

The Transformative and Emancipatory Potential of Basic Income

Evidence from India's Pilot Study

Pilot Location



Features of the Pilot

- Universal (within each village)
 - Unconditional
 - Individual
 - Monthly
 - Cash

Two Pilots

Pilot 1

(2011-12 - 17 months)

8 Caste villages –money paid

Equal number Control villages- money not paid

Pilot 2

(2012 - 12 months)

One tribal village -money paid

One tribal village- where money was not paid

Amount Transferred

GBP 3.33 to an adult and half to child, per month

Profile of Beneficiaries and Amount Transferred

	General Villages	Tribal Village	Total
No. of Households	986	127	1113
No. of direct Recipients	5285	756	6041
Total amount transferred	Rs.16.3 million (GBP 182,270)	Rs. 2 million (GBP 22365)	Rs. 18.3 mil GBP 204,635
No. of months	17 months	12 months	
Annual average amount transferred per HH	Rs. 16531 (GBP 186)	Rs. 15,315 (GBP 171)	

The Research Study



- Baseline, Midline and Endline
- Modified Random Control Trial Methodology
- 100 Case-studies (tracking families and village communities over 18 months)



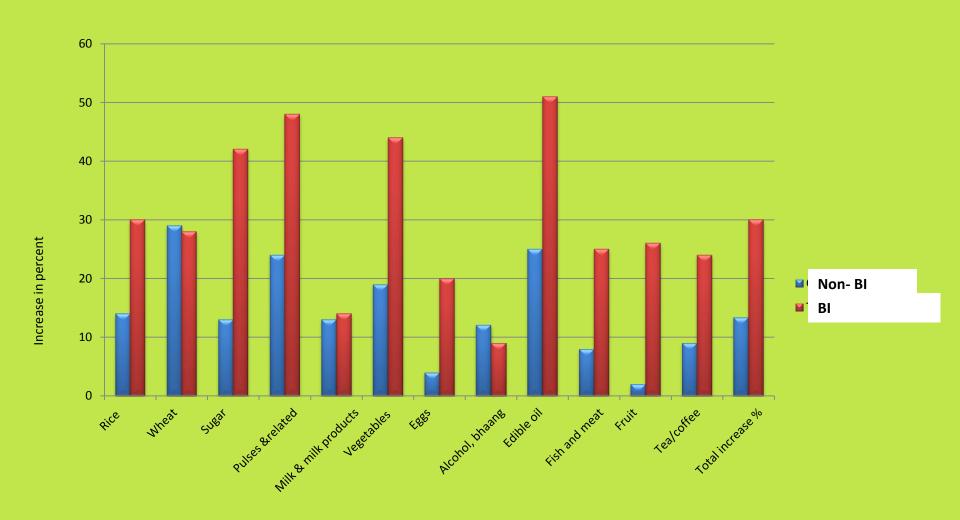
Main Findings of the Study

7 top results from the India Pilot Study

- 1. Myths falsified that people will drink it away and stop working;
- 2. Basic income allowed them to make better employment choices from exploitative forms to benign ones;
- 3. People worked more and planned better; new assets acquired; Unproductive assets become productive
- 4. Ate better and more diversified food;
- 5. Borrowed less; shifted from distress borrowing to soft loans from friends and relatives.
- 6. Psychological effects on the mind; income security, what it does to the mind
- 7. people with chronic illness took medicines more regularly

The Emancipatory Value of unconditional BI is several times more than its monetary value

Increase in Food Intake



Food Item

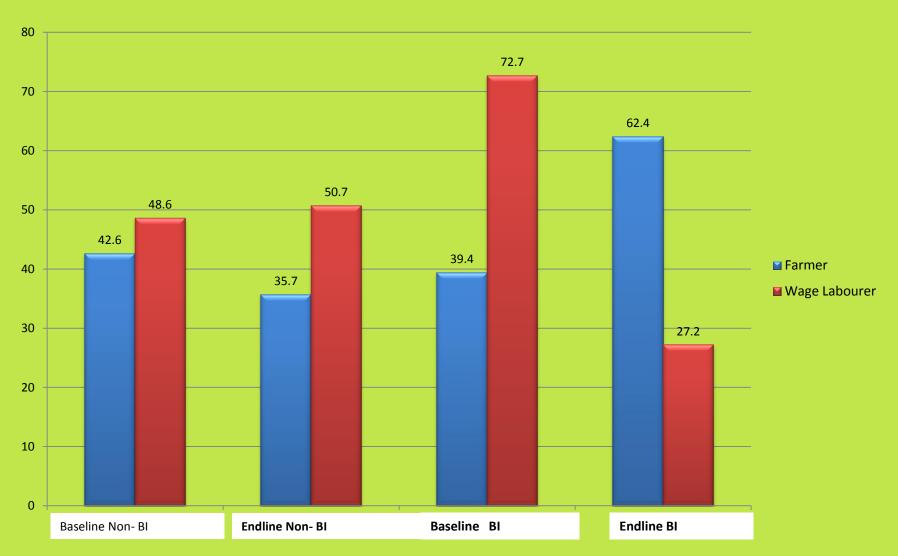
Source: Tribal End line Jan 2013

Livestock Increased Substantially



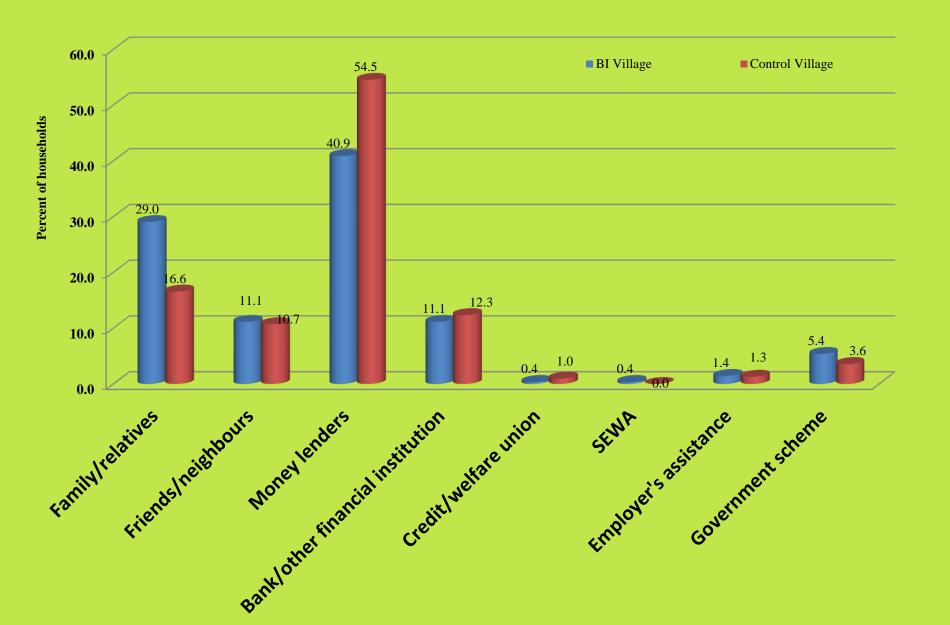
Increase in the total number of small livestock (fowl & goats)

Wage Labour vs Own Farming

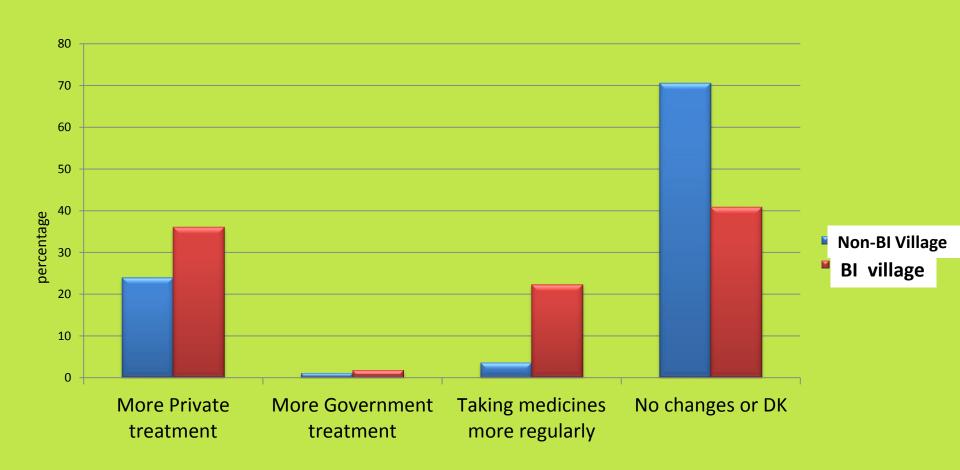


Shift in proportion of time spent on own farm vs as wage labourer

Reduced Dependence on Money-lenders



Regularity of Medicines Improved



Changes in the Village Economy

Fishermen's cooperative

Private Transportation appeared for the first time in the village

Two New Shops

Collective decision taken by the entire village to contribute 100 rupees from each family for wedding ceremonies in the village

Collective decision not to use pond water for irrigation during summer months in order to save it for the cattle



Fishermen from the Co-operative



Local transport vehicle came to the village everyday during the pilot



One of the two new shops

Treated Challenged as Human



Gave Economic citizenship to the unpaid, underpaid and invisible labour



Gave dignity to Elderly



4 years later, in 2017

Research Team went back to Review the BI Effects.



To Study what effects continued and what did not.

Legacy Study 2017 Results Summary

Momentum effect (Sustained Impact)	Persistence effect (Partially sustained)	Drop-back effect (Complete Drop-back)
Declining use of alcohol	Better Nutrition – food intake behaviour	No more housing improvement
Improved woman's role in decision making in the household	Better medical care – healthcare behaviour	Medical insurance dropped Off
Increased Livestock	More positive attitude to Schooling	Expenditure on schooling declined and returned from private to Government School
Improved incomes	More likely to earn income from own- account work rather than casual wage	
	More likely to earn income from farming as compared to wage labour	Increased debt bondage

4 Generic Effects of Basic Income

1. Physical Well-being Effect
Food and healthcare

2. Living Conditions Effect
Employment Choices and Assets

3. Social Solidarity Effect

Family level and Community level

4. Psychological Effect

Sense of Security and what it does to mind - time horizon changes



Unconditional Basic Income is indeed Emancipatory and Transformative

To access our data, case-studies, films, feel free to write to us...



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Thank you for your Attention