

CASE STORY

"Economic Empowerment through Land Reform and Livelihood Promotion"

Mangu Sarvaniya Gundiya, Village: Kachrakhadan,
Tehsil: Petlawad, District: Jhabua

Introduction:

Mangu Sarvaniya is a hardworking farmer from the village of Kachrakhadan in Petlawad Tehsil, District Jhabua. He has gone beyond traditional farming and adopted modern agricultural techniques to strengthen his economic condition. In 2022, with the support of Sampark Sanstha, various agricultural reforms transformed his farming practices into a more profitable enterprise. By adopting land leveling, organic farming, vermicomposting, drip irrigation, horticulture, and indigenous seed conservation, he not only increased his yield but also became a source of inspiration for other farmers in his village.



Challenging Situation:

Mangu owned 3 bighas of cultivable land, of which 1 bigha remained fallow. Due to uneven and sloped land, water retention was poor, causing irrigation issues. As a result, he could only grow Kharif crops like cotton and maize, with limited production—3 quintals of cotton and 7-8 quintals of maize. Lack of water resources prevented him from growing wheat in the Rabi season, and chickpea production was only 20–30 kg. Excessive use of chemical fertilizers had reduced soil fertility and increased input costs.



Path to Change:

- Under the guidance of Sampark Sanstha, Mangu carried out land leveling, which improved water retention and irrigation availability.
- He diversified his crops by starting the cultivation of tomatoes and green chilies, earning ₹45,000 from tomatoes and gaining additional income prospects from chilies.
- By switching to organic farming, he reduced dependency on chemical fertilizers. The use of vermicompost and organic manure improved soil fertility and saved ₹10,000–₹12,000 on fertilizers.
- Installing a biogas plant eliminated the need for LPG cylinders, saving ₹7,000 annually.



New Initiatives and Additional Income:

- Inspired by the institution's "**Ghar ka Beej Ghar**" (**Home Seed Bank**) campaign, Mangu initiated indigenous seed conservation of soybean, maize, moong, urad, pigeon pea, chawli, sesame, and groundnut. This reduced seed purchase costs and saved ₹5,000 annually.
- Under horticulture, he planted 5–6 types of fruit trees. He has already harvested 20 kg of guava, 30–40 kg of papaya, and 15–20 kg of mango, creating prospects for future income.
- A recent initiative in watermelon farming earned him an additional ₹1.5 lakh.

With the use of a drip irrigation system, water use became more efficient and irrigation coverage increased. Previously, he could irrigate only 1 bigha; now, he can irrigate up to 5 bighas. Wheat production, which was previously unviable, now yields 10–12 quintals, generating ₹25,000 in additional income. Chickpea production also increased to 40–50 kg, adding ₹2,000 more to his income.



Social Impact and Inspiration for Others:

Mangu's success has inspired other farmers in his village. Seeing the benefits of organic manure, drip irrigation, and crop diversification, many have started adopting these techniques. Mangu actively participates in **Kisan Chaupal** (farmer gatherings) and training programs where he shares his success story and motivates others to adopt improved agricultural practices.



Case Story

"From Field Bunding to Prosperity: The Story of Kantu Badru Bariya"

Farmer's Name – Kantu Badru Bariya, Village – Semalkundiya

Tehsil: Petlawad, District: Jhabua

Introduction :

The story of Kantu Badru Bariya, a farmer from Semalkundiya village in Mohankot Panchayat, Jhabua district, is an inspiring example of how land improvement and technical support can enhance a farmer's agricultural productivity and economic well-being. By utilizing agricultural reforms, Kantu has brought positive changes to his life.



The Challenge:

Kantu's major problem was waterlogging in his field during the monsoon, which led to the destruction of his Kharif crops and decreased productivity. Due to this, he was often forced to migrate and work as a labour to support his family.



Turning Point – Field Bunding and Land Improvement:

In a village-level meeting organized by the supporting organization, Kantu learned about land development and field bunding techniques. He agreed to become a member of the farmers' committee and registered his name for the bunding work, sharing his land-related challenges.



All committee members present at the meeting approved the bunding work for his field. The organization carried out drainage construction with a JCB machine and levelled the land using gravel and soil fill.

Results after Bunding and Drainage Work:

- **Tomato Cultivation:**
Previously, his income from tomato farming was around ₹9,000–₹10,000. After the bunding work, this increased to ₹40,000 in a single season.

- **Crop Diversification:**
Two years ago, he could grow only one crop per year. Now, he cultivates cotton, watermelon, tomato, and cucumber, leading to an additional income of approximately ₹100,000.



Adoption of Drip Irrigation:

Kantu participated in skill-building training provided at the village level by the organization and purchased a drip irrigation system for 1 bigha of land. With water conservation and improved crop yields, he started using drip irrigation for tomatoes, watermelon, and cucumber.

Becoming a Master Trainer:

Kantu expressed his deep gratitude towards the organization for their support and technical guidance, stating that the transformation would not have been possible without their help. Thanks to this support, he is now a self-reliant farmer and has become a **Master Trainer** with the organization, providing training and information to other farmers at the village level.

Case story

A Story of Innovation and Success in Farming

Hursing Amra Bariya, Village – Semalkundiya
Tehsil: Petlawad, District: Jhabua

Introduction :

The inspiring journey of Hursing Amra Bariya, a farmer from Semalkundiya village in Madhya Pradesh, is a shining example of how self-reliance, hard work, and timely technical support can lead to success in agriculture. Earlier, Hursing relied on traditional farming, where problems like waterlogging during the rainy season, limited irrigation facilities, and low yields kept his income minimal. These challenges forced him to migrate for labour work to sustain his family's livelihood.



Support from the Organization and the Beginning of Transformation

Under the Livelihood Project implemented by *Sampark Social Organization*, Semalkundiya village was selected, and several development activities were initiated. The aim was to introduce farmers to water-saving techniques, land development, and modern farming methods.

Hursing actively participated in the meetings and trainings conducted by the organization. He learned about land improvement, water conservation, vermicomposting, preparing organic pesticides, and drip irrigation. Through the organization's support and linkage with various schemes, he began improving his farming practices.



With the organization's help, field bunding and land levelling were carried out on Hursing's land. Around 30 tractor trolleys of soil were filled using JCB to solve the waterlogging issue. After this intervention, he began cultivating new crops and saw a significant increase in yield.

Agricultural Transformation and Economic Gains

With the organization's support and his dedicated efforts, Hursing adopted multiple modern agricultural techniques, resulting in remarkable income growth:

1. New Crops and Increased Income

- **Tomato:** Earlier, his income from tomato farming was just ₹9,000–10,000, which has now increased to ₹40,000.
- **Cotton, Watermelon, and Cucumber:** Adopting these new crops over the past two years helped him earn more than ₹1 lakh in additional income.

2. Use of Drip Irrigation

- With assistance from the organization, Hursing adopted a drip irrigation system, which helped reduce water usage and enabled him to grow three crops in a year.
- Earlier, he could cultivate only one crop per season, but now he grows watermelon, tomatoes, and other vegetables, increasing his income by over ₹40,000.

- Motivated by this success, he invested from his own savings to install a drip system on another bigha of land, further boosting productivity.

3. Natural Farming and Cost Savings

- Hursing set up vermi beds and started using indigenous compost, saving ₹20,000–₹25,000 annually that would otherwise be spent on chemical fertilizers.
- The use of organic manure improved soil fertility and enhanced crop yields.



Earlier, Hursing's **annual income was only around ₹30,000–₹40,000**, but now it has increased to **over ₹1.5 lakh**. By adopting modern techniques, new crops, and water-saving methods, his **economic condition has significantly improved**, elevating his family's living standards.

Positive Village Impact and Role Model Status

Hursing's success story inspired many other farmers in the village. After seeing his farm, **10 farmers adopted drip irrigation** on their own, and **over 50 farmers visited his field** to learn about new agricultural techniques.

Today, **Hursing is not only a successful farmer** but also serves as a **Master Trainer** at the village level. He trains other farmers on water conservation, drip irrigation, organic farming, and advanced agricultural practices. Through his role, he is helping to strengthen the livelihoods of other farmers in the region.



Hursing expresses deep gratitude to *Sampark Organization* for their support. Their assistance helped him modernize his farming, achieve self-reliance, and become a source of inspiration for others.

Case Story
An Inspiring Story of Agricultural Transformation and Economic Prosperity
Shambhu Kalu Vasuniya, Village – Kachrakhadan
Tehsil: Petlawad, District: Jhabua

Introduction:

Shambhu Kalu Vasuniya, a farmer from Kachrakhadan village in Jhabua district, has significantly improved his productivity and income by adopting field bunding, organic fertilizers, and crop diversification. Earlier, his main challenge was the heavy runoff of rainwater from his fields during the monsoon, which often led to the destruction of his **kharif** crops and limited agricultural production. As a result, his annual income was very low, and he was sometimes forced to migrate for labor work.



Initial Challenges and Institutional Support

The excessive water runoff during rains caused frequent damage to Shambhu's crops, resulting in major losses. This compelled him to seek alternative income through migration. In a village meeting organized by **Sampark**, Shambhu learned about land development and field bunding techniques. He agreed to join the farmers' committee and registered for the bunding intervention.



With the organization's help, field bunding was carried out on his land using a **JCB and tractor**. This intervention helped control water flow, improved soil retention, and led to better crop growth and productivity.

Post-Intervention Impact and Income Growth

After the field bunding:

- **Cotton cultivation:** His income from cotton rose from ₹9,000–10,000 to ₹20,000.
- **Crop diversity:** Earlier he could grow only one crop, but in the past two years he has started cultivating **two seasonal crops**, increasing his **total income to nearly ₹60,000**.



Motivated by skill-building training provided by the organization, Shambhu set up **vermi compost beds** and began using organic fertilizers. This allowed him to avoid purchasing expensive market fertilizers, leading to an additional **savings of ₹10,000–15,000**.

Current Status and Community Influence

Due to improvements in his farming practices, Shambhu's **annual income has now increased to ₹75,000–₹80,000**, almost **double** his earlier earnings. Today, he serves as a **Master Trainer** at the village level, educating other farmers about **water conservation, organic composting, and crop diversification**.



Inspired by his success, several farmers in his village have also started adopting field bunding and organic farming methods.

Gratitude and Vision Ahead

Shambhu expresses deep gratitude to the *Sampark* organization for their support in transforming his farming into a sustainable and self-reliant livelihood. By adopting **land development**, **water conservation**, and **organic agriculture**, Shambhu has significantly improved both his **productivity and overall income**. He now stands as a **source of inspiration** for farmers in his community.

Case Story
From Land Reclamation and Pond Soil to Economic Prosperity
Rama Nanda Bariya, Village – Chenkawani-Rangpura
Tehsil: Petlawad, District: Jhabua

Introduction :

Rangpura, a small village under Mohankot Panchayat in Petlawad block, is home to around 80 Bhil tribal families, spread across three hamlets. The primary livelihood of the community is agriculture. About 30% of the land is irrigated using wells, ponds, and rivers. Most families also rear 2–3 livestock on average.

In the **Bariya hamlet** of the village resides **Rama Heera Bariya**, a farmer with 8 bighas of ancestral land, which supports his family's livelihood. For years, Rama cultivated only soybean and wheat. Like many farmers, he depended heavily on chemical fertilizers such as DAP, urea, and super phosphate. As input use increased, so did farming costs. Reducing fertilizer usage led to lower yields, and the stony nature of the soil made productivity even harder to achieve. Rama realized that land improvement was essential.



Intervention and Support from Sampark

It was in this situation that the **Sampark Social Organization** selected Rangpura under its **livelihood project** and introduced several development activities. To reduce input costs and improve productivity, one of the innovations introduced was **land improvement using nutrient-rich pond soil**.



Rama attended community meetings organized by Sampark where he learned about soil enhancement and land development. He joined the village farmer committee and registered for soil improvement activities. With the organization's help, Rama utilized **pond soil** to reclaim 2.5 bighas of land. This significantly improved soil fertility and supported better crop growth.



Following this, he diversified into crops such as **watermelon** and **bitter gourd**, along with his usual traditional crops.



Tangible Results and Increased Income

- **Yield Improvement:** His total crop production increased from **25 quintals to 60 quintals**.
- **Income Growth:** His annual income rose from **₹40,000 to ₹80,000**.
- **Technological Adoption:**

- Rama adopted **drip irrigation** and **mulching**, which improved **water conservation** and maintained **soil moisture**.
- He reduced his dependence on chemical fertilizers and began using **vermicompost**, saving around **₹5,000**.
- He initiated **organic farming** on 2 bighas of land, improving both **soil fertility** and **crop quality**.

Future Vision and Community Leadership

Now, Rama Bariya is planning to **fully adopt organic farming**. He also aims to **increase vegetable cultivation** and sell produce directly in local markets to further enhance his income. His journey stands as proof that the **right techniques** and a **new mindset towards farming** can **double a farmer's income** and lead towards **sustainable agriculture**.

Rama expresses his heartfelt **gratitude to Sampark**, whose guidance and support helped him transform his farming practices. Today, he is also contributing to **raising awareness** among fellow farmers about **organic practices** and **advanced agricultural technologies**.



