



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 Agri-business thinkers in the country working for the promotion of Agri Entrepreneurship development"***

## Refresher Training Programme for "Established Agripreneurs on Business Expansion Capabilities under "Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (AC&ABC)" Scheme at University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru



**Sri B. Srinivas, IAS, Director General, MANAGE addressing the participants**

A Refresher Training Programme for Established Agripreneurs on "Business Expansion Capabilities" under AC&ABC Scheme was held at the Directorate of Extension, University of Agricultural Sciences, Hebbal, Bengaluru, Karnataka, during 4th - 6th July, 2012. The programme provided a platform for participants to share their experiences resulting in business networking among the Agripreneurs. There were 20 participants from Karnataka and 4 participants from Tamil Nadu. The programme was provided back-up support by expert bankers, Mr. H.S. Subramanya and Mr. D. Jagadeesh, Retd. Managers, Canara Bank, who helped Agripreneurs to prepare their up-scaled/new business plans.

Sri B. Srinivas, IAS, Director General, MANAGE, during his Valedictory Address, stressed on the revised guidelines of AC&ABC Scheme 2010. The expectation of the programme is to prepare the agricultural graduates as resourceful extension functionaries whose services could be utilized effectively by the farmers ultimately leading to agricultural development in the country. Every Agripreneur should not only strive for themselves but also generate employment for others as well. Various problems are faced by the farmers, which could be the basis to develop their future action plan. The services rendered to the farmers are noble and equal to the services rendered to the nation. He appreciated the Agripreneurs, who are involved in different activities and wished them all success.



National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management



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



National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

## Dr. Nilbahar Begum - A Veterinary Doctor in service of Assam Farmers

Self employment by women Agripreneurs is a challenging task particularly in a state like Assam. Dr. (Mrs.) Nilbahar Begum was born and brought up in Nalbari, Assam. She graduated in Veterinary Science from the College of Veterinary Sciences under Assam Agricultural University and married Dr. Zakir Hussain who is also a veterinarian. With an aim to create employment, she, along with her husband, decided to start their own venture instead of looking for a job. Dr. Nilbahar underwent AC&ABC Training at ISAP Guwahati . They started “VETCARE” a veterinary clinic at Bongaigaon, extending indoor and outdoor services to animals, pets and birds. They later started a Dairy Farm at Bongaigaon initially with only five cows. She is solely looking after the farm in all aspects, be it technical, production, marketing or finance.

Her dedication and determination resulted in expansion of the Dairy Farm in a big way leading to increase of the farm capacity to 100 cattle, out of which 60 are milch cattle and 40 are heifers. The farm produces about 500 liters of milk daily and 15 employees are working regularly. The milk is being sold at the farm and also through a few outlets at Bongaigaon town; they also process milk to produce curd and paneer as value added products, which improves their income levels. The dairy farm is well managed and has now become a model farm for dairy farmers and youth who opt for dairy farming. She could create employment for 25 people till now which is expected to increase in the near future. More than 200 farmers are covered and the total turnover has reached Rs.25 lakhs.

In her words ...“It is a very delightful opportunity for me to share my feelings with everybody; I especially want to salute all the women entrepreneurs who suffer a lot to run a business successfully. To be successful, we should be determined and put in tremendous effort to maintain equilibrium between our family and business. Of course we need the helping hand of our family members and all the people around us.....”



*Dr. Nilbahar Begum in her clinic*



*Dr. Nilbahar Begum, in her Dairy unit*

She is the inspiring force among women, who opt for self employment ventures.

**Dr. Nilbahar Begum can be contacted at:**

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## Participatory Rural Development Initiatives Society (PRDIS) - *Creating Sustainability of Empowerment*

Participatory Rural Development Initiatives Society (PRDIS) is a NGO promoted by a group of professionals with the objectives of holistic and sustainable development. Participation, partnership, empowerment and innovation are the guiding principles of PRDIS for eradicating poverty and to create a civic society.

### Major activities:

- PRDIS has been recognized as National monitor of the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.
- Taken up Evaluation studies such as Horticulture plantation under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in Andhra Pradesh sponsored by the Ministry of Rural Development, and an Impact study on vermi compost project sponsored by the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) in some districts of Andhra Pradesh.
- Organized Farmer Field Schools on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) on cotton in Boothpur Mandal, Mahabubnagar District sponsored by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).
- Organized agriculture productivity enhancement programme for various field crops and vegetables at 4 Mandals of Mahabubnagar District, sponsored by M/s Syngenta Foundation India.
- Undertaken pilot productivity enhancement programme in agriculture sector in Boothpur Mandal of Mahabubnagar District in a partnership initiative.
- Adopted Boothpur Mandal of Mahabubnagar District to develop it as a model Mandal, and organized health camps, innovative agricultural demonstrations and awareness camps under village level participatory approach.
- Established Linkages with National and International institutions such as National Institute of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (NIMSE), National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), MANAGE, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), FAO, National Plant Protection Training Institute (NPPTI) and Bio-Technology Unit, World Bank for undertaking consultancy in capacity building and studies.

### Association with AC&ABC scheme:

The institute has been conducting the two-month training programmes under AC&ABC Scheme since its inception in 2002. The Institute has conducted 18 training programmes and trained 538 candidates, out of which 227 Agripreneurs have established Agriventures with a success percentage of 42.19. Bank loans were sanctioned for 39 projects initiated by Agripreneurs.

### Awards:



- Received a memento from Honourable President of India on Independence day in 2006 at Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi, for outstanding work on Sustainable Agriculture.
- Received an award from Andhra Pradesh Bio-diversity Board for creating public awareness on biodiversity and environment.

*PRDIS can be contacted at*

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Nodal officer

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## Workshop on “Agri Entrepreneurship Development” for Nodal officers at Amritsar, Punjab

A workshop on “Agri Entrepreneurship Development” was organized by MANAGE for Nodal Officers under AC&ABC Scheme, on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2012, at Amritsar, Punjab, with an objective to review, introspect and expand the scheme further. The participants included Dr. Prashant Armorikar, Joint Director (Agricultural Extension), Mrs. Renu Chauhan, Agriculture Extension Officer from Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, and 12 Nodal Officers representing Nodal Training Institutes (NTIs) from the States of Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur and Chattisgarh.

Dr. P. Chandra Shekara, Director (Agricultural Extension) emphasized that NTIs should aim for innovative models instead of routine activity. He further assured that MANAGE was following up with each NTI and officials concerned for resolving specific issues.



*Participants of workshop on `Agri Entrepreneurship Development` for Nodal Officers at Amritsar*

*www.agriclinics.net is the portal providing information about AC&ABC 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 Agripreneurs, 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)



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