



Success Stories of Women Farmers/Agripreneurs of NE Region



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1. Rearing of improved poultry breeds in Bechimari, Assam

Situation: Mrs. Regina Begum of Barujhar village of Bechimari development block in Darrang district was a poultry farmer who had 10 nos. of local breed chicks in her farm. She was struggling to earn livelihood as poultry was her sole source of income. Each and every household of that locality has a minimum of ten to twenty (10-20) numbers of local chicks. The village has a great scope for developing poultry as a business entity. But the local breeds are not profitable due to high mortality, lower weight gain and less egg laying capacity.



Response: ATMA Darrang district along with BTT members of Bechimari development block decided to provide 'Chabro' breed to the women farmers of the village under ATMA allied demonstration programme. 'Chabro' breed is an improved breed with higher disease



resistance, quicker weight gaining capacity upto 8-10 kg and egg laying capacity upto 250-300 nos. per year. A special orientation programme was given to the women farmers regarding special care to be taken for rearing 'Chabro' breed. Under allied demonstration programme, initially

'Chabro' breed was given to Mrs. Regina Begum and other three women farmers.

Result: Mrs. Begum started selling eggs to neighbouring women farmers for the purpose of hatching and replication. She sold around 90 nos. of eggs for the purpose of hatching @ Rs. 12 and male birds @ Rs. 600-800 depending on the size.



Evidence: The rearing of improved breeds are giving Mrs. Begum a sustainable income by lowering mortality rate, disease occurrence and increasing egg laying and quick weight gaining capacity. A large numbers of neighbouring women were coming up to take up the improved breed rearing of chicks.

2. Flourishing Floriculture in Myllem Block of Meghalaya

Situation: Fifty-two years old Ms. Biloris Warjri of Mawkriah village under Myllem Block was a marginal flower grower who started floriculture to get some additional income.

Response: It all started in the year 2001 when Warjri came in contact with the agriculture officer, who advised her to take up floriculture as business entity. In the same year she was allotted with a small low cost polyhouse. In the year 2007, she was benefited with 3000 nos. of gerbera seedlings from Horticulture Department. She attended many training organized by ATMA, Myllem Block.



Result: Now, floriculture has become her passion and she has successfully converted it into a flourishing business. It was a blessing for Warjri because it was from that moment that her floriculture flourished till date. She has many seasonal flowers in her farm with Gerbera, Alstreomeria and Liliun as major sources of income. Presently she has a net monthly income of Rs.90,000/-.

Evidence: Now, she is a proud owner of 3 more **polyhouses** and all thanks goes to the Horticulture Department and ATMA, Myllem Block. She also employs 5 labourers in her farm including the entire four family members. She has a shop at Police Bazaar, the heart of Shillong City, where she has to pay Rs.17,000/month as rent. Thus, through hard work and dedication, she becomes one of the most successful florists in Meghalaya.



3. Anthurium cultivation dazzles in Aizawl, Mizoram

Situation: Ms. Thuamliani of Aizawl district of Mizoram was earning less from her floriculture farm and could hardly meet the family expenditure from it.

Response: She started cultivation of 'Anthurium' under the guidance of Horticulture department and support



from ATMA. The horticulture department helped her in construction of green house and

water harvesting structure to accommodate more numbers of 'Anthurium' flowers. The department also made provision of a loan of Rs.5,00,000/- from the horticultural board. The horticulture department also helped her in marketing the flowers from Aizawl to 'Zo-Anthurium society' in Delhi.



Result: Presently, she is earning around Rs.2,40,000/- per annum from her 1 acre of anthurium cultivation by exporting it to 'Zo-Anthurium Society' in Delhi. She harvest weekly during summer and bi-weekly during winter which gave her an average income of Rs. 20,000/- per month.

Evidence: She was awarded **best farmer** by the state of Mizoram and received the certificate from Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, former President of India

4. Story of Makhamali Women SHG of Sikkim

Situation: Agriculture in Sikkim is still in the subsistence level practised in the hilly slopes by poor farmers. Therefore, intensive measures have been taken by the concerned agencies for promoting profitable alternatives and adopting the group approach. Here is a story of an SHG that was formed in the year 2012



Response: Mr.Yogesh Gautam, BTM under the supervision of Mrs.S. L.Dorjee, Director, SAMETI, Gangtok has been making efforts to form SHGs. They have started group cultivation of mustard, T-9 improved variety initially, and took steps in taking care of the crops and harvesting the mustard together. Mustard oil was extracted from the mustard produced and marketed it to get encouraging profits. Recently they are cultivating turmeric and are interested in value addition of turmeric. The SHG is supported by ATMA East Sikkim and is running farm school of seed cultivation of mustard.

Result: The SHG has converted into a CIG and a Farm School on Oilseeds has been opened in 2014. The group was awarded by Honourable Chief Minister Pawan Kumar Chamling on Kisan Mela at Saramsa Garden on 18th January, 2014 for success achieved in Group Mustard cultivation

Evidence: The success of the group members has been a great inspiration for the other farmers in the region. They have become self dependent and more empowered.

5. Hybrid paddy cultivation in Ellengmora, Jorhat, Assam

Situation: The village Ellengmora in Jorhat district of Assam is well known for its vegetable growers. It is a hotspot for different vegetable crops. In the middle of the village a Farm lady named Mrs. Lakhimi Gogoi used to cultivate paddy in a traditional way. She was growing paddy from a long time back. In a village where vegetable cultivation was more popular the productivity status of her rice crop was not as she expected.



Response: Representatives of “Indo- American hybrid seeds” company while visiting the village heard about her and visited her and gave her seed lot of hybrid paddy (INDAM 200-017) and also told her about the technique of crop cutting in rice. Mrs. Gogoi followed their advice and sowed the seeds in her field. She followed a 2m x 2m crop cutting with 3.2 kgs of the hybrid paddy seeds.

Result: By following crop cutting Mrs. Gogoi was able to harvest 30 maunds of paddy per bigha (1 maund=40 kg) during last year. She was very much satisfied with the yield. So she has decided to extend her land area during this year.

Evidence: Her success is evident from the fact that she has motivated other paddy growers in the area to go for crop cutting technique. Many other fellow farmers have ventured into the new technique of paddy cultivation.

Source: Dhrubajyoti Saikia, Asst. Marketing Manager, Indo American Hybrid Seeds (India) Pvt. Ltd.

6. Enhancing income generation through Fish farming in Lawngtlai District, Mizoram

Situation : Mrs. Laldingliani, Chawngte ‘P’, Chawngte Block, Lawngtlai District, Mizoram was engaged in a small business to meet her day to day needs but the income generated from this business was not sufficient to support their 5 member family. Therefore, she decided to construct a fish pond of 0.1ha during 2010. The initial production from this pond was about 100kgs and earning around Rs. 25,000/- only in the year 2011 and she almost thought of giving up fish farming.



Response: She received government assistance under New Land Use Policy (NLUP) she extended her pond up to an area of 0.75ha with a required depth of 1.5-2m and participated in ATMA activities like training and demonstration which inspired her and she was able to take up fishery in larger scale.

Result: The yearly production of fish from her pond of 0.75ha is approximately 350-450kgs which is amounting to around Rs.1, 50,000/- in year 2014 which contributed towards family income and improved the economic condition of the family. By investing Rupees 3, 50,000.00 during 2014 she generate net income of Rupees 1, 15,000.00 which was a big amount for their family. She started her farming business to motivate people around her by doing small scale farming practices. The success story of Mrs. Laldingliani is an eye-opener to many of the farmers for adopting fish farming as a means of livelihood. "Hunger to become a successful fish farmer, inspiration and diligence are the hallmarks of my success," she added.



Evidence: She won 'Best Farmer Award' in Fishery sector in District Level Exhibition organized by ATMA, Lawngtlai District, and Mizoram during 2014.

Source: ATMA, Lawngtlai District, Mizoram

7. Backyard Poultry Creates Excellent Impact on Livelihood in East Sikkim

Situation: Nandok is an adopted village of East Sikkim district under National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) project. It was found that the poultry production systems in Nandok and other nearby villages are traditional and poorly remunerative.

Response: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), East Sikkim made intervention with dual purpose improved birds, which can thrive well under poor feeding and management practices followed in village, can grow faster than indigenous birds and lay more



eggs. Mrs. Pabitra Sharma, mainly working as farm labour, on her own initiative and in consultation with VCRMC took up their stock of 40 birds and started rearing 60 nos. of Gramapriya birds single handedly with the assistance of KVK, East Sikkim. She brood her chicks up to 45 days of age in a specially designed a brooder house made up of low cost locally available materials.

Result: With a stock of 60 birds, Mrs. Sharma earned a net profit of approximately, Rs. 11,300/- with a benefit:cost ratio of 1.78. She purchased 100 more chicks from ICAR Sikkim Centre. She has also started hatching 10-12 eggs at a time by using local broody hens and sells chicks to other fellow farmers thus making a horizontal dissemination of the technology.

Evidence: Now, Nandok village under 26 Naitam Nandok GPU in East Sikkim district has become a hub for backyard poultry production with improved birds. Mrs. Sharma has become a role model for the rural youths and farm women for taking improved backyard poultry as a potential practice for agro-preneurship development leading to sustainable livelihood security

8. Reaping the benefits of organic farming : A success story from Dimapur, Nagaland

Situation: Organic farming is very much prevalent in Nagaland. It has a major importance in the farming system of Nagaland. Mrs. Neivizonuo aged 38 years of Bade village from Dhansiripar Block of Dimapur, Nagaland is a progressive farm lady.



Response: After getting married Mrs. Neivizonuo found interest in farming and participated in trainings, demonstrations and workshops organized by ATMA equipping her with farming knowledge and innovative ideas.

Result: She now manages 20 hectares of farmland growing varieties of crops such as Paddy, Maize, Ginger, Turmeric, Banana, citrus, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Tomato, Chilli, Brinjal, Potato, Knol-Khol, carrot, Onion and Tapioca. She sells her agricultural produce in surrounding weekly market and the remaining surplus is sold to other neighbouring states. Her annual turnover from paddy grains and vegetable crop is around Rs. 6 lakhs. Besides crop cultivation, Mrs. Neivizonuo rears 3000 birds and 40 pigs as secondary activity. She is also undertaking nursery for flowers and fruits by cutting, budding and grafting to earn additional income as a subsidiary activity. She runs farm machineries on hire basis to



help poor and needy farmers along with her husband, she is ambitiously working harder to produce organic vegetables during off- season. The annual turnover from her entire farming activity is approximately Rs. 10.80 lakhs.

Evidence: In recognition of her dedication and hard work towards integrated organic farming, ATMA-Dimapur of Dhansiripar block opened a ‘Horticultural Farm School’ in her farmland in 2012. Since then Mrs. Nevizonuo and her husband has been working closely working under ATMA- Dimapur as a resourceful farmer-teacher duo sharing their practical experiences and motivating other fellow farmers.

Source: Compendium of ATMA success stories, Nagaland Episode

9. Eri silkworm cultivation: The Success story of Mrs. Kilenienla from Mokokchung, Nagaland

Situation: Mrs. Kilenienla, a widow of 42 years hailing from Mopungchuket village under Mokokchung district with the burden of her family resting up on her shoulders with 3 children started rearing silkworm in the year 1996 with a little indigenous knowledge that she had acquired from her fellow farmers. Lack of technical knowledge and limited resources prevented her from gaining expected returns. Yet she remained devoted and dedicated in her work.



Response: Seeing her enthusiasm and zeal to go on an extra mile, putting all her efforts, Dept. of Sericulture, Mokokchung assisted her by providing rearing trays and housing materials for the extension of her Eri rearing unit and also with regular technical monitoring, which immensely helped her in increasing her production. In addition to that

she has also attended various trainings and demonstrations organized by ATMA as well as the Dept. of Sericulture, Mokokchung both in the block and district level.

Result: Mrs. Kilenienla now has an Eri rearing unit (rearing house) measuring dimension of 20 ft. x 12 ft. She currently rears around 100-150 DFLs of Eri silkworm in one rearing cycle alone and maintains 5-6 rearing cycles all-round the year. She has managed to convert her 2 acres of land to grow Eri fodder plants like castor, tapioca etc. Annually she earns



around an amount of Rs.1, 20, 000 by selling of Eri pupae and Rs.25, 000 by selling cocoons. She sells around 50-60 kg of cocoons in a year @ Rs.500/kg for cocoons plucked by hand (i.e Grade A) and Rs.400/kg for scissors cut cocoons (Grade B). She also earns around Rs.10, 000 through sale of silkworm eggs. This enterprise earns her a net income of Rs.1, 55, 000.



Evidence: She is now able to meet the needs of her family and also support her 3 college going children. Noticing her success and looking at the way how remarkably profits are generated by her throughout the year she has now become an inspiration for many to take up Eri silkworm cultivation.

10. Successful biological management in pea: Laitjem village, East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya

Situation: East Khasi Hills is one of the 11 (eleven) districts of the State of Meghalaya. Garden pea is one of the vegetable crops cultivated in large areas of the district by farmers but due to the high incidence of pests and diseases the yield and the return of the crop is very poor since large areas are affected. Among the diseases, *Rhizoctonia* rot of pea was found to be the major disease faced by the farmers. It was observed that the farmers in the selected villages were not following any management practices for controlling the diseases in their field which resulted in high mortality percentage and disease occurrence.



Response: Therefore, the Centre felt the need to introduce the use of *Trichoderma viridae* for management of *Rhizoctonia* rot of pea for the benefit of farmers in the district and also to help them to maximize their yield. Thus in this regard, the KVK East Khasi Hills selected Smti. Mary Pathaw, a progressive farmer in Laitjem village for the intervention of this technology on the use of *Trichoderma viridae* for management *Rhizoctonia* rot of pea.

Result: The use of *Trichoderma viridae* was found to be effective against *Rhizoctonia* rot of pea as the incidence of the disease has considerably reduced. It was also found that the use of this bio agent is much easy and more economical as compare to the use of chemical pesticides. The result shows that only 3-4% of the



disease incidence has been reported whereas 30% of the disease incidence has been identified in the local check. The result also shows that there has been an increase in yield of about 41.5% in the demonstrated field over the local check.

Evidence: After seeing the results and performance, others farmers also expressed their keen interest in adopting this technology and are willing to replace the use of chemical pesticides with the use of *Trichoderma* since it is safe, eco-friendly and compatible to use with other bio fertilizers, compost and FYM.

Source: KVK, East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya



11. Maize and French Bean Intercropping in East Khasi Hills District of Meghalaya

Situation: Maize and other legumes (specially Soy bean) intercropping has been traditionally practiced in the East Khasi Hills district. However, the practice of intercropping French bean in Maize field as an additional crop has not been popularized. Furthermore, the farmers'



practice of intercropping maize and other legumes are not scientific and yield as such is low.

Response: Thus in this regard, the KVK East Khasi Hills selected Smti. Shopsimai, a progressive farmer in Laitjem village, for the intervention of this technology of intercropping French bean in Maize field with proper package of practices. In the year 2012, *Vijay Composite* variety



of maize was provided to the farmer for cultivation with *Selection 9* French bean variety in a plot of land. For this cause, trainings were conducted and standard practices were demonstrated in the field where the farmer sowed the maize seeds in lines with regular spacing of row to row and plant to plant with 1:1 ratio of Maize and French bean. The importance of nutrient management in the field was emphasized to the farmer and recommended practices were encouraged.

Result: The introduction of intercropping of French Bean with Maize has brought about smiles to this particular progressive farmer as she has been able to consolidate her income level from the harvest of two crops from the same area at different times during the year. An average of 3.2 tonnes per hectare of maize was harvested at a rate of Rs. 12 per kg with a return of Rs. 43532.00. The average yield of french bean was 6.7 tonnes per hectare at a rate of Rs. 20 per kg giving a return of Rs.



133960.00. The total cost of cultivation for both the crops was Rs. 58948.72 and the net return was Rs. 113543.28 with a Benefit cost ratio of 3.01.

Evidence: The introduction of intercropping French bean in maize proved successful where French bean provided a good source of additional income apart from the main crop and this motivated the farmer to continue this practice in the following years. Witnessing the success of this practice, other farmers in the vicinity of Smti. Shopsimai's farm are willing to follow this intercropping.

Source: Krishi Vigyan Kendra, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya

12. Floriculture blooms in West Khasi Hills, Meghalaya

Situation: The cultivation of Carnation was first initiated by Smt. Eslinda Kharbani from Mawthungkper Village. Carnation gained popularity amongst farmer on account of its easy culture, wide adaptability, attractive colour, shape, size, and good keeping quality. Lack of technical knowhow of scientific flower cultivation among the growers and high level of losses, lack of awareness on market opportunity, lack of timely and precise price information are their hindrance.



Response: Smt. Eslinda Kharbani has faced many problems regarding knowledge for raising flowers and other financial crisis. So after seeking and availing the help from the District Horticulture Office she has overcome all difficulties as mentioned above, The District Horticulture Officer West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin extend a helping hand through a Poly-house as well as different training programmes related to production, Post harvest and

Marketing aspects for growing flower i.e Carnation under Technology Mission 2008-09, sponsored by the Government of India operated in the Department of Agriculture.

Result: Now, Carnation has become major source of income for Ms Eslinda Kharbani. Since she is having 6 (Six) year of experience in carnation farming, she says that, she has undergone and adopted most of the technologies under the supervision of District Horticulture Officer, West Khasi Hills. Therefore, because of the adoption of advance technologies, she got the yield 10-13 t/ha.



Evidence: Now, she has constructed a new house well equipped with the all living facilities out of her profit she earned from the farming. She has been a source of inspiration for local people in and around the village. Looking at his success more number of unemployed educated youths have been motivated to take up floriculture as enterprise.

-DHO West Khasi Hills, Meghalaya



13.Silk Women from Mokokchung Village In Nagaland shining bright

Situation: In rural and semi urban areas, a large number of women folk are engaged in various activities related from soil to silk. Ten (10) females from Mokokchung village who were engaged in sericulture activity were struggling to meet their ends meet.

Response: It all started in the year 2010 when they got together to form Esalok Self Help Group in Mokokchung village with the support of Sericulture department. The members had no knowledge about sericulture and its value addition. The members were trained on silkworm rearing, reeling and weaving by the sericulture department who also provided them with motorized spinning machines and reeling machine along with a financial assistant of Rs.10000/- as seed money. Apart from the departmental assistant, their group members also started their fund raised by contributing Rs.100/member/year as a membership fees and maintained a saving bank account in Nagaland State Co-operative Bank.



Result: In order to run their unit, the group members regularly cultivate tapioca crop in an area of about 2-3 acres for silkworm rearing. The trained members are actively participating in their assigned routine task from rearing to reeling to spinning, weaving, tailoring and finally to various silk products. They generate their group income by selling their beautifully weaved products



such as shawls, coats, kurtas, neckties, pouches and bags, foot wears and flowers etc. with a price range of Rs.350/- to Rs.2000/-. In addition to the yarn products, the group also prepares pickle out of the left over pupae and sells it in the nearby local market thereby making full use of the resources. On an average the group income per month ranges approximately from Rs.7000 to 10,000/- .

Evidence: The group also participated in various state and national exhibition and expo during which they sell their products apart from their active participation in various competition organized by the district during farmers mela. Their hard work, dedication and excellence in their field have earned them recognition in the district, state and national level. They are also nominated for best block farmers’ group this year i.e. 2015. In the near future, Esalok Self Help Group plans to extend their activities from a production unit to a full-fledged training unit for the unemployed youth and women folk’s in order to generate employment and uplift the status of the women in society.

-ATMA, Mokokchung, Nagaland

14. Lalamlynti SHG in West Khasi hills empowers farmers

Situation: The cultivation of tomato was first initiated by Shri. Thing Lyngkhai from Nongjolak Village, presently known as Mawkamoit village. Most of the farmers in that locality were struggling for better life and unable to find out better livelihood opportunities.



Response: In the year to 2004-05, farmers from the village approach the Horticulture/Agriculture at Nongstoin for purchase of vegetables seeds and others inputs. They also came to know about the initiative taken by the government to form SHGs. Consequently, Ialamlynti SHG" under the leadership of Shri. Grossful Pariong, came into being in the year 2010. The main objective of the SHG is to mobilize farmers to increase the production of tomato and its marketability. Right from the year 2009-10 till date the District Horticulture Officer, Nongstoin have been patronizing and assisting the group in their journey. To overcome constraints of transportation, the members of the SHG approached the District Horticulture Officer, Nongstoin and after thorough deliberation the District Horticulture Officer, Nongstoin, decided to provide 50 % financial assistance of Rs. 3.00 (Rupees Three Lakh) only through RKVY 2009-10 for purchase of pick up vehicle



Result: Today area and production stands at 6.5 hectares and 1625 quintals. They dispose their produce to neighbouring places like Mairang, Mawkyrwat, Nongstoin and right distant places like Boko in Assam.

Evidence: At present, the SHG has more than 100 members. Each the members contribute Rs. 10/- per month. The bank balance at present stands at Rs. 45,000.00 from a humble beginning of Rs. 500,00. The net profit of the group stands at Rs. 1000.00 per day and Rs. 20,000.00 per month.

-DHO, West Khasi Hills, Meghalaya

15. Innovative paddy farming in Aizawl district of Mizoram brings glory

Situation: Ms Kaphliri of Bungkawn village of Aizawl district of Mizoram started farming since her childhood. She used to help her father in farming activities since school days. Since then, she was involved in farming activities and step by step she extended her faring into an enterprise with expected return and visible economic upliftment.



Response: By dint of perseverance and hard working, and with active support from the department of agriculture, in the form of training and demonstration, she has made farming into successful enterprise.

Results: Today, Ms Kaphliri is the pride owner of of 9.7 ha of agricultural land. She is well supported by her family member in farming activities. She adopted SRI method on 0.6 ha of land and used varieties of paddy like KRH1, CAU-1, DRRH-II from which she got an yield around 24 quintals. In addition, she got inspiration to cultivate tomatoes in high tech poly houses in an area of 500sqm to get an annual yield 30Q/ ha. Presently, Ms Kaphliri has around 20 numbers of litchi tree in her

farm where she used to have an annual income of Rs 3, 00,000.00. Also, since 2013, she started Oil Palm cultivation in 1 ha of land. She also adopted crop rotation practice in a year starting with paddy followed by pulses and vegetables.



Evidence: She was awarded National Level farmer Award by the Government in the year 2010 at New Delhi. She was also awarded several times by several organizations in the field of agriculture. -ATMA, Aizawl, Mizoram



16. Successful poultry giving handsome earning in Khurkhul Village in Manipur

Situation: Smt. Kh. Kulapati Devi from Khurkhul village, Imphal West District, Manipur maintained about 50 non-descript/ local hens for egg production. It was estimated that the average egg production of her hens to be 70 eggs/hen/year from that non-descript birds. Her earning was very meagre and not enough for day-to-day family maintenance. She faced a critical financial hardship for livelihood as her youngest son was also doing post-graduate studies.

Response: In an interaction with our KVK staff during a vaccination programme, she requested for a health check –up for her local birds and expressed her desire to avail a vocational training programme to be conducted by our staff on Backyard poultry production. As desired, training



programme on Management of small poultry units using improved variety i.e. Vanaraja was conducted and she was well-trained and given exposure to the rearing of Vanaraja, a dual purpose and multi-coloured chicken suitable for rural poultry farming with a potential to produce 100% more eggs of 13-15 g heavier weight as compared to non-descript/local breed under scavenger system of management. Regarding health management Tetracycline, Sulphadruugs, piperazine liquid at 2-3 months intervals was advocated under the supervision of Animal Science discipline of KVK.

Results: After being trained, 40 Vanaraja grown up (6 weeks old) birds in a sex ratio of 1:5 were supplied to her at a minimal rate of Rs. 55/bird from the centre. Now her birds had completed 70 weeks. The birds were provided with locally available feed ingredients like rice bran, vegetables



leaves (cabbage, cauliflower), waste rice, wild lettuce, and egg shell. The average body weight adult birds were estimated about 4.0 kg and 3.0 kg for male and female respectively. She also supplied hatching eggs to the interested poultry raisers @ Rs. 8/egg and also managed to incubate the hatching eggs and chicks so produced were sold to other

mates @ Rs.22/ day old chicks. She disposed spent birds @Rs. 140/kg live body weight at her doorstep. Now she could earn an average income supplement of Rs. 1565.5/month

Evidence: Smt. Kh. Kulapati Devi is leading a comfortable and sustainable life. Now, she could manage all the expenditure needed to meet her family including the higher education of her son.

-KVK, Imphal West, Manipur

17.Successful cases of fish production in Tripura

Situation: Ms Parveen Sultana, Wife of Abdul Motalek, an Anganwadi worker is resident of ward no 4 of boxanagar block of Sepahijala district in Tripura. There was only pond of 0.24 ha of water area when she came here as a house wife. She was struggling for making livelihood for her family as fishery was her sole source of earning.



Response: At the end of 2005, she attended a training programme on scientific fish cultivation organized by fisheries department which helps her building up interest in fisheries. She started doing integrated farming system accommodating duckling with the enterprise. She scientifically applied all her learning's into her pond like applying

lime, mustard oil cake, raw cow dung, organic and inorganic maures to boost up the production. She also postulated one fish feed by herself, that is 'application of boiled rice bran' which is very delicious feed for the fishes.



Results: During the year 2007-2008, she won second prize in fish production at boxarnagar block. In the last financial year 2014-15, she produced about 800-850 kg of fish from 0.16 ha of land which gives an indication of a productivity of 5000 kg per ha. Followed by success and inspiration from the department of fisheries, she has constructed a pond of 0.2 ha of water area with her own money.

Evidence: He has been a great source of inspiration for local peoples in the village as a result of which a great number of unemployed educated youth have been motivated to take up pisciculture. She is leading a comfortable life with a son, a daughter, her husband and with mother-in-law. According to her, there is no



substitute of pisciculture, here in fish production, the profit is double than the expenditure. She has become an example to the society of women. Being an anganwadi worker and house wife and belonging to a caste of religious minority, Parveen Sultana has taken a leading role in pisciculture and has increased the productivity with success.

-Fishery Department, Boxarnagar, Tripura

18. Milk production succeeds in Kolasib district of Mizoram

Situation: Smti Lalhmingmawii wife of C. Lalnuntluanga from Kolasib district of Mizoram having family of five members was struggling to get livelihood. Inspire of having 4 ha of farm area located at Kawnpui village at Kolasib District of Mizoram, she struggle to get profit to meet the growing family expenses.

Response: She has started her farm with 2 milch breeds of cattle in the year 1990 which she procured from the ongoing 'National Land Use Policy' in Mizoram. She had a good source

of irrigation from perennial stream which are supplied to different farm by a channel. The state department of agriculture provided her one power tiller under the subsidized scheme.

Result: Now, Smti lalhmingmawii is selling 50 litres of milk per day at the rate of Rs. 40/- per litre. Presently, she is having 18 numbers of cattle in her farm comprising of 7 milchs, 4 heifers and 7 calves. Besides, production of milk she uses the by-products of cattle as manure for production of crops like mustard, tomato and capsicum in her farm. Followed by the success of dairy farming she started backyard poultry rearing of '*Vanaraja*' breed which is presently meeting the family consumption need of meat and eggs. Apart from dairy farming, she had paddy cultivation in an area of 1.5 ha which gave her an annual yield of 45 quintal. She cultivated '*RCM-10*' and '*Tamphophou*' varieties of rice which she procured from nearest KVK and ICAR Kolasib. She was also having a fish pond area in the same farm along with Arecanut and Rubber plantation around its bank which gave her additional income.



Evidence: Presently, Smti lalhmingmawii had an annual income of approximately 7 lakhs from the dairy activity. She was selected as best farmer award from kolasib district of Mizoram which was conducted at Gujarat on 9-12 Sep, 2013. The income generated through selling of animal and plant products help them to build an RCC building and owned 3 numbers of heavy vehicle viz. 407 Truck, 207 Pick up van and Mini bus. The use of by product as manure in mustard cultivation gave her an additional income of Rs 8000/- per annum. All members of family are self employed whose only occupation was farming.



-DVO, Kolasib, Mizoram

19. Agriculture- ensuring a life of dignity for all times to come in Arunachal Pradesh

Situation: Yagrung is a remote village in district Pashighat of Arunachal Pradesh, nestled in the lap of lofty mountains and naturally endowed with an abundance of gurgling streams. This sleepy village can only be reached by crossing two rivulets and becomes largely inaccessible during the monsoon months. Amidst this natural splendour, quiet revolution is taking pace here as fifteen women reshape their lives.

Response: When the Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) launched their intervention for Self Help Groups (SHG) in the area, enterprising women of Api Bekang SHG participated in the project wholeheartedly. They received training on cultivation of tomato, strawberry, passion fruit, soybean and flowers. They also learnt to prepare a soybean based health drink which tastes like Horlicks. In addition, they gained expertise in making pickles and sweets. They then participated in two exposure visits to Shillong and the North-

East Kisan Mela at Mizoram. These were valuable trips that educated them about the immense opportunities available to them, and helping them to realise their potential.

Result: The SHG started doing cultivation of high valued crops. With the dedication and hard work, they could manage to sell it to local market and other parts of the region. The women set up stalls for selling their products at Kisan melas and received tremendous response from visitors. It made them ambitious to become economically more self- reliant. Soon, they started a micro-savings programme and accumulated an amount of Rs. 45,000. This amount was used as a revolving fund to give small loans to the members for purchasing raw materials and for meeting other expenditures.



Evidence: The members of the group started living without much worries and are able to live comfortably while meeting their daily requirements through their hard labour.

-ATMA, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh



20. Rural Women Cheers on Poultry Farming

Situation: Mrs. Lila Mirda, wife of Mr. Gauranga Mirda of South Ganki village of Khowai sub division under West Tripura district was a common house wife till 2009, who became a role model of women empowerment at her locality within two years after following the KVK intervention fully. She was a member of Dhruvataranga Sangstha, an SHG formed by the KVK which was liquefied later before being rejuvenated by the animal science section of the KVK. During a field visit to the village some surprising pictures were obtained regarding the situation and knowledge level of the farmers, farm women and the rural youths. They were not aware about the upgraded dual purpose poultry birds except Kuroiler. They were also unaware about the different diseases of poultry birds, their prevention and control measures. Feeding of the birds was only through scavenging and birds were of deshi variety. They were scared of the epidemic poultry diseases and were reluctant to rear the poultry birds for self employment.

Response: Realising the situation, KVK-West Tripura decided to organise several programmes for the benefit of these people. KVK-West Tripura then motivated them to undergo a training programme to enrich their knowledge regarding scientific method of poultry production. On this basis, numbers of training programmes were organized at the village covering 100 numbers of



beneficiaries. During the training programmes emphasis was given to make them aware about upgraded poultry birds, different diseases, their prevention and control measures. Economics of poultry farming was also highlighted with much scope in integrated farming.

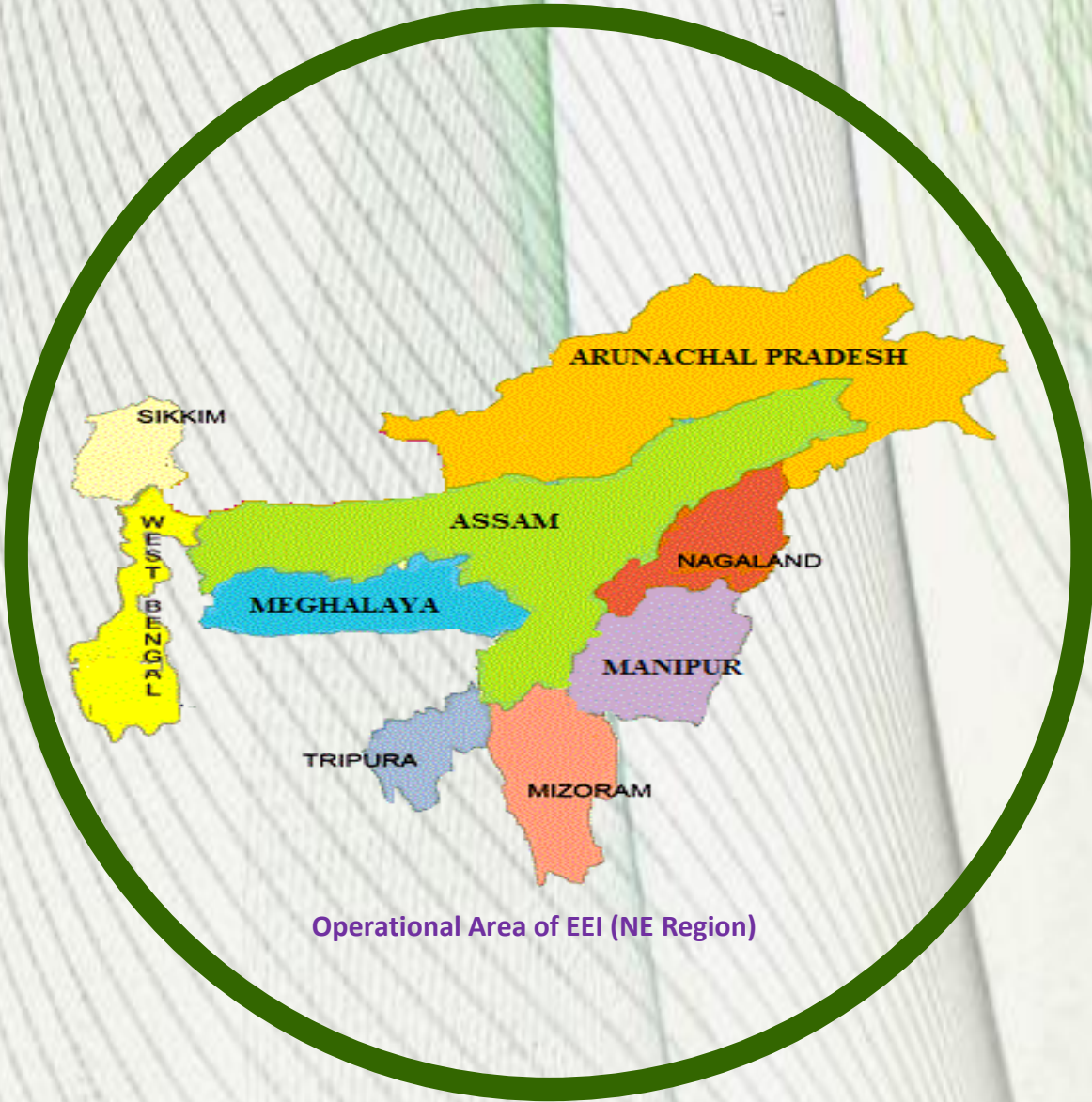
Result: After the trainings, the trainees showed interest to rear improved varieties if the chicks are provided by the KVK along with other veterinary aids. The KVK provided the improved chicks (var. Swarnadhara) and veterinary aids after another three on campus training to impart more knowledge about poultry production through learning by doing. This way knowledge level of the farmers was enriched.

Being one of the trainees, Mrs. Mirda started her venture by two numbers of upgraded poultry bird (Var. Swarnadhara, one pullet, one cockerel). On an average she got 22 nos. of eggs per month from one hen and those were sold at high price (@ Rs. 6/egg) due to high fertility and bigger size. She sold 42 nos. of fertile egg from swarnadhara and consumed 39 eggs. She obtained 6 nos. of chicks from the eggs utilizing local broody hen. From these chicks, she propagated another 45 nos. of chicks and was sold @ Rs. 30/chick. She again bought another six numbers of Gramapriya and Deshi crossed bird from the KVK and propagating and distributing in similar way. To satisfy her quest in poultry farming, she borrowed Rs. 3000/- from her SHG (Dhrubatara Sangstha) and Rs. 10,000/- from a micro crediting company, also invested Rs. 6000/- from her own for constructing scientific poultry shed utilizing house hold material. She constructed three nos. of poultry shed sized 8ft X 14ft, 18ft X 9 ft, 13 ft X 8 ft with the help of her husband. She utilized one shed for rearing of upgraded poultry bird and another two for rearing of broiler bird @ 100 birds per batch.

Considering the cost of demonstrated bird, veterinary aid from KVK and house hold feed for upgraded bird borne on free of cost, other expenditures incurred were for rearing of broiler and purchase of Gramapriya and deshi crossed bird. Total expenditure incurred was Rs. 1,87,360/- (Rs. 360/- for 6 pullets, Rs. 1, 68, 000 for broiler as rearing expenses, Rs. 19000/- for shed). Total income obtained was 2, 19,276/- (Rs.486 from 81 nos. swarnadhara egg, Rs. 1350 for 45 nos. chicks, Rs.1440 from 240 nos. of eggs from gramapriya and deshi crossed birds, Rs. 2, 16, 000 from 1200 nos. of broiler) along with the present stock of 2 nos swarnadhara birds and 6 nos. of crossed birds, 6 nos. of gramapriya crossed birds and three nos. of poultry sheds having a property of Rs. 23, 600/-to continue poultry rearing. She is now free of debt and contributing to house hold income effectively.

Evidence: Her home becomes a source of fertile egg and chicks of upgraded poultry. Broiler is sold from her shed enabling to procure by villagers at their locality. Other SHG members are encouraged to adopt her effort.

-KVK, West Tripura



Operational Area of EEI (NE Region)



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