“Yield Enhancing Shift”
Cultivation of summer vegetables in Dumka District in Jharkhand

Groundwater has emerged as the primary democratic water source and poverty reduction tool in India’s rural areas. Rainfall is the major source of ground water recharge in India. The small scale farmers have limited prior exposure to groundwater management practices. This constraint has trapped agriculture in the community at a subsistence level.

Helping farmers to increase their yields through development of water resources, ASA provides a channel to enhance their livelihood with focus on development of minor irrigation.

15 Dug wells and 3 LIS were created this year in 36 villages in block Jama, district Dumka, Jharkhand. Vegetable cultivation was undertaken by the 8 villages, namely Kamudumaria, Piyarsala, Bajradih, Bhurkunda, Karela, Tarbandha, Sirsa, Phuljhuri, in the summer 2017.

367 farmers have grown vegetable crops on an average area of about 20 decimal per plot per farmer. Major crops cultivated were lady’s finger, bitter gourd, bottle gourd and brinjal. Average income per household amounts to Rs.14000/during March-May 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Area in decimal</th>
<th>Production in Quintals</th>
<th>Rate/Qtls</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lady finger</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>3200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bitter guard</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2300</td>
<td>3450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bottle guard</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1400</td>
<td>2520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Brinjal</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>4832</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Properly designed and constructed well pays off by ensuring availability of water for irrigation round the year.

Tarbandha village, Jama

ASA, E-5/A, Girish Kunj, above State Bank of India, (Shahpura Branch), Bhopal, Madhya Pardesh-462016, Tele: 91-755-2427369, 4057926, Fax: 91 755 4057925, Email: asa@asabhopal.org, www.asaindia.org

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Irrigation is a basic determinant of agriculture. Construction of LIS has resulted into increased productivity which has increased consumption of vegetables at the household levels enhancing household food security and wellbeing.

Dhorli village, Jama

Wholesale market is a vital link in vegetable supply chain. Retailers are dependent on wholesale market. Due to large scale production, local vendors could be attracted to purchase the vegetable produce directly from the farmer’s field.

Bajradih Village, Jama
With the installation of Lift irrigation systems, the gross cropped area has increased 3 folds. Farmers have also started growing summer crops like tomato, bottle guard, brinjal etc. making use of this water which is available to them till May-June now.

Kamudumaria Villag, Jama

Surplus production of summer vegetable crop is being taken for selling at nearby town market.

Piyarsala village, Jama

Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (CInI) is a resource organisation that functions as the nodal agency for Sir Ratan Tata Trust & Navajbai Ratan Tata Trust’s Central India Initiative. Founded in 2007, the organisation works towards ameliorating livelihoods of tribal communities through sustainable management of natural resources such as land, water and forest. Food security and livelihood issues of the tribal community of central India are the main concerns of the organisation. CInI forges partnership with various stakeholders and jointly works towards the economic empowerment of tribal communities.

Action for Social Advancement (ASA) is a nonprofit organization, head quartered at Bhopal, working for the livelihoods improvement of rural poor (since 1996) in over 1500 villages in 23 districts of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Jharkhand directly reaching out to about 1,90,000 lakh families. ASA’s approach to development is firmly founded upon participatory action at the community level. At the heart of the organization is the aim of developing livelihood security, which is facilitated by an intensive participatory process of natural resources development and local institutional development. Particular emphasis is placed upon the poor and women.