

Case Study

Paddy Farming (Landless Person)

Waman Hari Vak, aged 70 years, is a resident of village Dhamni in Karjat block of Raigad district. Waman live his wife and 2 children who are handicapped. Waman is the mainstay for his family as his children are totally dependent on him. Waman is a landless person and was totally dependent on daily wages to manage his family. Whatever he could earn was spent on the food and vegetables.

Shri Waman came in contact with Anubhav Pratishthan Trust (APT) in 2019 through awareness program in his village. He started taking interests in the activities and meetings conducted by APT in Dhamni village. Gradually his interest developed, and he decided to undertake paddy cultivation by taking a piece of land on the rent. He



learnt the technique of paddy cultivation. APT staff helped Waman in getting the land on the rent from the other farmer in the village. The APT staff guided Waman regularly and also provided him support wherever required. From the project supported by Volkart

Foundation, seed support was given to Waman and he was also assisted in negotiating with the land owner. Along with the Paddy, Waman also cultivated Turmeric on the piece of land which had taken on the lease. He also cultivated some pulses after the paddy harvesting. Collectively Waman could get approximately 50 to 55 thousands from the pddy and other crop cultivation, out of which he is paying half the amount as the rent to the land owner. This means that Waman is able to earn around Rs. 25 to 30 thousand which has helped him to sustain his family. Now he do not have to do hard labour work as he was doing previously. Additionally he is getting healthy food grains. The interventions with Waman has proved that the small initiatives with the families with less or no resources can bring about the changes in their lives.

Due to the old age Waman is not able to work in the farm as much, but his wife has now taken over the responsibility of farming as they have realised that their basic requirements are fulfilled from this activity.

Waman and his wife are now also encouraging their children to get involved in the farming in whatever way they can. This will keep their children engaged with some work.

Major challenge with Waman and his wife is to make sustainable provisions for livelihood of their both handicapped children.