ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

Excel Crop Care Limited

Beyond crop protection. Behind every farmer

2016 - YEAR OF PULSES

UNESCO Theme 2016 – International Year of Pulses

UNESCO designates 2016 as the International Year of Pulses. It emphasizes the need to position pulses as a primary source of protein and other essential nutrients.

Pulses are a rich source of proteins, especially in the diet of vegetarians. They also contain dietary fibers, carbohydrates, and micronutrients. The leaves of leguminous plants, which are used as fodder for farm animals, are rich in nutrients. From a farming perspective, leguminous plants reduce the use of nitrogenous fertilizers, because they can fix atmospheric nitrogen through the activity of the nitrogen-fixing bacteria in their root nodules. Thus, inclusion of these plants in crop rotation helps enrich the soil naturally. These plants also greatly contribute to soil aeration and allow rainwater to seep through effectively. In addition, they provide good cover to the soil and protect it from harsh rains and strong winds.

Excel Crop Care recognizes the need to improve the productivity of Pulses by using best practices. India, in particular, is deficit in the production of pulses and has to import them. Excel Crop Care realizes the need to make farming of pulses profitable for the farmers. In response to the current challenge of meeting the local demand for pulses, we, through our extensive network across the globe, aim to amass and disseminate best practices to Indian farmers who can adopt them and invest their efforts to maximize potential returns generated from farming pulses.

EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

School enrolment and Anganwadi enrolment program, Learning delight, Vocational training to SHG women groups

As part of the education initiative, we have continued to carry our school and Anganwadi enrolment program in this year also. We have helped enroll around 520 children in 10 schools of Gajod and adjoining villages. While, in villages of Bhavnagar, we have enrolled around 2700 children in 21 schools and Anganwadis.

We in association with LEARNING DELIGHT have worked on to digitalize classroom learning in schools of Kutch and Bhavnagar. In year 2015-16, we have helped install software in 70 schools in Bhavnagar and Kutch. Learning Delight has proved to have increased technological knowledge among teachers and students. It also has been able to succeed in creating an interactive learning environment in classrooms leading to a better quality of education in rural schools and increased student interest. It has helped in decrease in the drop out ratio of students and increase in subject knowledge.

In extension of the project for livelihood enhancement of self help groups of women, this year we provided vocation based training such as tailoring, washing powder making and beauty parlour training to women who showed interest in learning these skills. The training skill selection was decided upon, after need analysis and accommodating reviews of women in general from the villages of Bhavnagar. Many of the women participants are trying to put these skills to actual practice and earning independently.

School enrolment, Kera

School enrolment, Ruva

Learning Delight, Sodvadra

Learning Delight, Naranpar

Vocational trainings in Akwada, Shedhavadar and Khedutvaas respectivley

DRINKING WATER

In effort to extend the provision of facility and infrastructure for proper drinking water system in this year i.e. 2015, in addition to that provided last year, we have provided financial and administrative support for provision of overhead water tank of 50,000 litres in Tappar village in association with GWSSB (Gujarat Water Supply and Sewerage Board)

In Sidsar village near Bhavnagar, the existing water storage tank of around 50,000 litres supplying water to about 190 families (Hill park area) was not in proper condition. We surveyed the existing condition and carried out the activity of renovating this tank. This solved the water scarcity problem of these families. Water is available to them for meeting their various needs.

Overhead tank,
Tappar

Drinking water system,
Sidsar

REVIVING HERITAGE THROUGH PRIDE & ENTERPRISE

Extending the activities to revive the rich heritage of Kutch, Shrujan has put efforts into diverse activities during the year. Interviews of women and men of community, craft related interviews for weaving and Lipankaam, Interview on individual communities, interview for paghdi makers and users are activities carried out under oral history recordings.

Photo and video documentation of other crafts making process, couple photography, Tattoos, step by step photos of motifs creation, detailed photography of show-1 also form part of our yearly activities.

In addition to the above, purchases of old textiles, crafts, commissioning and purchasing of textiles, commissioning of pottery work, wood craft, creation of panels and preparation of stitch keys form part of the product collections.

The research work includes the history interview, ceremony interview and embroidery interview, stitch key preparation, line drawings, photographs of old textiles, and traditional ornaments.

SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Individual sanitation, School sanitation, Sanitation and hygiene awareness campaign and Village level Solid waste management

Sanitation being an integral part of our livelihood, our target is to provide sanitation facilities in households and schools and educate people about sanitation and hygiene practices. In year 2015-16, we have helped to build toilet blocks under PPP model for 198 families in 9 villages nearby our factory including Gajod and 541 families in Bhavnagar residing nearby our factory.

Through our continuous efforts, existing households in Babiya and Tappar village near Gajod and Fariyadka village near Bhavnagar has now 100% sanitation facilities.

We have continued to construct toilets in schools of Kera, Nani Tumbdi, Tappar, Beraja, and renovated urinals in Surajpar near Gajod. While, near Bhavnagar, we have constructed toilets in schools of Sidsar, Kankot & Shedhavadar.

We have taken initiatives to spread awareness by "Sanitation - information, education and communication" at both personal and society at large through activities such as women group meetings, school programs, competitions in schools, hand wash and cleanliness drives, villages cleaning campaigns and street plays, etc. This year we have focused on 5 villages each in Kutch and in Bhavnagar.

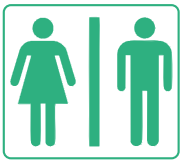
We have setup a solid waste management system on pilot basis in Fariyadka village in Bhavnagar in collaboration with government body. Through this system, we have provided dustbins to 700 households and installed 'Organic waste convertor machine' for recycling and processing of waste into compost. The Implementation support is given by village Panchayat and local women group.

Individual Sanitation, Beraja

School Sanitation, Shedhavadar

Individual Sanitation, Fariyadka

School Sanitation, Kankot

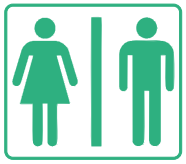


SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Sanitation (information, education, communication), Tappar

Sanitation (information, education, communication), Shedhavadar

Solid waste management- Dustbins & OWC machine installation- Fariyadka



RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Community hall renovation, Crematorium renovation, School shed construction, and Agri tool bank

The community halls in villages are being used for multiple social activities. It is platform for social get together for various occasions and help in maintaining social unity. It also serves as a component of rural development. In collaboration with community, we have provided infrastructure support by renovating existing community halls in Gajod, Beraja and Ramaniya.

In addition to this, as part of the infrastructure support to schools, we have constructed shed over the open ground area within campus of Balmandir in Kera and in school of Naranpar village. Children can now conveniently use this area during the day. Activities like youth development program, midday meals, teachers meetings, play activities, etc. can be conveniently conducted.

The existing crematorium in Vadjar village neither had shed nor proper infrastructure. People were facing a lot of inconvenience particularly in monsoon season. We have built proper platform and provided shed along with pillars in crematorium area.

In an effort to provide advanced tools on pilot basis to farmers for modern farm practices, we have provided power weeders and crop shredders in quantity of two each. These tools will form part of the common tool bank between Fariyadka and Shedhavadhar village. The maintenance of this tool bank will be taken care by farmers themselves.

Thus, our rural development projects are also focused on infrastructure based support.

Hall renovation, Gajod

Hall renovation, Beraja

Crematorium renovation, Vadjar

School Shed Construction, Naranpar

Agri Tool bank component- power weeder &
Cotton Shredder respectively

ANIMAL WELFARE

Animal Goshala, Animal Vaccination and Fodder Distribution

In the previous financial year, we have carried out multiple activities under our CSR initiatives for animal welfare which inter alia includes organizing vaccination camps, providing infrastructure support for 'Animal Goshala', and timely supply of fodder for animals especially during excessive need conditions. Similarly, in this year we continue to carry out these activities based on the need of villages for the promotion of animal welfare.

In association with beneficiaries and Panchayat of Babiya village, we have completed the project of constructing 'Animal Goshala' for capacity of around 150 animals.

We have covered about 21,300 animals such as goat and sheep under vaccination camps with Government support.

We have supplied 1,38,525 kgs of fodder for meeting fodder requirement of around 14,000 animals in Kutch.

Animal Gosala,
Babiya

Fodder Distribution,
Ramaniya

CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Drip Irrigation awareness and support, Pond renovation and de-silting, Roof top rain water harvesting and Tree plantation and tree guards

We have been fulfilling persistently our aim to conserve natural resources mainly water through our diverse efforts. We have continued to support farmers by helping to install drip Irrigation and spreading awareness about importance and benefits of drip amongst those who have not yet installed drip facility in their farms. This year we have covered villages of Rukmavati river basin area in Kutch and Rajula block area near Bhavnagar.

Ponds and check dams being an important water reservoir can be used optimally to meet the needs to villages. In this year, we have focused at Budhel, Fariyadka and Akvada on de-silting and renovation of ponds.

We continue to educate and motivate people to conserve rain water this year through a project 'Roof top rain water harvesting'. This project is executed in collaboration with beneficiaries and Coastal Salinity Prevention Cell (CSPC) in Babiya village for 14 households. The rain water from roof top is collected through a pipeline and taken to collection chamber. This water passes through filter bed and gets clean and then, this clean water is stored in underground sump.

Trees being natural air purifiers to facilitate clean air and enhance greenery, we have planted trees and provided tree guards in nearby areas of Gajod and Bhavnagar. Our aim is to increase greenery in dry region of Kutch and Bhavnagar. We are striving to achieve this aim by means of this activity.

Drip Irrigation, Kotdi

Drip Irrigation, Fariyadka

Rain water harvesting, Babiya

Tree Guards, Kanajara

Tree Guards, Avaniya

Pond renovation, Akwada