

Case Study on Promotion & Conservation of traditional seed (Kondyam Dhanyam)

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| District | Mandal | Gram Panchayat | Village |
| Srikakulam | Seethampeta | Titukupai | Titukupaiguda |
| Name of the individual | Arika .ShyamalaRao | | |
| M/F | Male, Age 32 | | |
| Caste | Savara- Schedule Tribe | | |
| Total no of family members | 5 | | |
| Source of livelihood | Agriculture, Agriculture labor and NTFP collection | | |
| Annual income in INR | 27,000 Yearly | | |

Background

Arika Shyamala Rao aged 32 years has 3.6 Acres of land out of that 2.46 of land is IFR and .6 acres of revenue land .Both Wife and husband are farmers and the major source of income is agriculture farming with Paddy, Vegetables, Marigold and coffee plantation.

Before intervention outcome

Titukupaiguda village since the last 30 years had been practicing organic agriculture farming and were growing traditional crops like millets varieties, Paddy and lentils. But over a period of time, with the influence of the market economy and the ITDA, the farmers started growing hybrid varieties of crop including that of paddy.

Samyogita the project partner , facilitated village level meetings and created awareness on the issue of food security and the role of conservation of traditional seeds and organic based farming. One of the young farmers from the village- Arika Shyamala Rao understood the situation and came forward to promote traditional variety of paddy .

Shyamala Rao collected 10 Kgs. of traditional paddy seeds called (Kondyam Dhanyam) from Mamidiguda village, Kurapam Mandalam of Vizainagaram District.

Out of 2.60 acres of IFR land he cultivated traditional paddy seeds (Kondyam Dhanyam) in 20 cents of land in the first week of August month which was purely based on organic farming practises.

In the third week of October the crop that was harvested had a total yield of 57 Kgs, but Shyamala Rao insists in keeping these 57 Kgs of paddy crop for seed purpose for next season . Another 6 farmers are very keen to undertake paddy cultivation of the traditional variety in the coming Kharif season. They will take the seeds from Shymla Rao not in cash but follow the traditional practice of returning the seeds in 1:2 ratios.

