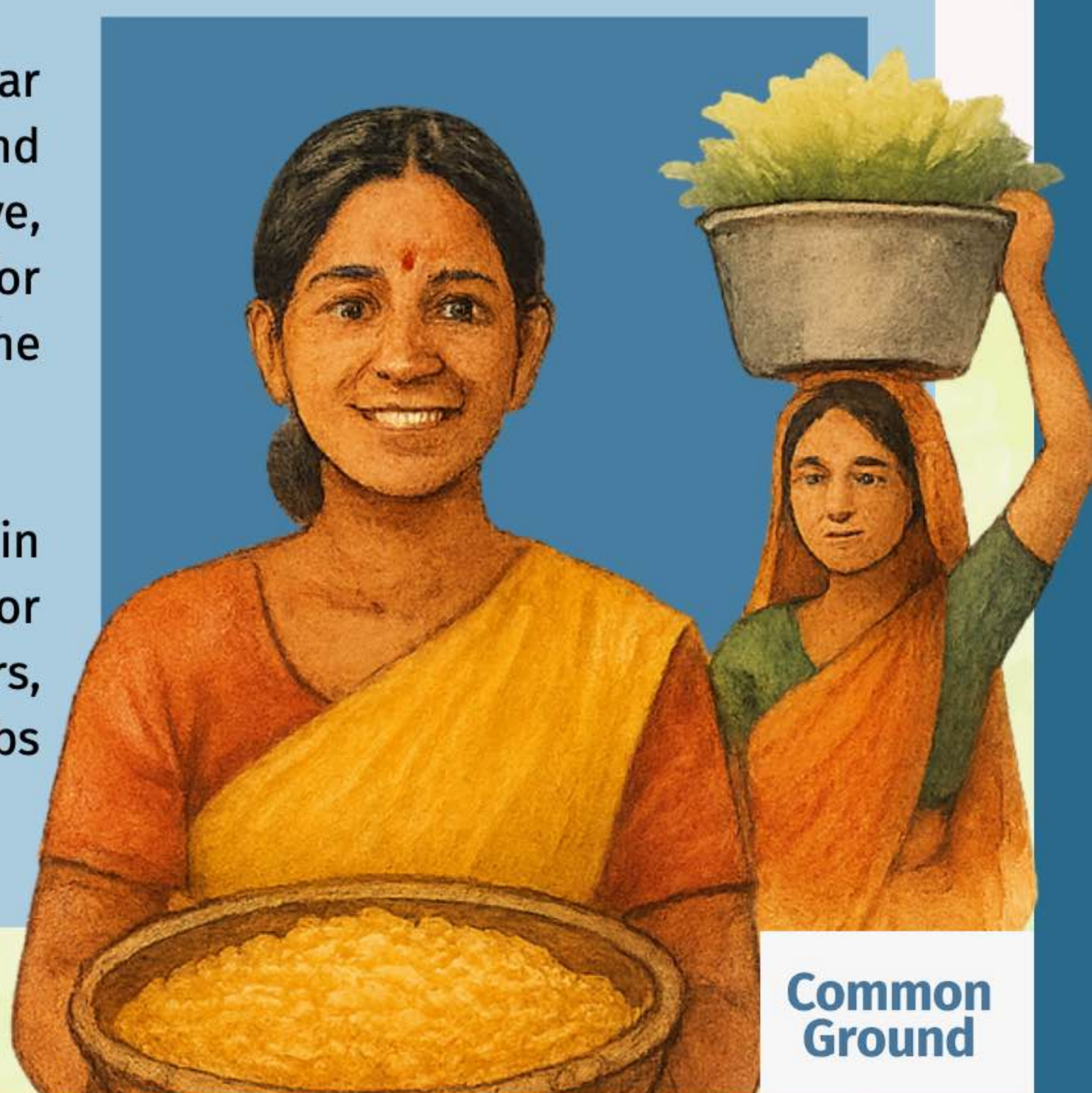
Often many Tribal communities are proficient in tribal arts that have a unique and Niche value. Also proficient in collection and supply of some minor forest produce like Honey, Lac products, Herbs and Medicinal plants etc. However, these don't have access to wider market to provide better livelihoods to them.

The Long Journey

The tribal communities in the operational area of Kalamandir are proficient in Tribal arts and crafts using the raw materials available from the commons/forests. The products prepared from the raw materials like Jute bags, durries, carpets etc and similar products from Broom Grass. Hand Woven cloth for towels, Napkins, Curtains and dress material etc have niche value being result of Tribal art and craft and produced manually. Being a little expensive being manually produced, less shelf life because of production from natural raw materials and lack of market access, these activities don't provide sustainable livelihoods to the communities.

So also, some Art forms (Payatkar Paintings) that are practiced and followed because of personal love, dedication and sacrifice for preservation of Art forms for the posterity.

Communities are also proficient in collecting and preparing Minor Forest produce like Honey, Flowers, Fruits & Berries, Lac products, Herbs & medicinal plants, etc.



They need to be provided with a platform that can mechanise the production of these products at their level, offer them access to the niche clientele, willing to provide the small premium in price that will sustain and economically empower the communities dependent on these activities.

Conclusion

Such handholding by NGOs, CBOs, CSOs will keep the communities engaged in traditional arts and crafts, production and sale of minor forest produce, will provide them sustainable livelihoods and prevent people from migrating to the cities. This will result in better protection and conservation of the commons / forests for their better livelihoods. A win win situation for all.



SCAN THE CODE
TO READ THE STORY

