



Better Farming by Every Farmer

e-Bulletin



# Agripreneur

A Virtual Experience Sharing Platform

VOIUME 03 ISSUE 01

JAN-FEB,2011

**In this Issue:**

*Refresher Agripreneur Trainings on “Sector Specific Business Expansion Capabilities of Established Agripreneurs under Agriclincs and Agri Business Centres Scheme” elevate Agripreneurs into next step in -Agribusiness*

*Agripreneur of the month-*

*Shri Wahengbam Ibotombi Sing of Manipur*

*Institute of the month- Shri Ram Pratishthan Mandal (SPM) Solapur, MahaRashtra*

**“ Agripreneur is a virtual platform to share the experiences of Agripreneurs, Bankers, Agribusiness companies, Nodal training institutes , Extension functionaries, Academicians, Researchers and Agri-business thinkers in the country working for promotion of Agri Entrepreneurship development”.**

**Refresher Training Programmes to elevate Agripreneurs in to next step in Agribusiness**



**Dr.M.J. Chandre Gowda, Additional Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation, Govt. Of India inaugurating the first Refresher Training Programme on 13-12-2010 at MANAGE, Hyderabad. Also seen in the Photo is Dr.P.Chandra Shekara, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE**

Since inception of Agri clinics and Agri Business Centers scheme in the year 2002-2003 till date, MANAGE has trained 23776 candidates. Of which, 8455 have established agriventures across the country. Recent revision in the scheme guidelines and new strategies required in managing ever Challenging Agri Business necessitated capacity building of first generation Agri entrepreneurs. With this broad objective in view, MANAGE has planned to conduct 20 Agripreneur Refresher Training programmes and train about 500 Agripreneurs who have at least 3 years of Agri business experience in the line of their activity. Based on scope, geographic factors and availability of infrastructure facilities 3 centres viz. MANAGE, Hyderabad, MITCON, Pune and IIE, Guwahati were chosen for conducting the trainings .Training schedules were framed for 5 days. First such training programme was started at MANAGE, Hyderabad on 13<sup>th</sup> Dec.2010. Since then, till end of February 2011, 15 programmes have been conducted and 303 established Agripreneurs have been trained.

*Turn to Page 4 For Glimpses*



National Institute of Agriculture Extension Management



Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture.



National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

### Seri-Entrepreneurship in North-Eastern State of Manipur: Extension of Agriclincs boundary

Shri Wahengbam Ibotombi Singh, an exemplary agripreneur from Manipur is a proud product of Agriclincs and AgriBusiness Centers Scheme. Though born and brought up in a poor Sericulturist family, due to his sheer ambition coupled with hard work metamorphosed himself in to a powerful silk business man who, today is in a position to shape, mould and contribute to the wellbeing of sericulture farmers, reelers and weavers of Manipur state. Let us read on in to his success journey from low middle class silk farmer's son to a proud owner of Sericulture potlam with a business turn over of more than Rs.50 lakhs per annum. After completing a post graduation course in sericulture from "Central Sericulture Research and Training Institute" in Mysore along with a post graduate diploma in management from "Indian Institute of Business Management" Patna, Mr. Singh wanted to set up a sericulture farm at Motbung Senapati Dist. in Manipur. But, he knew he lacked the business knowledge. As a happy coincidence during this time i.e. in the beginning of the year 2002 he came to know about Govt. of India's ACABC scheme and MANAGE .MR. Singh Says "This was the turning point. This gave an extra impetus, a spark to generate required energy to venture in to self employment and ultimately it opened a flood gate to successes". He promptly enrolled as trainee with the Institute of Cooperative Management, Imphal (ICM) and successfully completed the 2 months training, in 2003. This training made him aware of the missing business knowledge and he took on to realize his dream of setting a sericulture potlam. ACABC scheme was just shaping up during 2003. So, it was difficult for the then trainees to avail Bank loan. So, Mr. Singh investing his own capital started Sericulture potlam in the year 2003 at Imphal, Manipur. After 3 years, State Bank of India granted him loan of Rs 4.50 lakhs. With this support outreach of the activity has expanded and upscaling of Business was possible.

**Activity:** The Potlam's sericulture activity revolves around rearers, reelers and weavers. The silk worm rearers will bring their cocoons to the Potlam centre - which buys it and sells to the reelers. The reelers in turn sell the thread (raw silk) back to the potlam. Potlam further transacts with the weavers who convert it into final finished products. Potlam extends technical guidance to rearers, reelers, and weavers and ensures quality at every stage. Within a few years of existence, the Potlam has become a centre for consultancy, technology and extension with many self help groups, sericulturists and even Government personnel visiting it for knowledge and advice.

**Coverage and Impact of Sericulture Potlam :** The Sericulture Potlam covers 15 villages in Manipur in which 100 silkworm rearers are directly or indirectly net working each earning on an average Rs. 20,000/- annually as a part time activity. Further, from this networking 60 reelers of raw silk and about 20 weavers are also benefited each earning on an average Rs. 60,000/- per annum.

**Turn over:** Potlam's annual turn over is Rs.45-50 lakhs with an annual profits at Rs. 6.00 lakhs.

**Rural Employment:** Potlam generated direct rural employment to about 250 persons involved in silk worm rearing, reeling and weaving. Indirectly the activities provide employment to more than 300 personnel. Apart from training in traditional silk clothing potlam promotes and encourages self help groups in reeling value added by products such as cocoon garlands, flowers, gift items and badges etc. These products are very popular especially with the tourists. It is a regular feature that almost all the agencies organizing handloom and handicraft exhibition in the state have made it a point to visit Sericulture Potlam. It's also a laurel to the ACABC Scheme that the industry, Dept. Govt. of Manipur had selected Sericulture Potlam managed by Mr. Singh an agripreneur to participate in the India International Trade fair, New Delhi in the year 2008. Mr. Singh has involved his wife Ms. Chabungam Mary Devi who is also a trained agripreneur and also a post graduate Diploma holder in Sericulture. yet an other distinction of Mr. Singh worth mentioning is that his grass root work on Wetland Protection has been appreciated by the world Bank and he also received an award in the Project "India Development Market Place" For more information Mr.W.Ibotomi Singh may be contacted on his mobile-09862020680



**Demonstration of Pruning of Mulberry Plants**

## Shriram Pratishthan Mandal boosts morale of Agri-Entrepreneurs in Maharashtra

Shriram Pratishthan Mandal was established in the year 1997 at Solapur (Maharashtra) by LokMangal Group of Institutes with the core objective of achieving Community Development by extending values and Education to every doorstep in Rural Areas, with the vision "Education Empowers". Since its inception, SPM is working with dedication and zeal in moulding individuals into entrepreneurship with commitment. Along with SPM there are 39 Institutes of Lokmangal group involved in implementing skill development, Training and Educational programmes. Among its various Institutes, the most noteworthy is Shriram Pratishthan Mandal (SPM) which is the Nodal Training institute implementing the Agriclincs Agribusiness Centres Scheme. Other important Institutes of Lokmangal Group are Lokmangal Training Academy, Lokmangal Bank, Multi State Co-operative Society, Lokmangal Farmers Club, Lokmangal Soil & Water analysis unit and Lokmangal Sericulture unit.

Through its colleges affiliated to MPKV, Rahuri and Solapur University, the Institute conducts Degree and Diploma courses in Agriculture, Agriculture Biotechnology, Computer Science and Entrepreneurship.

**Association with ACABC scheme:** Shriram Pratishthan Mandal (SPM) is implementing Agriclincs and Agribusiness Centres Scheme since 2010. From the beginning, the Institute is implementing ACABC scheme with zeal and commitment. Be it for the mobilization of suitable candidates for training, Hand holding and liaisoning with Banks, the institute has initiated systems and methods aiming at qualitative improvement in the scheme implementation. Within about one year period, the Institute has conducted 8 training programmes and has trained 279 agripreneurs.

**Handholding:** Some of the important steps taken by the Institute in handholding are as follows:

- The Institute has approached Higher authorities of Banks such as State Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra, Wainganga Krushna Gramin Bank and requested them to adopt their Institute (SPM) for Financing Proposals submitted under ACABC Scheme, under single window. These Banks have come forward for such tie-up arrangement. Negotiations are on for working out modalities
- The Institute has appointed liaisoning officers to deal with Banks.

"Agri clinics & Agri business programme is a milestone in Agriculture field. Through this programme number of youths have established their businesses in rural areas for Agriculture development", says Anita Dhobale, Nodal officer. For further details, she can be contacted at the following address.



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Shriram Pratishthan Mandal, Wadala,  
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**Valedictory Function of 3<sup>rd</sup> Batch of ACABC Training Programme**

## Glimpses Of Agripreneur's Refresher Training Programmes



Participants in the Motivation Session at the 1<sup>st</sup> Refresher Programme at MANAGE



Participants at Guwahati Programme preparing their Detailed Project Reports



Participants at the Inaugural ceremony of 6<sup>th</sup> Refresher programme at MANAGE



Mr. Ibotombi Singh, Participant at Guwahati Programme Explaining his Sericulture activity for Business

*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, Hand holding activities, Finance options, 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.*

For any query on Agri Clinics and Agri business Centres scheme - please mail to [indianagripreneur@manage.gov.in](mailto:indianagripreneur@manage.gov.in)



**“Better Farming by Every Farmer”**

“Agripreneur” is published by

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