

Case Study

Revolutionizing Agricultural Education Across India

Judge India Solutions actively engaged with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), leading to a fruitful partnership. They created a customized design and built NARES-BLP, a blended learning program, with the help of Brihha, a learning platform. This initiative was part of the World Bank-funded Resilient Agricultural Higher Education System (RAES).

In a country as vast and diverse as India, providing consistent, high-quality education to every student—especially those in rural and remote areas—is a monumental challenge. This was the pressing issue facing India's agricultural universities, where traditional teaching methods were leading to stagnant graduation and placement rates.

This case study explores how Judge India Solutions partnered with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to tackle this problem head-on. By developing and implementing a groundbreaking digital learning platform, they not only overcame geographical barriers but also created a new standard for accessible, engaging, and effective agricultural education, profoundly impacting the lives of hundreds of thousands of students and faculty.

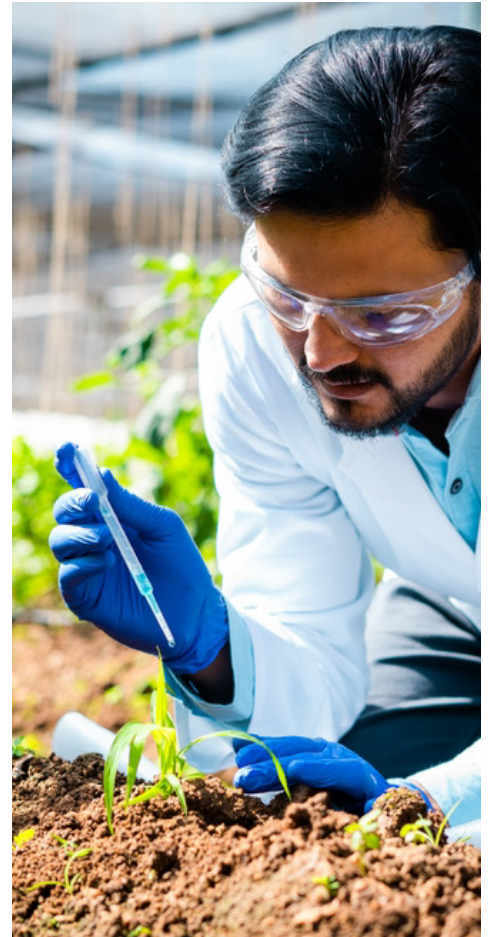
THE CHALLENGE

Inconsistent and Inaccessible Education

Agricultural Universities (AUs) in India were relying on traditional teaching methods that were becoming outdated and ineffective. This created significant barriers to providing a high-quality, modern education, ultimately impacting student success.

- **The Rigidity of Traditional Education:** Traditional education, such as in-person lectures and physical textbooks, lacks flexibility. This posed a major problem for a diverse country like India, where many students are geographically spread out.
- **Limited Internet Access:** As the text states, "Some students resided in remote areas with limited internet access, making learning impossible." This is a significant problem in many parts of rural India, where reliable internet infrastructure is not yet universal. Any online learning initiatives would fail for these students, creating an unfair disadvantage.
- **The Inaccessibility of Resources:** Without a digital infrastructure, students in remote locations couldn't access updated study materials, online lectures, or digital libraries that their peers in urban areas might have.

The reasons above led to lower graduation and placement rates.



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THE SOLUTION

Judge Delivers NARES-BLP, a Custom Blended Learning Platform

To tackle these problems, Judge India Solutions and ICAR created the NARES-BLP, a blended learning platform built on the Brihha learning platform. This centralized program was designed to be used by 76 universities across the country, ensuring a consistent and high-quality educational experience for everyone.

The platform included several key features to overcome the existing hurdles:

- **Offline Access and Limited Bandwidth:** This was a crucial feature for students in remote areas. It allowed them to access educational materials even with limited or no internet connectivity.
- **Configurable Learning:** The platform created a unified learning experience for all universities but also allowed for configuration, so each institution could tailor the content to its specific needs.
- **Performance Tracking:** The platform had features for monitoring student progress and evaluating their learning through self-assessments.
- **Experiential Learning:** The integration of an AR/VR Studio allowed students to engage in virtual experiences, which helped them better understand complex concepts and made learning more engaging.
- **Dedicated Support:** Judge India Solutions also provided on-site training to faculty and students to ensure a smooth transition to the new platform and continues to offer online support.



THE OUTCOMES

Increased Graduation and Placement Rates

- The solution revolutionized learning for over 300,000 students & faculty members across 76 universities nationwide, providing AUs with a distinct competitive advantage in the educational landscape.
- The project's success garnered recognition as a model World Bank-funded initiative.
- Increased the graduation rates from 77% to 95.5%.
- Student placement rates significantly increased to 60.3%.
- According to ICAR's annual report for 2022-23, the AR/VR Experience Labs led to enhanced learning through virtual experiences, improved comprehension of complex concepts, and greater inclusivity for individuals with special needs.



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