

KRISHI MITRA – Rural Youth turned into Para Professionals

Mr. Mohankumar, residing in Appakoodal village of Anthiyur block in Erode District of Tamil Nadu. He completed Diploma in Agriculture from Agricultural Research Station, Bhavanisagar during the year 2013, he worked in a private agriculture farm for two years near Tiruppur District. Though he completed Diploma in Agriculture not exposed in practical aspects and application of technology at field level.

He approached MYRADA KVK for updating the latest agricultural technologies and its practical feasibility. Initially, he attended one day training on “Indigenous microorganisms’ production” followed to this he also attended 6 days skill training programme during 8.12.2014 to 12.12.2014 organized by MYRADA KVK with the support of Fullerton India Limited. He got trained the aspects like on Organic farming, , production of bio- inputs, identification of natural enemies, soil & water sample collections and backyard kitchen garden & roof garden etc., He was developed as Krishi Mitra along with other 12 rural youth from different parts of Erode District.

In order to utilize his service, he placed with Community Managed Resource Centre, Kallipatti promoted by MYRADA KVK as a Krishi Mitra. He further updated his skills on “Value addition, Bee Keeping, coconut climbing aspects, Group formation, Agricultural Insurance Schemes”. With the institutional backup he could extend the services in 14 villages from Kongarpalayam and Perumugai Panchayat. The following are the key activities of the Krishi Mitra.

- He is promoting and monitoring 18 farmers group
- Promoting and developing model organic farms in his working cluster village (5 farmers)
- Supported to collect farmers share amount from 225 farmers in order to promote farmers Producers Company
- Creating awareness about agricultural insurance schemes among the farming community (700 farmers)
- Supplying the critical inputs like micronutrients and bio fungicides to the farmers (450 kg)

Other services extended by the Krishi Mitra for the year 2016-17:

S. No	Training Topics	No. of Trainings	No. of Beneficiaries		
			Men	Women	Students
1	Training on Organic farming	7	88	59	-
2	Awareness on Nutrition Garden	5	48	23	80
3	Vermicompost production	3	22	7	12
4	Support for Formation of FPO	1	320	140	-
5	Veterinary camp	4	Animal treated - 540		
6	Awareness and collection of soil samples	6	96	28	12
7	Organizing farmers for bee keeping training	2	49	11	-
8	Monitoring and follow up visit on Bee boxes established in farmers field	2	49	11	-
9	Bio input production training	1	30	7	-
10	Farmers selection for KVK technical programme like On Farm testing and frontline demonstration	3	24	3	
	Total	34	726	289	104

Krishi Mitra activities in Erode District

Like Mohankumar, there are 16 rural youths involved in similar agricultural extension activities in the district.

- T.N.Palayam Block – 7 members (4 male and 3 female)
- Perundurai Block – 2 members (2+0)
- Anthiyur Block – 6 members (3 + 3)

- Gobi Block – 2 members (0+2)

The following table provides the details on various services provided by Krishi Mitras in their respective areas

Sl. No	Training Topics	No. of Trainings	No. of Beneficiaries		
			Men	Women	Students
1	Training on Organic farming	24	984	216	52
2	Awareness on Nutrition Garden	9	125	74	8
3	Vermicompost production	4	212	47	259
4	Support for Formation of FPO	24	1200	522	-
5	Veterinary camp	14	Animal treated - 3945		
6	Awareness and collection of soil samples	8	475	312	54
7	Monitoring and follow up visit on Bee boxes established in farmers field	36	76	44	-
	Total	119	3072	1215	373

The Para professionals promoted by the KVK add value to the KVK technology programmes and enable to reach the remote area farmers in the district. Kendra planned to have more such Krishi Mitras to cover other areas of Erode District for the benefit of farming communities.



Established Nutrition Garden at School



Organized Veterinary Camp at Kolathukadu
