

SPECIAL PACKAGE FOR BRINGING FALLOW LANDS INTO CULTIVATION

INTRODUCTION :

Currently, land resources are clearly under stress; The primary reason for this situation is the increasing demand placed on land by the unprecedented rate of population growth and the effects it induces. There is an imperative need to bring back fallow lands under crop cultivation as envisaged under Tamil Nadu Vision 2023, 'Development of Agriculture in Wastelands'. With focused and scientific interventions to help farmers to realize more remunerative returns and to practice a sustainable agriculture which will help in enhancing the soil health environment which in turn will help natural resources conservation in a long term environment and maintain ecological balance of the eco-system.

THRUST AREAS

- ❖The fertile agricultural land and wetland have to be preserved and a mechanism has to be developed to control their diversion for non-agricultural purposes.
- ❖The problem of Wastelands has to be tackled and wastelands have to be put to use for income generation.
- ❖The productivity of the agricultural land has to be increased in order to increase the income of farmers.
- ❖Rejuvenation of cultivation area of Food grain crops



BUSH CLEARANCE IN FALLOW LAND



STRATEGIES

- ❖ An assessment of nature and extent of existing Fallow land needs to be carried out.
- ❖ Reclamation of degraded and fallow lands as well as problem soils needs to be taken up .
- ❖ Waste lands has to be developed and put to use for suitable agricultural crop cultivation.
- ❖ Cropping pattern could be checked by economic profitability at local level and overall compatibility at micro level.
- ❖ A balanced use of organic nutrients, chemical fertilizers, bio-fertilizers and other agro chemicals will ensure sustainability.
- ❖ A Land Use Plan has to be implemented to control the conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes.

TECHNOLOGIES AND INTERVENTIONS IMPLEMENTED

Assistance for the conversion of fallow lands (Removal of unwanted plants, plant debris, Leveling and Ploughing) and crop specific interventions like Micro Nutrient mixture, Biofertilizer, weedicide, Water conservation and labour saving technique like ploughing, Levelling are extended to increase the Farmer's income level. This project is implemented in 26 Millet growing districts and all Pulses and Oilseeds growing districts at an Outlay of Rs 10.40 Crore to convert 10,351 Ha of Fallow Land

SEED DRILL SOWING



PLOUGHING



FALLOW LAND OF 4473 HA CONVERTED TO MILLETS CULTIVABLE AREA

FALLOW LAND IDENTIFICATION



DURING BUSH CLEARANCE



FIELD READY FOR SOWING



MAIZE CROP



FALLOW LAND OF 4473 Ha CONVERTED TO MILLETS CULTIVABLE AREA

No.of Farmers Benefitted-4,353

FALLOW LAND IDENTIFICATION



DURING BUSH CLEARANCE



PLOUGHING



FINGER MILLET FIELD



FALLOW LAND OF 4656 Ha CONVERTED TO PULSES CULTIVABLE AREA NO OF FARMERS BENEFITTED - 4,580

FALLOW LAND IDENTIFICATION



DURING BUSH CLEARANCE



PLOUGHING



BLACKGRAM FIELD



FALLOW LAND OF 1,222 Ha CONVERTED TO OILSEEDS CULTIVABLE AREA NO OF FARMERS BENEFITTED - 1,263

BEFORE BUSH CLEARANCE



AFTER BUSH CLEARANCE



PLOUGHING



GINGELLY FIELD



OUTCOME

- Additional area of 10,351 Ha of Fallow Land has been brought under crop cultivation.
- An additional production of 1789 MT in Millets, 1982 MT in Oilseeds and 3422 MT in pulses is witnessed.
- Farmers' income is enhanced by conversion of Fallow lands into Agricultural purpose and by promoting improved technologies



WORDS FROM A FARMER ON SUCCESS OF NADP – CONVERSION OF FALLOW LAND INTO CULTIVATION- BLACKGRAM



I myself, S. Balakrishnan, S/o Samikkannu residing in Irukkanthurai of Valliyur block Tirunelveli district. I have 5 acres of garden land as my ancestor's property. Till 2013, we were cultivating some crops like gingelly, horse gram as rainfed crops. After sometime I was unable to spend money towards rainfed crops because of regular failure of monsoon. My land became bushy and was like a mini jungle. I used to weep when I see my land as I do not want to sell my land and I cannot offer money for cultivation.

The Department of Agriculture officials contacted me and explained the NADP - conversion of fallow land under cultivation project and advised me to bring back my land into cultivation by providing Rs. 18500 for 5 acres (2Ha). As per the advice I cleared bushes and ploughed my land and sown black gram(VBN-8) given by the department. To my surprise I got 1962 kgs from my 5 acres of land and sold it for Rs.1,00,000/-

Now with the available money I am known to be a successful farmer. I thank Agricultural Department for bringing my uncared land to cultivation and for hand holding support . By heart I say this scheme has increased the area under cultivation, production and also lid light in poor farmer's life.

