

## **SUCCESS STORY OF VEGETABLE CULTIVATION THROUGH INTRODUCTION OF JALKUND- A WATER HARVESTING STRUCTURE**

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### **Introduction:**

The major climatic vulnerability of the NICRA village Umjalasiaw is water stress during the winter months which inhibits crop cultivation. The farmers leave their land fallow and there is no outcome during the rabi season. Since, there is no major river or any irrigation facilities in the village, there is a need to adopt minor irrigation facilities through effective water-conservation measures.

### **KVK Intervention:**

Therefore, the Office of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra Jaintia Hills felt the need to explore minor irrigation potential through effective water-conservation measure which can be achieved by the introduction of Jalkund – A Low-cost micro-rainwater harvesting technology for cultivation of high value crop. Training programmes and Demonstrations was conducted in the field of 8 farmers at the village with an aim to harvest water for use in cultivation of crops and enhance the productivity of water in the region during the lean period

### **Output and Outcome**

Shri. Arnes Kasar one of the selected farmers in the village had constructed the jalkund with capacity of 40 cu m (size 5m X 4 m X 2m) on his farm. The farmers could utilize the stored water during kharif season and cultivation of rabi crops was made possible. In the year 2016-17 he could cultivate broccoli and cabbage in his field during the period May-January, out of which he could harvest 26.4 quintals of broccoli and 24.8 quintals of cabbage from his 0.2 ha land. The net return was Rs. 61440 with a B: C ratio of 4.25:1

### **Impact:**

Before the initiation of the project, the farmers of the village Umjalasiaw were unaware of vegetable cultivation since their main crop and only source of income was from paddy cultivation but during the 2 years of the project 8 farmers have accepted the technology which has enabled them to cultivate rabi crops and also it has stirred the minds of other farmers to cultivate vegetables to get higher returns within a short span of time. With the introduction of this technology, the farmers were seen happily accepting the technology. With the availability of water during the lean seasons the farmers were eager to cultivate vegetable crops that have not yet been cultivated in the village such as broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower etc. This has also led to availability of healthy vegetables for consumption in the family.



Image: Broccoli cultivated in jalkund



Image: Jalkund in Shri. Arnes Kasar field



Image: Cabbage cultivated in jalkund