

Farmer Producer Organization {FPO} is Playing Key Role in the life of Tribal Farmers of Chhuriya

Since 2011-12, *Integrated Tribal Development Programme (Wadi Project)* is being implemented in tribal dominated Khoba cluster of Chhuriya block of Rajnandgaon district by the Nageshwara



Mobilization Meeting in Progress

Charitable Trust (NCT) with financial support from National Bank For Agriculture And Rural Development (NABARD). The major objective is to enhance socio-economic status of the tribal farmers/community and bring them in the mainstream of the development. The program was gaining the huge success in the tribal cluster Khoba of Chhuriya block. During the time, it was continuously

discussing that, there should arrangement by which farmers could sell their farm production and could obtain the agriculture inputs. In 2015-16, NABARD extended their hand to NCT for formation and promotion of Farmer Producer Organization in Khoba Cluster of Chhuriya block. The farmer's expectation and need were getting shape due to this support of NABARD.

Since September 2015, NCT started the discussion with farmers of 18 villages of khoba cluster. The baseline study was also done on existing condition of input cost, production & marketing. The farmers were oriented on the concept of FPO and how farmers can avail the benefit from it. Rigorous discussions were taken place in all the 18 villages. Lead farmers were identified and provided them exposure to successful running FPOs at different location. Then 10 directors were identified democratically by the farmers of



AGM of FPO in Progress

18 villages and get them register in ROC. On 17/05/2016 the group of farmers with 10 directors received the registration with name of ***"AadiwasiDharohar Farmers Producer Company Limited"***

under the Companies Act-2013. The registration no. of FPO is U01100CT2016PTC007281. The objective of the farmer's producer company is to provide timely agri-input on reasonable rate and to provide better market price to the farm produce of member farmers. Presently there are 434 member farmers with the share capital of Rs. 5.14 lakh. This FPO is purely of small of marginalized farmers.

1) Business of Combined Harvester (Custom Hiring):-Since inception, AadiwaiDharohar Farmers Producer Company Limited (ADFPCL) is making an effort to provide the benefit to the member farmers. Immediate after the registration in 2016, the director has decided to purchase Paddy Combined Harvester as it was requirement of farmers. This business was of big merchants/people and farmers were paying big amount to them for harvesting their paddy crops. The directors had contacted with different finance institution like Cholamandalam, Muthoot Finance, Mahindra Finance, different Banks,



and other institution but nobody was ready to provide the loan as this was the new companies and was not able to provide collateral. Then directors themselves arranged Rs. 12 lakh and invested in FPO as a director's loan. They had 2 lakh share capital that time. They had given 14 lakh to Harvester Company and purchased the combined harvester worth Rs. 17 lakh. Remaining 3 lakh they paid from the business/rent of harvester. FPO is providing harvester on rent to member farmers Rs.1800/-@per acer which are the 200 rupees less than market rate. Till the harvesting season of winter, ADFPCL have done business of around Rs. 7 Lakh from Combined Harvester.

2) Business of Agri-Inputs: - ADFPCL have received the all legal licenses from the Agriculture department of Chhattisgarh and working towards to provide quality & timely agri-input to the member farmers at reasonable rate. ADFPCL have collected all necessary document and agriculture related information of the member farmers at the time of memberships. ADFPCL have developed integrated membership form for the members. On the basis of available data and discussion with member farmers, the demands of seeds are generated /gathered from the member farmers. In the

meeting of directors, it was decided to take some advance booking amount from the farmers along



with their order of seeds or any other inputs. This message was communicated to the all member farmers and members also welcome of that. This practice is being implemented since last two years. Till now ADFPCL have done the business of seed supply of around Rs. 9 lakh with more than 500 farmers. The farmers have saved Rs. 120 behind 1 bag of paddy seed. FPO has earned profit of Rs. around 35,000/- from this business till now.

3) Aggregation and Trading of Paddy Crops: - Since last year-2017, ADFPCL have started the aggregation and trading of paddy crop of member farmers. Farmer were selling the crop the middle man in very minimum rate even loss in measuring of weight. This matter was discussed in the meeting of directors. Then the ADFPCL received the Mandi License from APMC-Dongargaon and started the aggregation and trading activity of paddy. FPO also established marketing linkages with some buyers like Rice Miller, NCDEX, Mandi, etc. so that the market could easily available to the farm produce. The FPO has paid the higher rate of paddy to the farmer (more Rs. 150 rupees @ per quintal than the rate of broker). This has built the more confidence towards the FPO. This year FPO has done business of 5.50 lakh and earned profit Rs. 13,500/-.



4) Value Addition Activities:-ADFPCL have helped member farmers in packaging & marketing of wadi produce. Since last two year ADFPCL are purchasing Mango from wadi beneficiaries/member then did grading, packaging and marketing with the name of "**ChhuriyaKesarAam**". ADFPCL have provided good price to wadi produce and marketed it in Raipur & Nagpur. ADFPCL have done

marketing of mango of around Rs. 1 lakh and earn small but valuable benefit Rs.10,000/-. ADFPCL



also processed the rice and marketed with the name of **“Jai Shree Ram Rice.”** ADFPCL havenot earned profit in this but have helped to the member farmers.

At the end, AadiwasiDharohar Farmers Producer Company Limited (ADFPCL), is the institution of small & marginalized tribal farmers and moving towards providing benefit to the farmers of Chhuriya block of

Rajnandgaon district in Chhattisgarh. To extend the business scale, ADFPCL is in process to established credit linkages with bank & NABKISAN.....discussion have already started.

FPO Managing Wadi & Watershed initiatives:- ADFPCL is an institution of tribal farmers/wadi beneficiaries of TDF-Chhuriya-I project who have successfully taken over the wadi project and making efforts to provide the benefit to these farmers even after completion of TDF-Chhuriya-I project. The momentum of wadi project has kept alive by the directors of ADFPCL who were actively involved in the wadi programme and was part of PPC & VPCs.....now they are the director and leaders of ADFPCL. These directors have identified key lead farmers/member who has joined hand with the directors making efforts to bring maximum wadi beneficiary under the umbrella of ADFPCL and provide benefit to them. On the other hand, NCT with active support of Village Watershed Committee (VWC) is implementing two watershed projects in this cluster of ADFPCL. The members of FPO are also involved in watershed development work. They are actively participating in different project activities and representing their VWC at various platforms.



Wadi in TDF Chhuriya-I project



Watershed work in Khoba Cluster