

Pradip Dhak: A Tribal Youth Entrepreneur

An entrepreneur is a person who organizes and maintains an enterprise undertaking assuming the risk for the sake of profit or is an economic man who strives to maximize his profits by innovation. However, the entrepreneur is a not simple innovator, they are men with a will to act to assume risk and to bring about a change through organization of human efforts.

In case of Tribal entrepreneurs have known to be involved in poultry farming since a long time. In the last two decades poultry makers and planners have started realizing the importance of mobilizing the tribal youth for poultry farming as a self-employment. Studies in tribal youth in poultry farming and agriculture started emerging. Thus helped the invisible tribal entrepreneur to become a more and more visible. Such studies on tribal are of extreme importance, to get an insight about their role in poultry farming the motivation factor, the financial difficulties, information seeking and managerial skills in such activities. Thus the present study was taken up with the specific objective of conductivity and in depth case study of tribal youth entrepreneur in poultry farming.

Material and Method

The pilot survey of the area around Kosbad village was made to identify tribal youth entrepreneur in poultry farming who had already trained. Four youth had started poultry unit but one young i.e. Pradip Chandrkant Dhak could be identified who had running poultry unit efficiently. Thus it was decided to take up a case study on his farm. The study used an open-ended interview schedule as well as observation method as a tool to conduct case study.

Background of the respondent

Shri. Pradip Chandrkant Dhak, a young enthusiastic hard working farmer resides at Kosbad Dhak pada in Dahanu tehsil of Thane district in Maharashtra. After completion of 12th standard education, he undergone for poultry training management course at KVK, Kosbad Hill. After completion of one-month duration of poultry training course, he started poultry unit having 1000 buds at Dhak pada, Kosbad Hill in 1986.

Information about poultry farm

Location -The farm is located in Dhak pada village, Dahanu- Taluka, Thane District, Maharashtra, right on the rood side in five gunthas land. The residence surrounded with agriculture fields, few shrubs owned by the family.



Feeding the birds.

Type and size of poultry farm:

There are 4 poultry farms deep litter type having size about 500 sq.ft, 1000 sq.ft, 2000 sq.ft, 1800 sq.ft respectively. The entire poultry farm has permanent manager at the center constructed by bricks and cement.

Electricity and water:

The poultry farms have electricity. The farm has access to open well water, which is stored in water barrels with the help of 2 hp motor. Now a day he set up automatic watering system in poultry shed.

Employment pattern:

Shri. Pradip Dhak, his parents and brother working in poultry farm regularly. He did not require hiring labour. Cleaning of poultry shed, preparation of feeding, watering, bringing chicks, brooding care, litter management, supplementary feeding, etc work doing by parents as well as his brother. Administration of as when required medicines; vaccinations and marketing are doing by him.

Feeding: Grinding of maize, soybean cake, groundnut cake is used as a broiler starter. He prepared feed by mixing rice bran; fishmeal and mineral mixture is fed regularly. The respondent gave broiler starter and boiler finisher to first four-week birds and fifth to eight week birds respectively. Recently he purchased a grinder @ Rs. 14000/- having capacity of 400 Kg per hour.



Showing grinder to the honorable dignitaries

Health coverage: The respondent is taking the help of veterinary scientist of KVK who supervises the health of birds. The average mortality rate in chicks is 5-6% and in adult 2 to 3%. The vaccination schedule recommended for poultry is strictly followed at the farm.

Economics and Marketing: The birds having weight about 1400 to 1600 gm after attaining 5-7 weeks are marketed at farm and also weekly market of Dahanu. The market price of each bird varies between Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 / kg. In the year 2002-03 he took 17 batches (boiler crops) from his 4 poultry farms. He grown 17500 broiler birds and sold in local market. The

net profit in the particular year was Rs. 52,000/-. Poultry manure is picked up at farm itself @ Rs. 250/- bullock cart.

Present status:

Now days he had four poultry farms having 5500 poultry birds. He earning from those farms has helped the family to raise their general standard of living. The family was able to make assets, which have been acquired from profits earned from the poultry farms. The entire households expenditure including education of children is met from earning of the poultry farms.

Summary: It is the fact that tribal youth can manage poultry farm. Although he got formal training but with interest and determination one can achieve success. It is suggested that unemployed member of the family first takes up their enterprise on a small scale reinvesting the profits are innovative and the household can live an income earned from the farm. This success story is a small beginning towards the role of tribal youth in poultry farming. There is need to conduct research on the role of tribal youth in the traditional poultry fanning as well as in commercial poultry farming so that planners direct their programmer towards the neglected tribal youth.
