



Better Farming by Every Farmer

e-Bulletin



Agripreneur

A Virtual Experience Sharing Platform

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

Maharashtra Agripreneurs Visit ISRAEL



Maharashtra Agripreneurs in Israel

A Group of 15 Agripreneurs from Maharashtra, along with farmers, visited Israel to participate in the 18th International Agricultural Exhibition & Conference held in Tel Aviv, Israel, during 15th - 17th May, 2012. One of the Agripreneurs, Mr. Shivaji Minde (ID.No. MS5138) Mob.- 09422522691, who has been serving the farming community as an Agricultural consultant, visited the exhibition and expressed that the visit has given a good exposure to the advanced agriculture technologies available in Israel. He has taken steps to promote the following technologies among farmers:

- Dairy: Open cow barn structure, computerization of feeding system, regular health check up of cattle and continuous breed improvement program.
- Poultry: Automation.
- Mango: mechanization of cultural practices.

Mr. Ashok Shivle, (ID No. MS3399) Mob-09970814990, expressed that the visit was tremendously helpful and noticed that Farmers in Israel were very hard working and were well disciplined in carrying out farm operations at the right time, which helps to reduce wastage of resources. Farming in Israel is mechanized & computerized which increases efficiency. After the Agri-tech visit, he promoted upgraded-technology in Banana cultivation among farmers. This resulted in uniform and increased yield of Banana bunch from 25 kg to 40 kg.

All Agripreneurs expressed that government should promote more such study tours abroad. In the month of March 2013, the State Government of Maharashtra is inviting applications for an Agri Tour to Europe, where 50% of the expenditure will be sponsored by the State Government and rest is to be met by the participants - they stated.



National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management



Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture.



National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

Mr. Thimmna Hegde – Bridging the gap between LAB and LAND

Mr. Thimmna Hegde hails from an agricultural family and did his B.Sc. (Agriculture) in the year 1991 at UAS, Bangalore. He identified many problems responsible for low income levels in Agriculture such as non-availability of farm workers, inputs and technology in time. He tried to address these issues in his profession.

Mr. Hegde has undergone AC&ABC training at Terra Firma Bio Technologies Ltd., where he got good exposure to Agriventures, hands on experience and preparation of bankable project reports. Soon after his training, he started a venture on integrated farming and consultancy services in the year 2009. He adopted inter-cropping of Arecanut, Coconut, Vegetables, Paddy and a Vermi-compost unit by utilizing the agricultural waste in his own land of 5 acres and developed it as a demonstration plot with mechanization, where labour usage is minimum.

Services Offered by Mr. Thimmna Hegde:

- provides agricultural implements such as Paddy Transplanter, power weeder and advanced sprayers on hire.
- Provides high-value quality vegetable seedlings raised in his nursery.
- Supplies quality tissue culture banana plants and delivers need-based extension services on production and market linkages.
- Provides consultancy on organic farming and integrated farming.
- Conducts trainings on production aspects to increase the yield and Post production aspects to minimize the post harvest losses, by which economic status of farmers can be improved.
- Conducts trainings on the potential of Agriculture for Youth to motivate them and to take up Agriculture.

Coverage and employment generation:

- Though he was serving very limited number of farmers initially, now with his hard work and rapport with the farming community, the number has reached to 350 farmers, covering approximately 25-30 villages.
- Employment opportunities have been created for 10 persons, who are independently extending services to farmers under his guidance.
- His loan was sanctioned by Syndicate Bank with subsidy from NABARD.
- His annual turnover is Rs. 30 lakhs.

Achievements:

- He was honored with Taluka best farmer award in the year 2010 by SAMETI, Karnataka.
- Honored with Progressive farmer award in the year 2011 by university of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bengaluru.
- Honored with Dr. Dwarakinath Award from the university of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru in the year 2012 for extension work .

Mr. Thimmna Hegde can be contacted at

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Mr. Thimmna Hegde, providing paddy transplantation services to farmers



Indian Society of Agribusiness Professionals

A major partner of MANAGE in its endeavor to train and establish AC&ABC units in ten predominantly hilly and tribal States

Indian Society of Agribusiness Professionals (ISAP) is a Non-Governmental Non-Profit Organization incorporated in 2001 under Section – 25 of the Indian Companies Act. Mr. Sunil Khairnar is the Founder & Chairman of ISAP, assisted by a dedicated network of agriculture and allied section professionals with proven experience. ISAP operates from its head quarters in New Delhi.

The vision of ISAP is to instill economic security and stability among farming community, particularly small & marginal farmers, through holistic development of agriculture and rural sector.

Mission and Objectives of ISAP are to achieve:

- Sustainability of extension services and expert advice through capacity building exercises effectively bridging the rural – urban divide.
- To provide training, course content, know-how and managerial inputs for setting up and management of Agri Business, Agri Clinics, rural service centers, providing content aggregation and dissemination services.

To achieve these objectives, ISAP is involved in the following activities:

- **Agricultural Extension Services:** ATMA under PPP mode, Farm Schools, Kisan Didi and Kisan Mitra, Sustainable Yield Initiative, Soil Health Improvement Programs, Pulses Intensification Program, Frontline Demonstrations etc.
- **Training and Certification:** Training of Trainers; Agri-Entrepreneur Development (EDP), Vocational Skills, Training, Certification of Extension Workers – India CCA program.
- **ICT-based Interventions:** Query Redress Service, Kisan Call Centre, Community Radio Station – Qualcomm-Wireless Reach.
- **Market Linkages:** Buyer Seller meet for Fruits, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants.

Association with AC&ABC Programme.

Indian Society of Agribusiness Professionals has partnered with MANAGE from 2007 onwards in setting up of Nodal Training Institutes in ten predominantly Hilly and tribal states for training and providing handholding support to Agripreneurs. ISAP is involved in implementation of AC&ABC in Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Chattisgarh. A total of 2625 candidates were trained and 781 Agriventures were established from all the centers of ISAP. Out of all Jharkhand centers, 286 candidates were trained and 120 Agriventures were established with a success rate of 41.9%. The endeavors of Nodal officer, Mr.Omprakash, for providing handholding support deserve to be complemented.

The network of ISAP NTIs are monitored by Mr. Shaibal Chatterjee, Senior Project Manager from ISAP Head quarters at New Delhi and the day-to-day operations of the individual NTIs are managed by the respective nodal officers.



Shaibal Chatterjee
Sr. Project Manager

The contribution of NTIs established by ISAP for furthering the cause of training, assisting in preparation of DPRs for Bank finance and handholding support to Agripreneurs in the hilly, tribal and North Eastern parts of the country is appreciated by one and all.

ISAP can be contacted at :

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Training programme on ICT Tools for Nodal Officers under AC&ABC Scheme:

A training programme on ICT tools was organized for Nodal Officers under AC&ABC scheme during October 18-19, 2012 at Directorate of Extension (DoE), Krishi Vistar Bhavan, Pusa, New Delhi. A total of 18 nodal officers and AC&ABC course co-coordinators from Lucknow, Varanasi, Noida, Moradabad, New Delhi, Uttarakhand and Amritsar attended the programme. Dr. V.P. Sharma, Director (ITD & P), MANAGE, Hyderabad, and Dr. R. K. Tripathi, Director, Extension, DoE, Pusa, New Delhi were the course Directors. The objectives of the programme were to orient the officials on the role and importance of ICT tools in AC&ABC Scheme and to improve the ICT technical input in AC&ABC Training and Monitoring. Trainees were oriented to knowledge portals in Agriculture, basic internet skills, skype installation & usage and the use of social media. Two sessions were organized with totally hands on practice to ensure that the objectives of the training programme were achieved.



Participants of Training Programme on ICT Tools for Nodal Officers under AC&ABC scheme at DOE , Krishi Vistar Bhavan, Pusa, New Delhi

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 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.

For any query on Agri Clinics and Agri business Centres scheme - please mail to indianagripreneur@manage.gov.in



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