

On 20/05/2026, the National Innovation Foundation - India (NIF) team conducted a field visit to the villages of Udalka, Dunda, and Sidulki as part of farmers' interaction, scouting, and documentation of grassroots technologies.

During the visit, interactions were held with local villagers and members of the Bhotiya tribal community to understand their traditional knowledge systems, livelihood practices, and the challenges faced in daily life. A farmers' meeting was also organised, where community members shared agriculture-related issues, innovative farming practices, and experiences in crop cultivation and livestock management. The engagement provided a meaningful platform for knowledge exchange between farmers and the NIF team, alongside ongoing scouting for grassroots innovations and traditional practices.

A key highlight of the visit was the interaction with the Bhotiya community, where the team observed sheep wool shearing using machines. Community members shared the practical difficulties and drudgery involved in wool processing, which were documented for exploring appropriate technological interventions to improve efficiency and reduce labour burden.

The team also visited the Sericulture Department, where they observed mulberry cultivation and silk production processes. Officials and workers explained the various stages of sericulture, offering valuable insights into rural livelihood systems and potential areas for innovation and value addition.

Overall, the visit was highly informative and productive, strengthening community engagement and supporting the identification of grassroots innovations for livelihood enhancement and drudgery reduction in rural and tribal areas.



