

Farmer with a Difference



Andayya is a marginal farmer stays in Kadiwala village with four acres of land. This small piece of land is an important source of livelihood for his family. His family consist of his mother, wife, 2 children, sister and sister's children. He was a daily labourer and had no knowledge of agriculture. Due to the lack of information on agriculture the growth of the crops was not much as expected and faced problems in previous years. As the land was barren with low productivity, the earning was around Rs. 1,50,000/- per annum, which was not sufficient for the whole family to survive.

Mr Andayaa was one of the active trainees in integrated farming system (IFS) model skill training and showed keen interest for practical application of the learnings despite of time and labour demand. He took trainings from KVK, Horticulture and Agriculture Dept organized by SIRDS with support of FVTRS.

The input and guidance received from KVK, AEEC, Progressive farmers helped in adopting new technology, better crop production practices, crop planning and sequencing. Mr Andayya specially shown interest on cultivation of hybrid vegetable and Marigoldflowers. The tool kits, seedlings and other supports like chop cutter, cattle mat, vermi compost, azola pit, farm pond, drip, sprinklers, goats, saplings and seedlings from the project was an added advantage to practice the learning in his land. The marketing support for the produce are given by SIRDS that helps to keep away the middlemen who normally strip away the major chunk of hard-earned profit. Mr Andayya could channelize many subsidies from government.

Adopting IFS led Mr Andayya to have an opportunity to increase economic yield per unit area per unit time by virtue of intensification of crop and allied enterprises. He also learned to use waste material of produce that led reduce the cost of production.

Mr Andayya realises that he took a right decision to come out of poverty and provide better livelihoods to his family. His family members joined hands and worked in their field day and night. They levelled their land and put bunds and also fencing around. Initially, they were able to cultivate rain-fed crops. There was no source of irrigation that time. Now, they are able to gethonour out of the earnings from this piece of land. Sarvodaya, Village Agriculture Worker, KVK, Horticulture Officer are constantly in touch.

Their regular guidance and support have made Mr Andayya proud as a successful Agri-entrepreneur. The family is now in the process of expanding area of cultivation nearby for cash crops and floriculture. The income of the family has risen 60% (Rs.2,40,000/-) more per annum from the same area of land. This intervention enhanced the socio-economic condition and confidence of Mr Andayya.

The improvement in the socio-economic condition of the family is not only fulfilling the basic needs of his family but also supporting education of his children, and his sister and her kid for higher education.

