



Nodal Officers Workshop under Agri-Clinics & Agri-Business Centers (AC&ABC) Scheme

A two day Nodal Officers Workshop was organized under Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centers (AC&ABC) Scheme during June, 5-6, 2017 at MANAGE, Hyderabad. The workshop brought together 67 Nodal Officers from 14 states to share their experiences, challenges and further developments under AC&ABC scheme. The workshop began with the inaugural address of Smt. V. Usha Rani, IAS, Director General, MANAGE, Hyderabad. The Director General emphasized the importance of increasing professionalization in agricultural extension and need to train more number of agricultural graduates under AC&ABC Scheme. The Director General stressed on the need for strengthening the private extension system with quality services through established agripreneurs. The workshop was structured into five sessions to find out solutions to scorching issues viz., Renewal of AC&ABC Guidelines, AC&ABC Curriculum and Issues & Problems faced by NTIs and Agripreneurs during AC&ABC training. Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE presented the an overview of the AC&ABC Scheme and the progress since April 2002 to March 2017. The statistics show that 53,544 candidates have been trained and 23,393 candidates have established ventures through 32 identified project activities. Dr. Saravanan emphasized on the new initiatives in the scheme i.e. Direct Benefit Transfer, Mudra, Aadhar based Biometric Attendance, Online screening, Opening of face book account by every NTI and MANAGE-AC&ABC Incubation Center. The workshop inputs were presented, discussed and analyzed in a cohesive transdisciplinary way by building on each Nodal Institute's expertise and experiences. The valedictory function was chaired by Director General, MANAGE in which she shared her views on values and indicated to the NTIs that the MANAGE would go through these recommendations of the NTIs on all the themes and would study the technical aspects in detail and submit them to the Ministry at the earliest. The workshop concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. B. Venkat Rao, Project Manager, MANAGE, Hyderabad.

ICCMRT Developing Professionals with Management Excellence

The Institute of Cooperative and Corporate Management Research & Training (ICCMRT) Lucknow was established in 1978 by the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh and apex co-operative institutions. From a small beginning, it has now established an identity of its own as a premier management institute among its client organizations and academic field. Today it serves as a locus of management education, management & computer training, research and consultancy. It has now diversified its activities in pursuit of its objectives to inculcate professionalism in the corporate world. The institute believes in proactive interaction between trade, industry and the Government. Thus, the mission of the Institute is to develop professionals with management excellence, social and cultural sensitivity, ethical responsibility and concern for the environment. MANAGE assessed the profile of the Institute based on the availability of the facilities, equipment with potential teaching staff and recognized ICCMRT as a new nodal training institute to deliver mid-level skills training and improve the technical and pedagogic capacity of the AC&ABC trainees. MANAGE extends best wishes.

Micro- Irrigation Dripping Success

Mr. Rameshwar Takalkhede (32) resident of Kanhan, Nagpur district, Maharashtra and a millionaire Agripreneur says, "My business in agri- input sales is growing due to my entry in Irrigation sector". Mr. Takalkhed is a trained Agripreneur from KVAAF, Nagpur, After working for many years in Agri-Input Sale, he wanted to do something in the sector of Irrigation. Mr.Takalkhede is aware that a single conserved drop of water can bring miracles. He took the dealership of Jain Irrigation Pvt. Limited and started sale of Irrigation set. Six months passed and not a single set had been sold. Mr.Takalkhede was disheartened and wanted to re-turn the un-sold stock to company. During this period one customer purchased one Drip Irrigation set for one acre of land and Mr.Takalhed got a net profit of Rs.2000/- on a single set. He re-gained interest and continued sale and doorstep consultancy on Micro-Irrigation. He not only contacted the orchard farmers but also the private firms, farm houses, corporate companies, Govt. colleges and private Institutes. He adds that, doorstep extension consultancy helps him to get more contacts in business instead of sitting in the shop. Due to the MIS business, a total of 700 acre area came under drip irrigation system, 20 Corporate companies got landscaping services, 7 private companies asked for turf irrigation, 7-8 builders are regularly getting consultancy services on landscaping and irrigation, 15 farm houses utilized the services of gardening and irrigation consultancy says Mr. Takalkhede. He adds that, in the case of the landscaping project, a choice was made at the beginning not to remove the existing lawn, but to use sheet mulching instead. Sheet mulching consists of placing layers of cardboard and mulch over the existing grass. The process nurtured the soil, suppressed weeds, and minimized waste and reduced the cost. Due to involvement in the irrigation sector the annual Turnover of the shop crossed Rs.1.00 Cr. and he recruited 10 permanent persons on pay roll, beside 30 regular unskilled labour.

Dr. Jabir Ali



Nodal Officer

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Mr. Takalkhede says no job is too big or too small if we are involved fully in completion with success



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Integrated Farming System: Increasing Income Reducing cost

Mr. Raj Kishor Sinha (45) from Nalanda, Bihar, a graduate in Fisheries, has developed a unique model of Integrated Farming System (IFS) in his 8.50 acre farm. Mr. Sinha designed the farm and segregated the land as per the crop requirement. The layout of Integrated Farming System is that the area under Field Crops is in 1.50 acres, Banana (5.00 acres.) Mango+Guava+Papaya+Pomegranate (0.20 acre each crop.) 500 Sq. Mt. Poly-house, Fish pond (1.00 acre), Dairy (25 cows+28 calves), 100 Birds backyard Poultry+ 20 Ducks along with Apiculture (50 Boxes). Besides, Mr. Sinha, adopted the best practices of farming i.e. Drip and Sprinkler irrigation, Plastic mulching, reducing chemical fertilizers by using Vermicompost, plant residue, vermin wash, cow urine, biogas slurry application and Azolla culture, Bio pesticides etc. Some more strategies are useful for good quality and returns i.e Bagging of Banana to prevent insect damage, Producing Off-season vegetables and coriander under poly-house. The farm became a training center for Integrated Farming System. More than 500 farmers from 20 villages have visited the farm and adopted IFS. Mr. Raj Kishor Sinha developed his own marketing strategies for sale of crop produce at farm gate with better price realization and direct selling at Patna. Mr Sinha says some of the best practices have led to success to make this model sustainable i.e. recycling of resources namely use of crop residues in vermicompost and micro irrigation in field and horticultural crops. Adoption of all modern technology, Immunization of Animals/ Birds at appropriate times and use of Bio pesticides (Cow urine+ Vermiwash+ Neem etc.) at fixed intervals of crop period, Production of Azolla for Paddy cropping system and as feed to Dairy, Fish and Duck etc. From the 8.50 acre of land he can earn an annual net profit of Rs. 15 lakh. Mr. Sinha extended employment to 5 permanent persons on the farm. Mr. Sinha was honored with a National Award during the “Krushi Vasant-2013” national exhibition held at CICR, Nagpur, Maharashtra.

Sweet Smell of Success through Roses

I selected Rose crop to opt for a career in floriculture. Since childhood, I loved Roses and found it is the bestseller among other flowers in the market. Incrementally people use Rose to greet people on birthdays, anniversaries, Valentine’s Day, Mother’s Day etc., says Ms. Pranali Shewale, a diploma holder in Horticulture. After my studies, I joined AC&ABC skill development training program at KVAAF-Nagpur. “Soon after completion of the programme, my father helped me to get one acre of land on lease for setting-up a playhouse for cultivation of cut flowers. Initially there was no bank support as most financial institutions were not confident about my plan so I had to wait for six months to get a loan sanctioned,” says Pranali. With some own capital investment and bank loan of Rs. 13.00 lakh from Bank of India, Besa branch, Nagpur, I erected 10000 Sq.ft Poly-house and cultivated Roses of Top Secret variety. Jain Floritech, helped me set-up my firm; technical assistance was a cornerstone for setting up a hi-tech cut flower unit so that cultivation of flowers happens under perfect controlled conditions of temperature and humidity by using ultra violet film and modern means of irrigation (drip irrigation). Only after one month blooming started. The length of time depends upon the variety and quality of the roses. The flowers are graded according to the length. It varies from 40-70 cm depending on the variety and packed 10/12 per bunch. In the first harvest I got a net profit of Rs. 35000/-. I hired two skilled women workers and one unskilled labour. I am happy to taste the first success from Roses. I no longer regret not becoming a doctor, which was a dream as a child. I feel contented being a wom-

High-value Nutritional drinks from Whey and Pearl Millet

Mr. Sanjeev Singh (24), a resident of Rohan, Karnal, Haryana, who has a diploma in crop cultivation, was involved in dairy occupation. During this period, he came across the centrally sponsored Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres Scheme. In the year 2013, he joined the two month residential course at ISAP, Karnal. This training proved to be a blessing in disguise. He completed his training with 100% attendance in class. Moreover, during the training he visited NDRI, Karnal and was very impressed by the value addition technique in Dairy. Immediately after training Mr Sanjiv started Dairy farming but his aim was to do something distinct. Then he moved into Dairy processing. Mr Sanjiv took loan of Rs. 15 Lakh from the Central Bank of India & started the business with Dairy processing. In the year 2014, he registered a company 'Mishti Farmer Producer company'. In May 2014 a MOU was signed between Mr. Sanjeev Singh's company & NDRI for processing of dairy products. NDRI was ready to support Mr. Sanjiv in value addition technique. On 23 August 2014 the Director-cum-Vice Chancellor of NDRI launched Bajra Lassi, Whey drink and NDRI provided space for a milk parlor in the NDRI Campus and this was first achievement of Mr. Samnjiv Singh. At present, Mishthi company is involved in processing the dairy products viz. Bajara lassi, Paneer, Ghee, Barfi, dairy based cold drinks etc. Shri Sanjeev formed a Dairy Farmer Producer company in with 250 members and the number of members are increasing. Very soon the target members were 1000 farmers. Within a span of four months, turnover of Mishti firm was Rs, 20.00 Lakh and employment has been extended to 4 persons.



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www.agriclinics.net is the portal providing information about Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres Scheme. The portal gives updates on eligibility criteria, training institutes, training progress, handholding activities, finance options and subsidy to the prospective Agripreneurs. The website also provides information on details of established Agriventures, pending projects, relevant schemes etc., and other information useful for State governments, Agricultural Universities, Banks, Training Institutes and Agripreneurs.



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