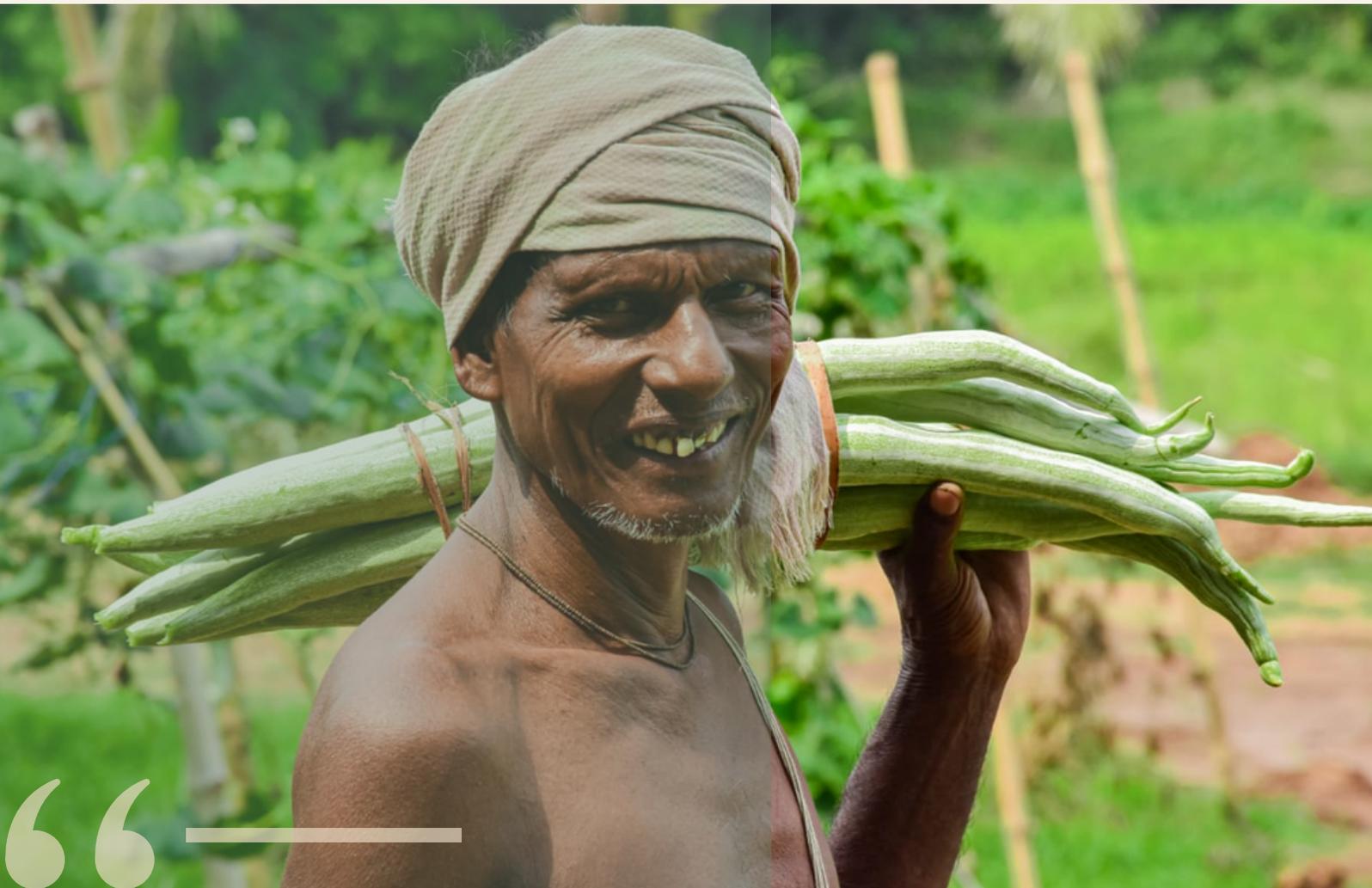


HARSHA TRUST

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“I am Gourahari Nayak, The Farmer”

Vegetable cultivation supported by Solar-based irrigation systems is one of the key interventions in augmenting on-farm livelihoods. With the support of Paradeep Phosphates Limited (PPL) Corporate Social Responsibility Project, Harsha Trust has enabled assured irrigation to the vegetable plots of Tenteikuda village in Jagatsinghpur district. The initiative has benefitted 35 farmers in adopting summer cultivation of snake gourd, ridge gourd, chili and cucumber on 13 acres of land.

Gourahari Nayak, one of the farmers of Tenteikuda, proudly shares, “With the solar-based irrigation and improved farming practices, my income has increased by 19%, and my confidence has increased by 100%”

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LAWS & POLICIES

THE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955

The Essential Commodities Act (ECA) was a Parliamentary act which governs the delivery and supply of commodities or products, whose obstruction could affect the lives of the common people to a great extent. The act was modified through the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020 as part of the 2020 Indian Agricultural Acts (Also known as Farm Bills and subsequently repealed). the old Act stands.

Details of the Essential Commodities Act

The Essential Commodities Act came into force in 1955 and has been used to manage the supply, distribution and production of commodities termed 'essentials'. In this way, the government makes these commodities available for consumption at acceptable prices. A Minimum Support Price (MSP) can also be fixed by the government for the farmer, should it deem it necessary.

Commodities under ECA

- Fertilisers
- Pulses
- Edible Oil
- Cereals
- Oilseeds
- Petroleum and allied products
- Seeds of fruits and vegetables

SABARMATI HONEY FARMER PRODUCER CO LTD

NABARD supported Apiary, in the Nandapur block of Koraput district of Odisha.

The Apiary supports 250 HHs in providing a collective income of Rs.12,50,000 in three months and also serves as an upholder of rural ecology and sustainable livelihood.

Pure forest honey



THE SOCIAL INSECTS

HONEY BEES IN THE PRISTINE FORESTS OF SOUTHERN ODISHA TEACHING US THE HUMBLE ACT OF SHARING AND CONSERVING AGROECOLOGY

FARM-BASED INTERVENTIONS



In 10 cents of Land - Yes, you heard it right!



Anjana Pidikaka in Dhobagudi village of Rayagada district successfully cultivated cowpea in just 10 cents of her land. She attended a training organised by Harsha Trust on techniques for growing Cowpea and Chilli, which included a new Package of Practices. She then decided to try it out. It was worth the effort. Given below is the cost-benefit of her 10-cent land.

| Sl. | Particulars | Quantity | Rate | Total Amount |
|-----|------------------------------|------------------|------|--------------|
| 1 | Seed variety | Maharani special | | |
| 2 | Seed rate | 25gm | 180 | 180 |
| 3 | Cost of plant protection | | | 500 |
| 4 | Trellis | | | 500 |
| 5 | Transportation cost | | | NA |
| 6 | Total yield in kg | 448 | 35 | 15680 |
| 7 | Households' consumption | 20 | 35 | 700 |
| 8 | Balance Sale in kg | 428 | 35 | 14980 |
| 9 | Average sale price/kg in Rs. | 35 | | |
| | Total income in Rs | 15680 | | |
| | Net income in Rs | 14930 | | |

OFF FARM LIVELIHOODS

Bangapalli, an Adivasi-dominated village in Nabarangpur block, had to discontinue the traditional poultry rearing for various reasons like lack of proper sheds, the high mortality rate due to no idea of good practices, and limited access to health care facilities. It is back to country bird rearing through the intervention of the Harsha Trust (supported by Ernst and Young).

The objective is to improve the income and nutrition security of the landless and marginal farming households by initiating women-based activities through SHGs like Land-Based Farming and Livestock Rearing. The interventions included improving production systems, vaccination and healthcare services for livestock. The programme has been initiated in 32 clusters of 45 villages in Nabarangpur districts.

The community identified that Backyard poultry with Desi breeds (country birds) is easy to manage, less risky and can generate better incomes, for resource-poor households. It has the potential to reduce hunger, eradicate malnutrition and create employment opportunities also. The adivasis are Parajas. Most of the families were dependent on agriculture and wage labour.



Harsha Trust engaged with 11 SHGs comprising 115 HHs. These initiatives attract a lot of members for the capacity-building sessions organised among SHG members. In this village, we have also developed a Community Resource Person who can carry forward the services with the CLF and SHG, keeping sustainability in mind.

Our people - This quarter

| Sl. No. | Departures | Arrivals |
|---------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Parsuram Sahu | Gangadhar Sisa |
| 2 | Sashi Kanta Behera | Madhumita Ray |
| 3 | Ajay Pandey | Monalisa Rout |
| 4 | Sarbojit Mishra | Indira Himatsingka |
| 5 | Rashmi Ranjan Parida | Shadma Khan |
| 6 | Laxmipriya Barik | Ranchitha Sivaram |
| 7 | Alekha Dalai | Lija Rani Sahoo |
| 8 | Balabhadra Naik | Monisha Patnaik |
| 9 | Janhabhi Kumbhar | Suman Kumar Sahu |
| 10 | Kumar Palei | |
| 11 | Manas Ranjan Tripathy | |
| 12 | Nirod Kumar Meher | |
| 13 | Pravat Kumar Sahoo | |

Did you know ?

What is Famine?

"Famine is broadly understood as 'an extreme crisis of access to adequate food, manifested in widespread malnutrition and loss of life due to starvation and infectious disease.'"

- Dan Maxwell and Nisar Majid's 2016 book - Famine in Somalia

Why does it occur?

Famine occurs not from a lack of food but from inequalities built into the mechanism of distributing food (sen 1983)

Famine in Odisha - "Na Anka Durbikiya"

The famine of 1865 - 1866 that left millions as destitute in the ninth regnal year of the King of Puri. Some of the major reasons were, a) Failure of crops due to insufficient rain in 1865; b) Shortage of food grains in the stores, c) Lack of foresight on the part of the information machinery of the government, d) Geographical isolation of Odisha and e) Apathy of the landlords.

How can we eradicate this challenge?

The most common approach to famines is to propose explanations regarding food availability decline (FAD). This FAD approach has been extensively used to analyse and explain the famine. Cooperative elements such as protecting the environment, preventing droughts or eliminating epidemics can effectively confront famine and shortages. However, it is imperative to consider the social structure that includes the co-existence of conflicts and the congruence of interests in most forms of human interactions.



MANORANJAN PANDA



Manoranjan Panda is the Team Leader of Papahandi, Nabrangpur District. With a Master of Arts in Rural Development and six years of hands-on experience working closely with the communities, he inspires us to envision the journey of Harsha Trust.

Here are a few questions he answered for us to know him better!

"I aspire to bring about a change in the community I work with. Mobilising and Capacitating people to adopt different livelihood models and guiding them through the process is what excites me most in my work."

What excites you about the work in the field?

Mobilising the tribal communities and capacitating them to establish different livelihood models. Supporting them with market linkages and convergence with line departments to get the maximum benefits they can access are my major interest areas.

What change would you like to bring to the community you work with?

Strengthening and proper visioning of a community institution. Enhancing the skill of village-level cadres towards entrepreneurship and building their capacities on how to access Govt. schemes and entitlements is the change I want to see.

What improvements do you look forward to in Harsha Trust?

Adequate grooming of professionals on the vision and mission to ensure concept clarity; enhancing the visibility of Harsha Trust as a community-centred organisation and Improved digital systems and processes for ease of work.

What are your Hobbies and Interests?

Reading - Leadership and Motivational Books; Music - Listening and Singing; Sports - Volleyball and Cricket



Key Achievements at work

- Implemented different livelihoods models for income enhancement of the village farmers of our operational area (50 cent model, WADI, Drumstick, 10 cent creeper models etc.)
- Strengthening of the institutions (SHG, VO/CLF, FPC) and household-wise livelihood perspective planning.
- Formation and establishment of a Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) with only women members.
- Visioning, supporting and capacity building of team members, village-level cadres, VO leaders and Board of Directors (BODs) of FPOs.

