

My husband is a family man now: The contribution of Vegetable farming, UNNATI

Surdarshan Ghimire is a 58 years old social worker of Gouribas VDC ward no 3 of Pattu Village. He was once elected as a Vice-Chairperson of local Village Development Committee in Gouribas. Convinced with the concept of vegetable production as a source of income he became a member of Godavari Fresh Vegetable Production group formed by Unnati Project. He received nursery management training from the project and received four saplings of bottle gourd which he cultivated in his land. He was surprised with the production he got from those four saplings. He harvested almost 2,500 bottle gourds of which he sold 1,500 and earned Rs. 1,000. After having good benefits from bottle gourd production he started vegetable production year round regularly in three kattha (...sq. meter) land. From this size of land he earned around Rs. 50,000 to 60,000 per year by cultivating varieties of vegetables like bottle gourd, tomato, cauliflower, cabbage etc inside the plastic tunnel.

Vegetable production has not only increased his family income but also changed his daily life routine. His wife is much happier now-a-days as he spends most of the time with his family members than before. In the past, he used to spend all his day going one place to another for nothing but now-a-days he is busy in farming. His life enhanced his wife's marketing skills too. Now - a - days, his wife uploads the vegetables on vehicle and goes alone in the market at Bardibas and sells those to traders or sometimes sells them in the market herself. Due to this motivation from her husband, his wife has become more interested in vegetable production and is now more committed. She now buys household necessities like sugar, pulses, tea, soap, clothes and also medicine from the income of vegetable production. Previously she had to request money for the above mentioned purpose to her husband, son and daughter in law. But now she is a confident working woman, who does not have to depend on anybody else others for her household expenses. Sudarshan Ghimire has presented himself as an example of successful vegetable farmer in the village. The villagers have been impressed from his dedication and his transformation into becoming a successful farmer in a short span of time.