

Story of positive change

Dug wells are an efficient means of drawing off sub-surface water that can be used for irrigation purposes. The dugwell irrigation facility creates more employment opportunity in rural areas due to the adoption of improved agricultural practices and also due to multiple cropping. As a matter of fact, the per acre cost on incurred labour is much more than in the pre dug well stage, but since most of this labour is family labour, it can be safely concluded, that providing sustainable irrigation facility can reduce the problem of underemployment in rural areas.

Keshavsarram Rajvada, a farmer of Ganeshpur village, supports 11 members in his family with the landholding of 4 acres. Under SWCF, a dug well was constructed with the



support of ASA. Three farmer beneficiaries from Ganeshpur village came together and contributed in the construction of the well through labour and cash contribution of Rs. 10,000.

Before the well, Keshavram used to produce only one crop in Kharif season. The irrigation was totally dependent on rain. He used to earn around Rs. 25,000 in a year from paddy in Kharif season. After construction of the well, he is now able to grow three crops in the year, in Kharif, Rabi and summer season. His income has increased from 25,000 per



year to 80,000 from growing Paddy and vegetables. His children who had dropped out from school earlier due to lack of income have again started studying. He has also purchased a motor bike with the increased income. With the help of extra income he has also diversified into making of bricks which has further strengthened his economic status.

The other two beneficiaries have also seen increase in their family incomes after well construction. Tureman, with 1.8 acres and Keshwar with 2.1 acres are able to earn almost double of their previous incomes.