

**Brief Background:** Bherusingh s/o Bhangada is a marginal tribal farmer residing in Haldi village of Kukshi block of Dhar District. In May 2012, he lost his elder brother and sister-in-law due to a chronic disease. They had 4 daughters and 2 sons who were going to the school at the time of their demise. It was a big loss for Bheru as his elder brother managed the farm as well the family with his huge experience of 20 years in farming. Bheru learnt farming while helping his elder brother in the farms. At present, being a head of 12-member family, Bheru is responsible for earning bread & butter for his family and for managing the entire farm. Simultaneously, he has to provide for the education of his sons, daughters, nephews and nieces. As farming is the only means of earning for his family, he planned commercial cultivation of vegetables on his farm so that he can get regular income by selling vegetables and take care of day to day household expenses and other financial needs. His income from an acre of land is Rs. 30,000/acre approximately by cultivating traditional crops like cotton and wheat in Kharif and Rabi seasons, respectively.



**Journey towards Success:** Like other farmers in the village, Bheru was also unaware of modern techniques and practices in agriculture. But in April 2013, Bheru came to know about NABARD's Wadi Development Programme to be implemented by Gramin Vikas Trust (GVT). He attended the farmers meeting & interacted with GVT officials to know more about wadi programme. After having consulted GVT officials, he adopted Wadi programme under which he planted 44 fruit plants (24 Mangoes and 20 Guava) and established two-tier creeper house system to cultivate vegetables and spices on 0.25 acre of land. This was the first experience for Bheru for cultivating vegetables & turmeric under two-tier creeper system. He was happy that along with vegetables he could successfully cultivate turmeric and ginger under Mandava. With the guidance and support of GVT officials and due to his own interest and efforts in adoption of this new technique of vegetable/spices cultivation, he succeeded in maintaining vegetable and

ing. From September 2013 to 1<sup>st</sup> week of January he had s. 15,000 in Kukshi market. With intercropping of chilly over 0.5 acre of land with fruit plants, he realized an income of Rs. 16,000. Though Turmeric and Ginger are yet to be harvested but expected yield from turmeric and ginger is 4 quintals and 2 quintals, respectively. From September 2013 till date, his income has increased from Rs.30,000/acre to Rs.44,600/acre/season (From Wadi field only). He spend income earned through vegetables and spices on meeting out day to day family expenses like food, education, medicine and expenses on various farm activities.

#### Income of farmer from vegetables and spices during one cropping season:

Sr. No.	Particulars	Yield in Kg	Income from Sale (in Rupees)	Cost of cultivation (in Rupees)	Net Income (in Rupees)
	Income from creeper house (from 0.25 acre of Mandava):				
i)	Bottle guard (Rs. 20/kg)	340	6800		
ii)	Bitter guard (Rs. 30/kg)	80	2400		
iii)	Sponge guard (Rs. 20/kg)	290	5800		
<b>(a)</b>	<b>Total vegetable sell:</b>		<b>15000</b>	<b>2130</b>	<b>12870</b>
(b)*	Turmeric sell (Rs. 15/kg)	400	6000	1600	4400
(c)*	Ginger sell (Rs. 80/kg)	200	16000	2200	13800
<b>(D)</b>		<b>Net income from creeper house (D)=a+b+c</b>			<b>31070</b>
	Income from intercrop (from 0.5 acre of chilly):				
(e)	Green chilly sale (Rs. 28/kg)	375	10500	1875	8625
(f)	Red Chilly (Rs. 60/kg)	92	5520	552	4968
<b>(G)</b>		<b>Net Income from intercrop (G)= e+f</b>			<b>13593</b>
		<b>Net Income from 1 acre of land= D+G</b>			<b>44663</b>

\*Average expected income from turmeric and ginger.

Bheru understood that without multi cropping system, new practices and techniques of farming and his interest and hardwork, this rise in income could not have been possible. He also proved that adoption of Wadi programme is definitely a successful model in enhancing income and thereby, livelihood of a tribal farmer.