

## **Success story of Mr. Mangal Oraon: Innovative Vegetable Grower, Ranchi, Jharkhand**

**Theme : Cultivation of vegetable with modern technology : change in life**

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Sri Mangal Oraon is a small farmer who lives in Murum village of Hochar Panchayat, Kanke Block. The village is 13 km away from district HQ Ranchi. His qualification is Matric. He started farming with his father Late Charka Oraon with an old traditional method. He belongs to very poor family and going to town almost every day for earning money. He produces only paddy in rainy season and rest of the time he worked as a labour in the near by town. He cultivate paddy in traditional method and he does not know about the modern practices, high yielding varieties and practices for crop productions. He was also ignorant of the techniques for improving the quality of seeds and using the appropriate fertilizers. He has also lacked the knowledge of post harvest and processing technologies. All these had a collective and adverse effect on the income cereal *vis-a-vis* vegetable cultivation.

During 2012-13, he started cultivation with a small part of his land with the help of ATMA, Ranchi by taking the benefit of Demonstration and engaging full time in agriculture. After that, he developed interest in agriculture and continue to consult with BTM, Kanke and gain knowledge in agriculture. After few days he found that agriculture is more profitable business than working as a labour in the town. Now he is a full time farmer and gains profit from agriculture. He visited several institutes such as BAU, Kanke, Ranchi, HARP, Plandu, Ranchi, field of progressive farmers, etc. and acquired and learnt about diverse knowledge and technology from these institutes. His interest in agriculture increases day by day. He is now aware of new hybrid and research about variety of vegetables. He applies all these things in his agriculture field and gets a profitable business. Though a small farmers in terms of land ownership, his products are sold in Jharkhand, Bengal, etc. The Reliance industries also purchases his product.

During 2018-19, he contacted with Mr. Pradip Kr Sarkar, CFA trainee (Vegetables) and learn more about the vegetables cultivation. The CFA trainee told him about the profitable

vegetable cultivation and also briefed him about drip irrigation with mulching system. The CFA also gave him some literature regarding drip irrigation and also showed videos of drip irrigation.

Mr. Oraon said a few years ago he had mere one and half acre of land for earning livelihood. He informed that with traditional farming techniques he faced difficulties in meeting the needs of his family. His achievement is praiseworthy since it shows that income could be increased through scientific techniques. Mr. Oraon is always ready to learn and is honest with his work. Mr. Oraon (42 years) has been farming on one and a half acre of land in addition to 2 acres which he has taken on lease.

Mr. Oraon is progressive vegetable farmer and appreciates innovations and new technologies. He installed drip irrigation in his one and half acre land. He has very limited water for irrigation purpose so the suggestion of drip irrigation turned out a boon for him. He now produces vegetables throughout the year, even in summer season. He produces high quality tomatoes, brinjal, chillies, cauliflower, cabbage, beans, etc. with drip irrigation system. CFA trainee helped him with different aspects of farming.

In addition to drip irrigation, this was the first time he used plastic for mulching in beans crop as well as in water melons, tomatoes, etc. as suggested by CFA trainee. As per the suggestion he also cultivated climbers i.e. bottle guards, pumpkins and bitter gourd vegetables in his bunded land. Now he is going to cultivate cash crop along with paddy and pigeon pea. Now he earns money everyday and even in rabi or/ and summer season. The CFA trainee regularly monitored his field along with other farmers, and his products were found to be of good quality and quantity.

On the advice of CFA trainee, he grew various crops including tomatoes, brinjal, etc on that land. The modern techniques helped him to save water, fertilizers, and labour which helped in increasing profit. Mr. Oraon said, "I earn huge profit by growing tomatoes and French beans by using the drip irrigation and modern techniques". He has two vermi compost units. He added sufficient Farm yard manure in his cultivable land. He also uses dolomite in his field as the soil is acidic in nature. His production is increasing day by day. Now he has also applied IPM & INM in his field.

Mr. Oraon, as a small time farmer used to bring his vegetables for sale at local market. Once he started growing vegetables in large scale along with other farmers, the vegetable vendors

came to know about the quality of the vegetable grown in the field and quantity of products of his areas. So, the vendors now come to his place and purchase the produce.

Mr. Oraon was always looking for better means of income from farming. His fortune took a change for better after implementing suggestions of CFA which caused an increase in production from his farm land. Now he motivates other people in the village and has formed a farmer group with the help of CFA trainee. He is a very active farmer and is always ready to apply new technologies in his field. Mr. Mangal Oraon has set an example for others on how multiple cropping and scientific farming could lead to quadrupling of income. The key to his success seems to be his eagerness to learn and understand quickly, his hard work & positive attitude.







