



JALVAIBHAV

Water is the elixir of life. One cannot imagine life without water – whether in humans, plants, animals or the tiniest of organisms. And yet, there are thousands of villages in India which face the wrath of Mother Nature in the form of droughts and famine. When faced with dire situations like these, and debts lingering on their heads, poor farmers have known to be led to suicides. There could be nothing worse than this.

LTFS's vision is not just to bring water to these villages, but to create awareness on responsible and efficient water usage amongst the farmers and ensure sustainable water supply. Hence, the programme includes training and demonstrations on building water bodies, their maintenance and repair, and also climate-resilient agriculture, soil enrichment and water-efficient farming techniques.

After all, if there is water, there will be life!



जलवैभव प्रकल्प



JALVAIBHAV

7 Districts of
Maharashtra
Aurangabad, Beed,
Buldhana, Jalna,
Latur, Solapur
and Osmanabad




28,000+
Community
Beneficiaries



60,000+
Farmers



122
Villages



I EXPERIENCED
THE MIRACULOUS
TURN OF EVENTS
ON MY PLOT WITHOUT
USAGE OF CHEMICAL
FERTILIZERS

I AM CHANDRAKANT

NO MORE CHEMICALS ON THIS FARM

I am a farmer and I own four acres of agricultural land. I usually grow cotton and green gram in the kharif season and used to spend most of my finances on fertilisers. Yet I was not getting the required results and crops. There was a lot of discussion in the village about the Jalvaibhav Project by LTFS and awareness camps were being held. When I saw the fantastic results on the demo plot, I was intrigued, and approached the project team as a participant at the farmers' field school demo in the kharif season of 2019.

As per the suggestions from my mentor at the camp, I cultivated intercropping like cotton and green gram (moong) crop (1:1) in one acre. I adopted the new methods of cropping pattern, sowing, fertiliser applications, spraying of insecticide and cyclic plantation of trap crops like black gram, chilli, marigold, tur etc. After harvesting the green gram crop, I used the residual as mulching for the cotton crop, and it helped to retain moisture in the longer dry spells and reduced weed growth. I learned various such techniques that could be practised organically and without much hassle. I even learnt how to make organic pesticides and fungicides like Jivamrut, Nimboli ark, Dashpharni ark, etc, which not only kept the pests away, but also aided in faster and richer crop growth.

I experienced the miraculous turn of events on my plot without usage of chemical fertilisers. I was educated about the quality of my soil through the soil health card provided to me in the programme. This helps me to plan and accordingly improve soil health by using Jivamrut and green compost.

I have been selected as a demo farmer and the programme regularly enriches me with information for better farming techniques.

I AM ENRICHED!



I AM PRADIP



SOW THE GOOD RETURNS

In the interiors of Maharashtra is a small village called Bodhegain in Beed district. We experience hot and dry climate throughout the year, with summers lasting for as long as five months. Rainfall is scarce, and the three months from mid-June to mid-September are the only months of relief.

I own two acres of land, where I put in a lot of effort to cultivate, expecting good returns. But I always had to face disappointment. I was helpless as I was in severe loss and debts. I was not able to provide enough for my family. My kids were upset with me as I couldn't fulfil their small demands. It broke my heart to deny them the basic necessities and joys of life.

In 2018, I heard about the dam desilting activity that was to be undertaken in our village under the Jalvaibhav project. When I visited the site to know more about the initiative, I decided to gain as much knowledge as possible and make the most of it. I realised silt improves the soil condition and increases air circulation in the soil. The silted soil is also rich in various nutrients. I decided to cart the fertile silt from the desilting site to my farm. I silted my whole farm and started cultivating tomatoes and cauliflower. Within four months I could see the results! I earned more than Rs 2 lakhs in a short time span.

I started slowly recovering my losses, and proceeded to cultivate different crops. I have some experience in horticulture, therefore, I decided to use this experience on my farm. I am sure these techniques will help in earning additional income and change my lifestyle. Now my children are happy and content.

I AM A HAPPY FATHER!



I AM JAYRAJ

I WAS
ABLE TO GROW
COTTON CROP
IN ABUNDANCE
WHICH BROUGHT
GOOD
PROFITS

DESILTING THE WATER WOES

I am a farmer from Aurangabad with 2 acres of land. Typically, the soil in my village is medium to deep black and contains large quantities of calcium and magnesium. The soil is quite fertile and particularly suitable for cultivation of wheat, jowar, cotton, tobacco, chillies and dry land fruits. However, it is deficient in nitrogen and phosphorus and cracks heavily in summer.

One half of my land had become infertile due to lack of nutrition and continuous cultivations. I tried to infuse fertilisers in the soil to get a good crop, but my efforts were futile. Too much clay can make soil too stiff for plants to thrive.

Under the Jalvaibhav initiative, many water structures like Continuous Contour Trenches (CCT's), Gabions and Loose Boulder Structures (LBS) were built near the upper ridge of my village. An earthen nala bund built by the government many years ago was filled with silt and could not hold much water in it. Under this initiative, the nala bund was desilted to increase the life of the water body. The desilting activity increased the holding capacity of the bund which has reduced water shortage issues in the village.

This silt could be used to improve the soil condition and air circulation in my land, as silt is very rich in nutrients and beneficial for crop growth.

I was able to grow cotton crops in abundance which brought good profits. Cotton is a cash crop and can be cultivated both under irrigated and rain-fed conditions.

I AM A LEARNER MAKING PROFITS!



I HAVE
CREATED A
DEMONSTRATION
LAB FOR MY
FELLOW FARMER
FRIENDS

I AM NARAYAN

KRUSHIDOOT: A HARBINGER OF GOOD CROPS

I am a farmer from the drought-prone Latur district in Maharashtra. My family is dependent on our little plot of agricultural land for our livelihood. Climate changes and uncertainty of the rainfall had affected the crops production in the past few years. Agriculture had become a costly affair with the use of costly fertilisers, pesticides and commercial seeds. These commercial seeds have poor resistance against disease and require ample amount of water and fertilisers.

I underwent training as a Krushidoot under the Jalvaibhav Project, and learnt about climate-resilient agricultural practices and watershed development. The objective of this programme is to enhance the resilience of Indian agriculture covering crops, livestock and fisheries to climatic variability. This is done through application of improved production and risk-management practices; demonstrating site-specific practices on farmers' fields for adapting to current climate risks. It helps us in selection of promising crop genotypes with greater tolerance to climatic stress.

The programme also deals with distribution and optimal use of water for irrigation, as well as mechanisms to manage with limited water, especially where drought is a regular phenomenon.

We were imparted information about maintaining soil health, pest management and I applied this knowledge while cultivating the gram crop during the Kharif season.

I have created a demonstration lab for my fellow farmer friends to understand the preparation of organic plant growth tonic Jivamrut, organic pest repellent Daspharni ark, organic fungicide Nimboli ark, organic green manure preparation such as waste decomposer, vermiwash etc. Now, they too understand how to enhance production with climate-resilient agricultural practices.

I AM A DEMONSTRATOR!



I AM MAHALING



JALVAIBHAV SHOWS DIRECTION

Till 2016, I was doing odd jobs at various places in Goa and Karnataka. I did not have a goal or stability in life.

I was introduced to Jalvaibhav where I was encouraged to undergo training as a Krishidoot, and my life changed thereafter. The programme involves creating demonstration farms for organic farming, rain water harvesting, water conservation, and many other topics such as usage of organic pesticides, fungicides, growth tonics etc. Being close to the soil gives me immense satisfaction of being responsible to preserve the goodness of the earth, and I have given myself to this cause whole-heartedly.

I saw a huge growth in myself personally and professionally. I am more confident and envision myself contributing to the community throughout my life.

Through the programme, I have created awareness amongst the villagers about sustainability, enhancement of soil fertility and biological diversity, preserving the ecology while maximising the crop returns through rotational agriculture.

I've gained respect in the community, and I have found a new purpose in life - that of helping others in my village Ambejogai and in Mandhwa. I have finally found my calling!

I AM GOAL ORIENTED!

