



Mr. B. Balaji, agripreneur honored as “Pride of Tamil Nadu-2018”

“Pride of Tamil Nadu” is the brain child of Madras South Round Table 39 (MSRT 39) to identify, recognize and celebrate talents from Tamil Nadu. Pride of TN will not only celebrate the biggest successes in TN but will also operate as a medium to congratulate people who are making their state proud. Personalities across various / diversified fields will be awarded for going an extra mile in this competitive world. It is a recognition for all the hardships and challenges that went into carving themselves, and also inspiring the next generation, not only to be successful but also make the state they come from PROUD. Mr. B. Balaji, an agripreneur from Trichy trained under Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (AC&ABC) Scheme was awarded among three



nominees for “Pride of Tamil Nadu-2018” award under SME category. . Inspired by the immense value of organic food products, Mr. Balaji opened an online sale counter under the brand name ‘B&B Organic’ for sale as retail and wholesale organic crop products across the country. The first counter has been opened at AMAZON.com. B&B organics are supplying 5 tons of organic grocery every month. He says that, B&B procure organic crop produce from farmers at better price than the local market, hence, as a customer one is also supporting farmers indirectly. Mr. Balaji may be contacted @ <https://www.bnborganics.com>, Mobile : +91 8098777799.

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JARDS- Publicizes the AC&ABC Scheme through e-Media



Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (AC&ABC) Scheme is being implemented since 14 years in India for strengthening the entrepreneurial skills among the unemployed agri-professionals. However, it is still in its infancy and has not yet reached the masses. Jubilant Agriculture Rural Development Society (JARDS) is one of the identified nodal training institutes under AC&ABC scheme conducting training programs through three centers at Moradabad, Agra and Gorakhpur. Dr. Deepak Mendiratta, Nodal Officer is an agricultural economist effortlessly working for the publicity of the scheme in Uttar Pradesh. He believes that wide publicity via the media can help in gaining public visibility or awareness on the program. He is regularly organizing sensitization programs at the agricultural colleges and made the agri-professionals aware about the AC&ABC scheme. JARDS organizing field days by inviting experts from ATMA and NABARD to sensitize the farmers and rural youth about the scheme and opportunities for self-employment. DD Kissan telecast the promotional initiative of JARDS- Moradabad on the importance of agri-entrepreneurship among unemployed agri-professionals of Uttar Pradesh through Agri-Clinics and Agri-business Centers Scheme. e-TV Annadata – Uttar Pradesh also telecast the interview of Mr. Mendiratta showing the importance of AC&ABC Scheme. JARDS trained 3718 and 1881 established agri-ventures with success rate 50.59%

Mr. D. Mendiratta, Secretary / Nodal Officer

Jubilant Agriculture Rural Development Society (JARDS) , 09412475302, 8191820983, Email: agriclinic.mbd2009@gmail.com

Jaggery: Artisan sugar sweetening the taste of success



Mr. Suresh Patil (37) is an agripreneur with a diploma in agriculture, is running a 200 ton Jaggery processing unit by extending employment to six rural youth. Hailing from the tiny hamlet of Walwa in Kagal taluk of Kolhapur district, has found a wide market for Jaggery in Maharashtra and neighboring states i.e. Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. As he says, “I have 5 acres of ancestral land wherein, I am taking up 200 tons of sugarcane production. Suspending the supply of sugarcane to the factory, I started my own Jaggery processing unit and am earning Rs. 4500 per ton on sale of Jaggery as against the Rs. 2000 per ton being offered by sugar factories”. The acceptable taste and nutritive value of Jaggery has attracted man since ancient times. It forms an important item of Indian diet for its high nutritive value and as a sweetening agent. Besides, it has considerable socio-economic and cultural significance. “Before, starting the Jaggery unit, I attended the entrepreneurial training program under Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centers Scheme at Krishna Valley Advanced Agriculture Foundation, Uttur. I was encouraged by this activity, during an exposure visit organized to a Jaggery unit. I found that with minimum investment coupled with advanced technology one can start a Jaggery unit on a small scale. I am also getting double the yield by cultivating sugarcane without using chemicals and fertilisers. More than 280 farmers from 14 villages visited the unit and took information on organic sugarcane cultivation and Jaggery processing.

The annual turnover has crossed Rs. 12 lakh. I am looking forward to producing thick Jaggery syrup which can be used as jam for direct consumption as it contains fructose, sucrose and glucose, a powdered form of Jaggery besides solid Jaggery”, says Mr. Suresh. Contact: Mr. Suresh Patil: A/p- Walwa Kh Tal- Kagal Dist- Kolhapur , Mobile: +91 7588697621

CHC: a new age custom of renting farm machinery

Mr. Vishal Bacharam Powar a resident of Dhamane village in Ajara taluk of Kolhapur district is involved in renting farm machinery to the farmers. After undergoing a diploma course in agriculture, he joined the entrepreneurial training program under Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (AC&ABC) Scheme at Krishna Valley Advanced Agriculture Foundation, Uttur in Maharashtra. During the training, he was fascinated by the concept of the Custom Hiring Centre (CHC). It was the first time he had heard of it. Eventually, he showed interest in establishment of CHC and worked hard for preparation of a detailed project report. The nodal training institute, Krishna Valley Advanced Agriculture Foundation, Uttur, identified an established CHC and made arrangements for Mr. Vishal to attend the session for hands on experience and skills to run a Custom Hiring center. After availing finance of Rs. 9.25 lakh from The Ratnakar Bank Br. Madilage branch, he established his custom hiring business centre. In the beginning, he bought a 60 hp tractor along with one reversible MB plough (2 bottom). He rents out these machines to many farmers of his village and also in surrounding villages for cultivation of field crops like soybean, wheat, maize, chickpea and sugarcane etc. He has covered 370 farmers from 17 villages. He generates an income of around Rs 6.5 lakhs in a year with a net profit of about Rs. 3 lakhs. With his entrepreneurial skill and zeal to adopt new technology, he procured a sugarcane cutter planter for providing services to sugarcane farmers in his area and also promoting raised bed cultivation for Kharif crops. To augment his knowledge in farm machinery, he is obtaining technical guidance from KVK and agricultural universities. Mr. Vishal is planning to add more machinery to his inventory for sugarcane growers to further diversify the business of his custom hiring Centre. Contact: Mr. Vishal Bacharam Powar, At-Dhamane Tal- Ajara Dist- Kolhapur, Mobile: +91 9503378504



Gojas Milk: a profitable value-added dairy enterprise

“Are you interested in making your dairy business more profitable? then you go with value-addition it provides numerous opportunities for increasing your earning”, says by Mr. Sourabh Ajit Chougule, (27) who hails at Narande village in Hatkanangale taluk of Kolhapur district. After a diploma course in agriculture sciences, he joined the two month residential entrepreneurial training program under Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (AC&ABC) Scheme. Dairy was the major subject focused during training. Focus was on enterprises relates to dairy i.e. rearing cattle and sale of milk, milk collection center, sale of feed and fodder, doorstep AI services, vet-clinic and value-addition and exposure visits were also arranged in established dairy units to learn the technical skills. As Mr Sourabh shares, “I was astonished seeing the value-added units and the triple fold profit from milk. I decided to establish a Dairy processing unit. After successfully completing the training, I registered my milk collection center by the name of Tirth Milk and Agro products. My daily milk collection was 200 liters. In order to cash this opportunity, I decided to take up production of value-added products. Several items typically come to mind when thinking about value-added dairy products. Some are relatively easy to produce, while others require greater investments in equipment, knowledge/training, and production time. I prepared the detailed project report of Rs. 80 lakh and approached a local financing institute ‘Ashta Lokmanya Credit Society’ for loan. The loan got sanctioned and the unit started producing cheese, butter, yogurt, ice-cream, bottled milk etc. by the brand name ‘Gojas Milk’. My annual turnover in the first year crossed Rs. 50 lakh” says Mr. Sourabh. A total 500 liters of milk is procured from 350 registered farmers from 60 villages. The firm is providing employment to 16 rural men and women. Contact: Mr. Sourabh Ajit Chougule, A/P Narande, Tal Hatkanangale, Dist Kolhapur, Maharashtra, Mobile: +91 7776864440



Earthworms crawling profit

Ms. Prajakta Ulhas Pimputkar (23), a young girl from a rural background, who has just completed her Bachelor of Degree in agriculture, is one of the known faces among the youth and farmers in Walva village of Ratnagiri district. Ms. Prajakta is involved in manufacturing of Vermi-compost and vermi-wash. Ms Prajakta wanted to be an entrepreneur in agriculture. She came across an advertisement on the Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres scheme in the local newspaper and saw her dream coming true. Without delay, she registered her name and on the scheduled date she was interviewed and was selected at Shriram Gramin Sanshodhan Va Vikas Pratishthan, (SGSVVP) Ratnagiri, which is one of the identified training institutes under AC&ABC. During the training, she came to know about vermicomposting. She was surprised to see the multiple ways of utilizing dung and dairy waste. This training aroused an interest in her to take up the venture for utilizing the dung and waste from her own cattle shed and from that of neighboring farmers. Soon after the training, she convinced her parents and was involved in manufacturing of vermi-compost with an initial investment of Rs 50000. The unit started with 6 beds by following flooring method. She made beds each of 30x2 feet size, in which 10 quintals of dung with 10 kg of earthworm were used in each bed. Further, an expenditure of Rs. 700/- was incurred on miscellaneous items. In return, she got 6.5 quintals of vermin-compost, 17 kg of earthworm in a period of 2.5 months from one bed. Thus, from all the six beds she got 39 quintals of vermin-compost and 102 kg of earthworm which she sold @ Rs. 5/kg and Rs. 200/kg respectively. She earned Rs. 39,900 from her enterprise which she had started after the first trial. All the work in her unit was done with the help of her parents and siblings, hence no labour was hired by her. Ms Prajakta now plans to expands her business. Contact: Mr. Prajakta Ulhas Pimputkar , Mr. Prajakta Ulhas Pimputkar, – e-Mail: prajaktapimputkar01@gmail.com, Mobile : +91 8007541062,



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,

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