SUCCESS STORY OF FARMER MR. SADIQ ALI (MENDHAR)
The farmer Mr. Sadiq Ali hails from village Gohlad in Tehsil Mendhar of District Poonch which lies very close to Mendhar town. He owns around 15 kanals of land in which he used to cultivate paddy up till 2002-03. Due to people moving from villages and settling in the town, the cultivable area of the village kept on getting reduced and converting from irrigated to unirrigated one due to construction of houses, roads, buildings and destruction of irrigation channels. As such, the irrigated land of the said farmer got converted into unirrigated one forcing him to shift from paddy to other crops.

Initially he started the conventional cultivation of maize and wheat but due to lack of irrigation, poor drainage and other constraints obtained meagre returns of around 15-20 thousand rupees per season. Later on, realizing the importance of diversified farming, he started cultivation of vegetables in his land in 2008-09. Taking advantage of the various schemes, incentives, guidance and quality hybrid seeds provided by the Agriculture department, he started earning significant profits of around 50-60 thousand rupees per season.

He has also been provided a poly green house structure by the department in which he raises nursery and does protected cultivation of vegetables.

Now, he cultivates vegetables like knol-khol, radish, cauliflower, cabbage, tomatoes, chillies, beans, bottle gourd, bitter gourd, coriander, lady's finger, cucumber etc on about 8 kanals of land with a total production of around 50 qtls, earning a profit of around 60-70 thousand rupees per season. And on the remaining 7 kanals of land, he cultivates maize/wheat and fodder.

He also has a pair of bullocks, 2 buffaloes, 1 cow, 2 calves, 2 goats from whom he gets ample manure to utilize in his fields.

He has also bagged a number of awards in Kissan Melas and exhibitions organised in the district.

Being an aware and hard-working farmer, he is an inspiration for the others farmers in the area.
COURTESY:
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