Case Story
Farmer's Name: Manasingh Somji Sarel
Village Name: Dhanpura, Tehsil : Petlawad, Dist : Jhabua M.P.
Activity Name: Vermi Compost

Dhanpura is a small village in Kudwas Gram Panchayat of Petlawad Development Block. The village has 3 hamlets with around 300 families residing there. All these families belong to the Bhil tribal community, and their main livelihood is agriculture. The village has a primary school, while the secondary and higher secondary schools are located in Kudwas and Raipuria respectively. For medical treatment, villagers visit the Civil Dispensary in Petlawad or the Community Health Center in Raipuria. About 30% of the land in the village is irrigated, with water sourced from wells, ponds, and rivers. On average, each family owns 2-3 animals.

Manasingh Somji Sarel, a resident of Vanjyafalia (a hamlet of the village), owns 3 bighas of inherited land on which he supports his family through farming. His family consists of three members including his wife and one son. His adult son works as a laborer in Gujarat. Manasingh cultivates maize, soybean, and cotton in Kharif season, while in Rabi season, he grows wheat, chickpea, and a small area of okra.

For many years, Manasingh primarily used chemical fertilizers for crop production. However, in recent years, the use of fertilizers like DAP, urea, and superphosphate increased significantly, raising the cost of farming. If fertilizer quantity was reduced, crop yields would decline. Ten years ago, the production from one sack of fertilizer was much higher, but now even with 5 to 6 times more fertilizer use, production remains limited, and this problem is increasing every year.

In these circumstances, Sampark Social Service Organization selected Dhanpura under the Azim Premji Foundation supported Livelihood Project and started various developmental activities in the village. To reduce farming costs and increase production, many innovations were introduced, one of which was the use of vermi compost. Selected farmers in the village were provided vermi bags to produce vermi compost and start using it in their fields.

Under this activity, Manasingh also set up a vermi pit at his home and regularly filled it with dung, biomass, etc., adding earthworms as per the prescribed process. He created ideal conditions for producing high-quality vermi compost by maintaining the correct ratio of dung, waste, and moisture in the vermi pit and ensuring adequate shade.

From 2022-23 till now, Manasingh has produced vermi compost 3 or more times, yielding 4.5 to 5 quintals of compost per bed. He used the vermi compost in 1 bigha of okra and half a bigha of wheat crop.

With the use of vermi compost, he reduced the use of chemical fertilizers by five sacks in traditional crops. Using vermi compost on one bigha, he produced 15 quintals of okra, earning him an income of ₹30,000. Encouraged by these positive results, Manasingh now plans to double the use of vermi compost in the upcoming crops.

For vermi compost production, Manasingh is developing a new method where worm compost will be prepared directly on the ground. For this, a shaded place will be selected, and earthworms will be released into a mixture of dung and waste placed on a polythene sheet. By producing high-quality worm compost in this way, Manasingh aims to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers in his fields to almost zero.

Case Story
Farmer's Name: Mangliya Nanda Baria
Village Name: Rangpura, Gram Panchayat Mohankot
Activity Name: Vermi Compost

Rangpura is a small village in Mohankot Gram Panchayat of Petlawad Development Block. The village consists of 3 hamlets with about 80 families residing there. All the families belong to the Bhil tribal community, and their main livelihood is agriculture. The village has a primary school, while the secondary and higher secondary schools are located in Mohankot and Raipuria respectively. For medical treatment, villagers visit the Civil Dispensary in Petlawad or the Community Health Center in Raipuria. About 30% of the land is irrigated, with water sourced from wells, ponds, and rivers. On average, each family owns 2-3 animals.

Mangliya Nanda Baria lives in the Baria hamlet of the village. He owns 3 bighas of ancestral land, which he cultivates to support his family. Mangliya's family consists of 5 members including his wife and 3 sons, although currently, the three sons live separately after marriage. During the Kharif season, Mangliya cultivates maize, soybean, and cotton, while in the Rabi season, he grows wheat, chickpeas, and a small area of tomatoes.

For many years, Mangliya used chemical fertilizers for crop production. However, in recent years, the consumption of fertilizers such as DAP, urea, and superphosphate has increased, raising farming costs. If he reduced the quantity of fertilizers, crop yields declined. Ten years ago, the production from one sack of fertilizer was much higher, but now even with 5 to 6 times more fertilizer use, production remains limited, and this problem is worsening year by year.

In these circumstances, Sampark Social Service Organization selected Rangpura under the Azim Premji Foundation supported Livelihood Project and initiated several developmental activities in the village. To reduce costs and increase production in farming, many innovations were introduced, one of which was the use of vermi compost. Selected farmers in the village were provided vermi bags to produce vermi compost and start using it in their fields.

Under this initiative, Mangliya set up a vermi pit at his home and regularly filled it with dung, biomass, and other materials, adding earthworms as per the prescribed process. He created ideal conditions for producing high-quality vermi compost by maintaining the correct ratio of dung, waste, and moisture and ensuring adequate shade.

So far, the vermi pit has been emptied more than four times, producing 5-6 quintals of compost each time before being refilled. Mangliya used this vermi compost in chili, tomato crops, and one bigha of wheat.

By using vermi compost, the use of five sacks of chemical fertilizers was reduced in traditional crops. Using vermi compost on one bigha, he produced 25 quintals of tomatoes, earning an income of ₹40,000. Encouraged by these positive results, Mangliya now plans to double the use of vermi compost in the upcoming crops.

For vermi compost production, Mangliya is developing a new method where worm compost will be prepared directly on the ground. He plans to select a shaded area and spread a mixture of dung and waste on a polythene sheet, then release earthworms into it. By producing high-quality worm compost this way, Mangliya aims to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers in his fields to nearly zero.

Success Story
Farmer's Name: Santosh Sarel
Village Name: Morjharia, Gram Panchayat Mohankot
Activity Name: Vermi Compost

Morjharia is a small village in Mohankot Gram Panchayat of Petlawad Development Block. The village consists of 4 hamlets with about 500 to 600 families residing there. All the families belong to the Bhil tribal community, and their main livelihood is agriculture. The village has a primary school, while the secondary and higher secondary schools are located in Mohankot and Raipuria respectively. For medical treatment, villagers visit the Civil Dispensary in Petlawad or the Community Health Center in Raipuria. About 30% of the land is irrigated, with water sourced from wells, ponds, and rivers. On average, each family owns 2-3 animals.

Santosh Sareel lives in the Bangla hamlet of the village. He owns 4 bighas of ancestral land, which he cultivates to support his family. Santosh's family consists of 4 members including his wife, one son, and one daughter. His adult son works as a laborer in Gujarat. During the Kharif season, Santosh cultivates maize, soybean, and cotton, while in the Rabi season, he grows wheat, chickpeas, and a small area of okra.

For many years, Santosh used chemical fertilizers for crop production. However, in recent years, the consumption of fertilizers such as DAP, urea, and superphosphate has increased, raising farming costs. If he reduced the quantity of fertilizers, crop yields declined. Ten years ago, the production from one sack of fertilizer was much higher, but now even with 5 to 6 times more fertilizer use, production remains limited, and this problem is worsening year by year.

In these circumstances, Sampark Social Service Organization selected Morjharia under the Azim Premji Foundation supported Livelihood Project and initiated several developmental activities in the village. To reduce costs and increase production in farming, many innovations were introduced, one of which was the use of vermi compost. Selected farmers in the village were provided vermi bags to produce vermi compost and start using it in their fields.

Under this initiative, Santosh set up a vermi pit at his home and regularly filled it with dung, biomass, and other materials, adding earthworms as per the prescribed process. He created ideal conditions for producing high-quality vermi compost by maintaining the correct ratio of dung, waste, and moisture and ensuring adequate shade.

During the year 2022-23, he produced 4.5 to 5 quintals of vermi compost. He used this compost on one bigha each of maize, cotton, and wheat crops.

By using vermi compost, the use of five sacks of chemical fertilizers was reduced in traditional crops. Using vermi compost on one bigha, he produced 8 quintals of cotton and maize, earning an income of ₹47,000. He currently has 6 quintals of vermi compost kept aside for sale.

Encouraged by these positive results, Santosh now plans to double the use of vermi compost in the upcoming crops. For vermi compost production, Santosh is developing a new method where worm compost will be prepared directly on the ground. He plans to select a shaded area and spread a mixture of dung and waste on a polythene sheet, then release earthworms into it. By producing high-quality worm compost this way, Santosh aims to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers in his fields to nearly zero.