

Title: Success story of PCDO Bhumpal, Distt. Hamirpur (HP) under RKVY

Category: Horticulture (Technology demonstration to farmers in orchard and Nursery Production)

Challenge: Progeny cum Demonstration orchard (Bhumpal) Distt. Hamirpur is situated at an elevation of 478 m above mean sea level. The major challenge in carrying out horticulture activities at the site is its aspect which is southern (sun facing) as well as the rocky terrain (app 30-40 % area of PCDO is rocky having mostly hard substrata) posing a major problem in carrying out activities viz., maintenance of progeny blocks of fruit crops, production of nursery of fruit plants etc. This success story is about the development of infrastructure under RKVY at the PCDO in order to modernize the nursery production works as well as the maintenance of progeny blocks of fruit plants in a difficult site experiencing natural calamities viz., heavy frost in the winters, high wind velocity and extreme day temperature during May-June leading to moisture stress conditions etc. Therefore, infrastructure developed under RKVY was developed keeping under consideration the above parameters.

Initiative: Infrastructure created under RKVY at the PCDO Bhumpal during the last few years keeping under consideration the above mentioned conditions is as under:

S.No.	Year	Infrastructure	Amount spent
1	2008-09	Vermi compost unit (VCU)	45,600/-
2	2009-10	Bore well	2,50,000/-
		Drip irrigation system	50,000/-
3	2010-11	Power tiller	1,50,000/-
		Submersible pump	26,510/-
4	2011-12	Bud wood Bank- Pomegranate (200 No.)	75,000/-
5	2012-13	Water storage Tank	1,40,000/-
6	2013-14	Mist Chamber	4,50,000/-
		Pack House	2,00,000/-
		Total	13,87,110/-

Above mentioned infrastructure was created under RKVY in order to strengthen the nursery production works as well as the maintenance of Progeny trees of different fruit crops. Earlier, there used to be shortage of water for irrigation at the PCDO. During the year 2009-10, a Borewell and during 2010-11, a submersible pump was installed under RKVY in order to lift water from the adjoining water source. During the year 2012-13, a water storage Tank (50 cu.m) was too constructed under RKVY. As a result of creation of such type of infrastructure, now there is enough water available to the progeny trees as well as to the nursery plants at the PCDO.

During the year 2011-12, a bud wood bank of 200 No. of pomegranate plants was developed under RKVY comprising of varieties Viz., Kandhari, Bhagwan and Mridula. This budwood bank would serve the source of bud wood for raising the plants of pomegranate through cuttings. Vermicompost unit constructed during the year 2008-09 serves the purpose of supply of Vermicompost (organic manure) to the progeny trees as well as to nursery plants. Mist chamber constructed under RKVY is being utilized for the production of rooted cuttings of pomegranate (cuttings dipped in 3000 ppm IBA) and other fruit plants in a rooting media comprising of sand and Vermicompost.

Key result/insight/ interesting fact: Along with the infrastructure development at the PCDO Bhumpal for the maintenance of bud wood bank as well as nursery production of fruit plants, there has been employment generation to the people of adjoining panchayat. Labour through MGNREGA is being engaged at the PCDO for carrying out the cultural operations in the progeny blocks as well as in the nursery area. From a small nursery area of around 0.25 ha there has been an income generation of average 2 lacs per annum in the last 3-4 years. Moreover, PCDO has also become as the technology demonstration centre to the visiting farmers. Some of the photographs of the activities/ infrastructure developed under RKVY at the PCDO Bhumpal in the last few years are as under.

Creation of Infrastructure for budwood bank and nursery production:



Budwood Bank of Pomegranate



Mist Chamber for propagation of cuttings of fruit plants



Planting of pomegranate cuttings dipped in 3000 ppm IBA in the field by MGNREGA labour

Creation of Infrastructure for irrigation:



Bore well



Submersible pump



Water storage Tank

Creation of Infrastructure for carrying out cultural practices and meeting out nutritional requirement:



Power tiller



Vermicompost unit

Impact:

- ✓ Strengthening of PCDO Bhumpal by creating the infrastructure under RKVY.
- ✓ Infrastructure development in order to serve as the demonstration centre for the latest technology to the farmers of the adjoining areas by organizing of training camps under different schemes.
- ✓ Creation of need based infrastructure for the maintenance of mother blocks of fruit plants
- ✓ Infrastructure development for the nursery production of fruit plants
- ✓ Job creation to the local people by convergence with the MGNREGA.

Lessons learned:

Infrastructure development as per the requirement of the place is an easy task and it could be replicated as per the requirement in future too. But in order to make it more successful in future, maintenance of the created infrastructure is an important task. Moreover availability of skilled manpower is also an important criteria to have more successful stories in future.

Supporting Quotes and Images:



Sowing of Mango stone and emergence of seedlings in beds prepared from power tiller purchased under RKVY. Vermicompost produced in Vermicompost unit is being utilized for providing the layer over mango stones in the prepared beds which helps in germination . MGNREGA labour is being utilized for carrying out cultural operations

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