

## **Moving from Arrack to Agriculture**

### **Story of Baiganti Hasda**

Landlessness and dependence on manual casual labour for a livelihood are key deprivations facing rural families. In a small village Belkupi in Jama Block of Jharkhand District lives Baiganti Hasda. She got married at the age of 13. She used to stay in a joint family, where the needs of the family were met somehow. But after they got separated, her family had to face a real hard time. They did not get their share of land as a result to which there was no steady source of income left. With very limited options for livelihood, she got engaged in to illegal brewing of liquor. After some time, Baiganti could not take it anymore; she decided to fight for her land rights. Baiganti won the case in court and got her share of land, though, it was only 1 acre. She decided to stop brewing of liquor, instead wanted to do farming for a livelihood. She had no clue what to do with just 1 acre of land.



**Baiganti on her farm**

In 2015, she became a member of the self help group named 'Gandhi Swayam Sahayata Samuh' formed by ASA. She underwent a technical training on techniques of cultivation (POP) provided by the professionals of ASA. With the help of new techniques she grew chillies, rice, and maize in Kharif season and earned Rs. 55,000. In the season of Rabi, she grew tomatoes, brinjals and cauliflower which fetched her income of Rs. 21,000. In summers, she grew ladyfinger, pumpkin and bitter guard, income from which amounted to Rs. 7000.

She is happy she no longer has to do shameful work of brewing liquor and is engaged in cultivation on her land.