



R.K.V.Y. Success Story

Title : Beej Nigam 'Farms: From Drab to Fab

Category : Agri-Infrastructure Development

Challenge:

The Nigam's farms were facing serious problems like Improper irrigation facilities, Theft of crops by people, pest attack on the standing crops, grazing of crops by stray animals, unavailability of proper storage spaces for the harvested crops, poor infrastructure at Nigam farms and Processing Centres, and hence decreasing turnover and profits of Nigam etc. The statistics for the year 2011-12 (before R.K.V.Y. funding) is as follows:

Nigam Farm irrigated area	~ 1300 Ha.
Nigam Farm production	~ 34558 Qtls.
Seed procurement from-farmers	~ 429000 Qtls
Nigam turnover	~ 9930 Lakhs
Nigam Profit	~145 Lakhs

This sad condition of Nigam farms needed quick and desperate attention as this was affecting hundreds of farmers who were dependent on the certified seeds produced by the Nigam farms for growing crops in their farms. If the farmers wouldn't get the certified seeds in time, they would have to sow local seeds from market that do not ensure constant and high crop output ratio.

Initiative:

To rescue itself from these ill-effects, Beej Nigam got funding under the R.K.V.Y. scheme for its Farm and Processing Centre development. This funding helped the Nigam to solve much of its problems in the pre-targeted farms to bring them to the positive side of development. The pre-selection of farms to be developed also helped the Nigam to move towards a focused and structured path as providing support to all farms and processing centres at once was not a good idea and would have proved to be waste of money.



To use the funds in an effective way, the focus areas for the development were as follows:

Land Development and Drainage	Dug Well construction
Tube Well	Sprinkler Sets
H.D.P.E. Pipes	Diesel pump / Electric motors
Pond construction	Farm Fencing
Threshing Floor	Organic Farm Development
Two-wheel Hydraulic Tractor Trolley	Grader Machine
Solar Lights	Poly Pallets
Multipurpose Shed Construction	Air Compressor
Godown Construction	

These developmental activities/heads were focused on and worked upon within a time span of live years (2012-2017) as per the release of funds from the government.

The direct beneficiary of these developmental works was the farmers' community who is dependent on the certified seeds of the Beej Nigam for sowing in their fields. These developmental activities helped the Beej Nigam to produce quality Certified seeds that are contemporary and are Govt. Promoted newer varieties, improve the Seed Replacement Rate and maximize production.

The secondary beneficiary of the development process is the Beej Nigam itself which was then able to increase its turnover and annual profit.

The farmers at the targeted farms are now well versed with using the upgraded machineries and equipment and are able to produce the crops in a much better way compared to when they didn't have these resources.

Key Result/Interesting Facts:

The use of R.K.V.Y fund has brought results that have emerged beyond the estimated figures and has led to the profits that had led the farmers' community and Beej Nigam to feel positive for the next batch of production for both seasons.

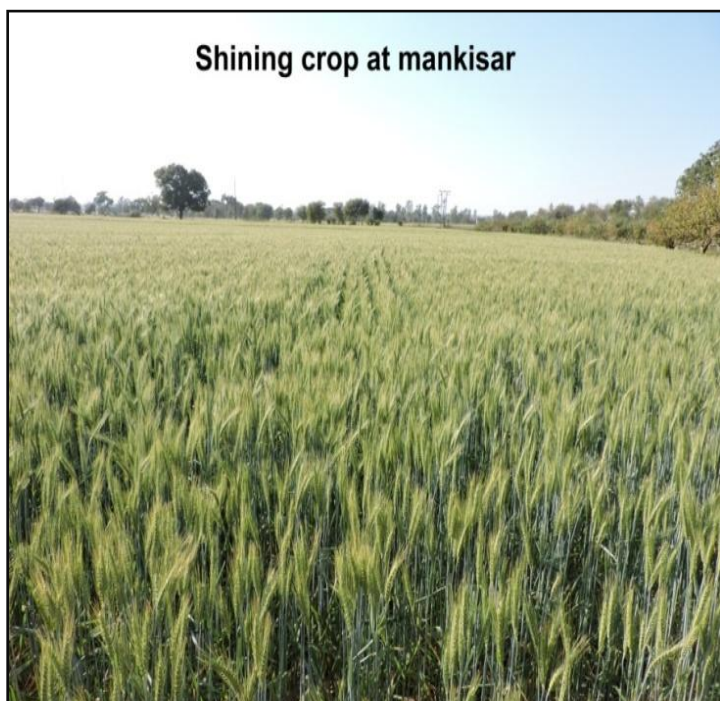
Some examples of farms where the positive signs were seen are: Sultanpur, Burhanpur, Mankisar, Kurwai, Kundeshwar, Birgoda, Khajoori amongst others.

These farms were the targeted ones and have shown significant improvement in the output per unit hectare as compared to the time before the use of funds from R.K.V.Y.

Earlier the cultivation was being done by using conventional means, which costed more in terms of labour, hard work, time, and money and gave less output. But, after using newer machineries and equipment, the above stated stats have changed and are depicted below (for the year 2016-17):

Nigam Farm irrigated area	~ 1450 Ha.
Nigam Farm irrigated area	~ 38250 Qtls.
Seed procurement from farmers	~ 310576 QtIs.
Nigam turnover 2015-16	~ 10090 Lakhs
Nigam Profit 2015-16	~ 369 Lakhs





Happy Farmer at Panna



Linseed grown at Beganganj



Godown construction at Indore



Gram Crop at Seoni-malwa

Impact:

The stats shown above indicate that what would have been a dream for most of the agriculture- related organisations, Beej Nigam has set records by producing more than expected, subject to climatic conditions.

Some other effects can be jotted as follows:

- There is significant increase in the ease of seed storage due to use of Poly Pallets in the godowns
- The use of Grader machines has helped in betterment of seed quality by advanced seed grading and cleaning
- The Multipurpose sheds have helped in proper storage of harvested crops at times of thunder and storm, while bundling the crops, when other crops are to be kept temporarily at times of less storage space, and to keep agricultural machinery and equipment
- The H.D.P.E. pipes have eased up the work of irrigation as these pipes are very helpful to carry potable water and wastewater. These pipes have a long and successful service experience and have the lowest repair frequency per Kilometre of pipe per year compared with all other pipe materials.

The Water facilities like Electric pumps, ponds, tube wells, dug wells etc. have helped in water availability all-round the year helping to combat unfavourable weather Conditions.

The following table indicates how R.K.V.Y. funding has helped increase the numbers quantitatively under all segments :

Head	Before	After
Nigam Farm irrigated Area (Ha.)	1300	31450
Nigam Farm production (Qtls.)	34558	38250
Nigam Turnover (Lakhs)	9930	10090
Nigam Profit (Lakhs)	145	369

Farmers now have a confident smile on their faces while buying seeds from Beej Nigam.

Thus we are on the path of creating model farms which will be capable of producing excellent harvest and will provide more than expected profit to the farmers and MP. SEEDS.



Lessons Learned:

By proper use of the funds provide by R.K.V.Y. we learned that production can be increased within the same production area if newer technologies, machineries and equipment are used that increase the efficiency of the system as a whole. The only challenge we faced was to implement the machineries and equipment in between the sowing and harvesting time, but it was also solved with proper planning and suggestions from field officers.

We have send a project to the government, titled “Project for Strengthening of Infrastructure facilities at Nigam Farms and Processing Centres”. It contains details of various infrastructural, machines and equipment, communication technology, and other contingencies that, if implemented, can take Beej Nigam to the path of much higher turnover and huge quantity of seed production per farm.

Additional Information:

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