

Farm pond plus success story:Assistant Director Soil Conservation, Bhadrak

Description:

In the year 2019-2020, the COVID- 19 pandemic had created greatest challenge before the youth to get employment. But there were some hardworking and determined persons who have successfully implemented the concept of Integrated Farming System (IFS) in the field to be self-sufficient and also have created an impact on local youths. Mr. Khetrabasi Nayak, Village-Kuanranda, GP- Adia, Block-Bonth is one of such persons. It was not so easy for him initially, but his visionary mindset and financial assistance from the government helped him to earn a new identity today. In the financial year 2019-2020, he has applied under soil conservation department to dig a farm pond of size (20*20*3) m in his field under MGNREGS as his field was barren and was not generating any income before. After completion of the project, he has emerged as a successful farmer by practicing IFS in the same piece of land with an area of 0.4 acre, which has helped him to raise the standard of living.

Activities on the Farm Pond:

- Mr. Khetrabasi Nayak has planted Papaya on the bund as a part of bund cultivation.
- He has cultivated different vegetables such as brinjal, pointed gourd, tomato, ladies finger, and chilly etc. adjacent to the pond to facilitate irrigation to the plants.
- He is also involved in pisciculture activities by raising around 110 kg of fingerlings in three phases in the pond.

Change in the income due to IFS:

Before the implementation of farm pond project, the same land was completely unused. So, he was not getting any profit from the field. After digging the pond, he has raised 110 kg of fingerlings in three phases. As per the information received from him, he has already sold 7 quintals of fish. By doing cultivation on the bund as well as on the adjacent field, he is fulfilling the vegetable need of his family as well as got a profit of Rs. 40000/- by selling in the nearby market in the last year.

Analysis:**1) Before farm pond**

Total Profit= Rs.0/- per year

2) After farm pond**a) Pisciculture**

Cost of fingerlings = Rs.27500/- (For 110kg @Rs.250/kg)

Cost of feed = Rs.6000/-

Selling price fish= Rs.140000/- (For 7q @Rs.200/kg)

Profit = $140000 - 27500 - 6000 = \text{Rs.}106500/-$

2.b) Vegetable cultivation

Profit = Rs.40000/- (After meeting his family need)

Total profit= $106500 + 40000 = \text{Rs.}146500/-$ per year

So, Net capital gain after excavating the pond is Rs.146500/- per year.

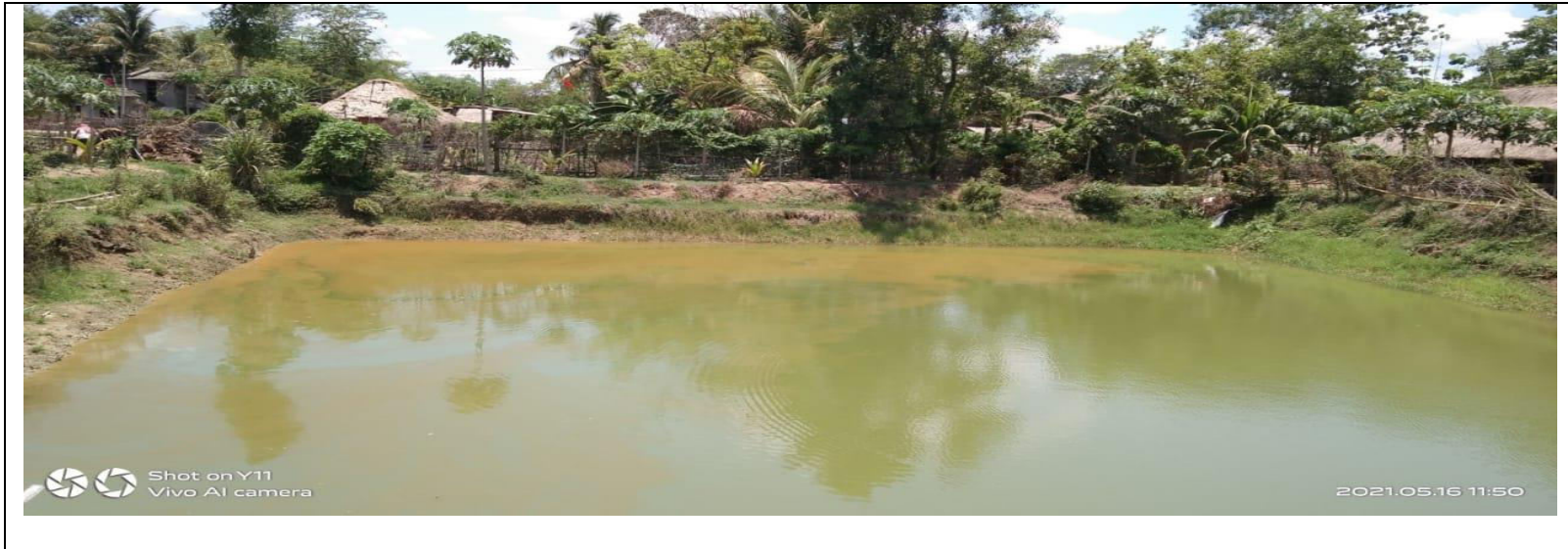
Note:

The farm pond can also supply lifesaving irrigation to the crops in nearby fields during water scarcity condition.

Achievement:

He has set an example for other people of the state that farming with proper knowledge and technique can also be a good earning option as well as can make an individual to live with dignity in the society. Also, it can reduce the migration of labours to other areas for their livelihood. The adoption of IFS has ensured maximum economic utilization of land. After his success, some of his native villagers have also developed interest and excavated farm ponds under MGNREGS scheme.





Photographs of the Farm Pond