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Success Story of Simranjeet Singh: A Farmer from Barouli

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This success story highlights the journey of Simranjeet Singh, a small farmer from Punjab, who successfully adopted modern agricultural practices to overcome his problems and establish himself as a progressive farmer. His story demonstrates how technology, training and determination can change rural livelihood.

Background Information

Farmer's Name: Simranjeet Singh

Father's Name: Gurcharan Singh

Village/State: Barauli, Punjab

Tehsil: Kharar

District: Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar

Landholdings: 7.69 hectares

Farming Experience: Since childhood

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Problems Faced

Farmers face several serious problems in their agricultural practices. One major issue is the low yield due to outdated methods, as many still rely on traditional techniques with little use of modern technology, scientific practices, or proper soil and water management. This leads to poor productivity compared to modern farming. Another significant problem is the high input cost of fertilizers and seeds, as the rising market prices make quality inputs expensive and difficult to afford. Farmers often depend on external suppliers and middlemen, and with limited access to affordable credit, their financial burden increases. In addition, pest attack issues are common, causing frequent crop losses. Lack of awareness about integrated pest management and the overuse of chemical pesticides further damage soil health and reduce crop quality.

Challenges Faced

Farmers face several challenges that limit their growth and income. The first challenge is low productivity, as traditional farming practices result in poor yields when compared to modern methods. Another challenge is the lack of knowledge, since many farmers have limited exposure to scientific techniques, improved tools, and training programs that could enhance their farming efficiency. In addition, market dependence creates difficulties, as farmers rely heavily on middlemen to sell their produce, which reduces their profit margins and prevents them from earning a fair price for their hard work.

Intervention/Turning Point

A few years ago, Simranjeet attended a training program organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in his district, which proved to be a major turning point in his farming journey. During the training, he gained valuable knowledge about crop diversification, which helped him reduce risks and increase income by cultivating multiple crops. He also learned about different irrigation systems that improved water efficiency and reduced wastage. In

addition, the program introduced him to the use of organic inputs and vermicomposting, which lowered production costs and improved soil health. Another important lesson was direct marketing to consumers, which allowed him to bypass middlemen and secure better prices for his produce. This intervention equipped him with modern knowledge and practical skills, enabling him to move towards sustainable and profitable farming.



Steps Taken by The Farmer

As a result of his efforts, Simranjeet witnessed remarkable improvements in his farming journey. He focused on skill development by attending multiple training programs on pest control, soil health management, used good varieties (like PR-126 as well as PR-131 for rice, PBW-826, PBW-833 and PBW-872 for wheat, Kufri Jyoti and Pukhraj for potato and Pusa Hybrid Makka for maize) and post-harvest storage, which enhanced his technical knowledge. He also created direct marketing linkages, selling his produce at local farmer markets and directly to housing societies, thereby avoiding middlemen and securing better profits. To promote sustainability, he started vermicomposting, effectively utilizing farm waste to produce organic manure and reducing his dependence on chemical fertilizers. In addition, he diversified into poultry and livestock farming, investing in 10 buffaloes, 9 cows, 4 horses, and poultry birds, which provided him with multiple sources of income.

Results

Simranjeet's adoption of modern and sustainable practices brought significant results. His annual income increased to ₹20.5 lakh, reflecting the success of crop diversification, direct marketing, and livestock integration. The growth of his farm also led to employment generation, as he was able to hire five local workers, thereby supporting rural livelihoods. Beyond personal success, his journey created a strong community impact, inspiring other farmers in the village to adopt similar methods and move towards scientific and profitable farming.

Simranjeet Singh's Crop Income Breakdown

Crop and Season	Sowing Months	Total Yield
Rice (Kharif)	Jun - Jul	510 Quintals
Maize (Kharif)	May - Jun	110 Quintals
Wheat (Rabi)	Nov - Dec	380 Quintals
Potato (Rabi)	Sep - Oct	190 Quintals

Lesson Learned

This case highlights that small farmers can significantly improve their income by diversifying crops instead of depending only on wheat and rice, which reduces risk and ensures better returns. Proper and efficient management of resources such as water, soil, and organic inputs plays a vital role in increasing overall profitability and sustainability of farming. Moreover, direct marketing of produce helps farmers realize better prices by eliminating middlemen, thereby improving their profit margins and ensuring fair returns for their hard work.