

Success story- Alternative Source of Energy in Indian Agriculture

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Background:-

In the context of India, agriculture and allied sectors contribute 19.9% of the GDP while employing 52% of the total work force. As the Indian economy has diversified and grown, agriculture & contribution to GDP has declined from 1951 to 2011, yet it is still the largest employment source and significant piece of the overall socio economic development of India. Agriculture is still the major occupation of the people living in the rural areas. Around 70% of India's population live in rural areas and their major activity is agriculture. According to Census 2011 information, Murhulsudi village is located in Kasmar Block of Bokaro district in Jharkhand, India. It is situated 41km away from sub-district headquarter Kasmar and 45km away from district headquarter Bokaro. As per 2009 stats, Murhul Sudi is the gram panchayat of Murhulsudi village. The total geographical area of the village is 190.72 hectares. Murhulsudi has a total population of 1,333 people. There are about 266 houses in Murhulsudi village. Kasmar is the nearest town to Murhulsudi.

How did it all start?

From the early day's people of that village looked at agriculture as their primary source of income but they are highly dependent on rainfall for cultivating their crops. Water was available from other sources too for irrigation, but some factors prevented the farmers from cultivating large patches of water-intensive crops, such as water transportation and the use of pumps powered by electricity. It is almost exclusively a two- season farming village where people cultivate their crops only in the rainy and winter and in summer they do not cultivate crops in large patches therefore they seek other means to earn an income. In the year 2020-21 Pradan, Jainamore team staff shared the idea of solar lift irrigation with the community of that village. After that meeting, people agreed for installment of the solar system. After that meeting, the community organizes a gram sabha in which they discuss this

problem. If it continues then in future it will be a big problem. To solve this problem at the end of the day the community of that village decided to set up the solar unit in that village. The village has a water canal where water is available all year long, and near the water source 18 acres of agricultural land of 11 farmers are located. All the 11 farmers are decided to set up the solar unit.



Current Situation:-

In 11 farmers 06 farmers are cultivating raddish in 59 decimal of land. Until now they earned 57 thousand from 59 decimal of land. But crop is not fully harvested so income will be increase with time. Those who harvested the crop again they planted the raddish in 10 dic. of land. Before setting of solar pump they are not cultivating this type of crop all the year. But after setting this unit farmers are continuing growing the crop one after another. During kharif farmers planted the paddy in 18 acre of land. And they are planning for growing mustard and chick pea in upcoming month.

Farmers Name	Husband Name	Crop	Area (Dismil)	Earning
Aprajitadevi	Mahilalmahto	RADDISH	10	13,000
Nunibaladevi	Nageshwarmahto		10	8,000
Padmadevi	Murarimahto		15	18,000
Gulpidevi	Samkevmahto		10	6,000
Revawatidevi	Jagannathmahto		7	6,000
Aklidevi	Yadavmahto		7	6,000

Changing in life:-

After set up of solar panel farmers are become more confident for adapting new crops for growing in large patch. These farmers are supported with new technology and in future their produce is marketed through FPO. After selling of raddish the farmers told that if we will get money like that than our economical condition will enhance day by day.

