

Sweet success of Kallu Wangad – A tribal entrepreneur

1. Introduction:

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 not a 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 are known to be involved in bee keeping since a long time. In the last two decades bee keepers makers and planners have started realizing the importance of mobilizing the tribal youth for bee keeping as a self-employment. Studies in tribal youth in bee keeping and agriculture started emerging. Thus, it helped to make 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 bee keeping 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 bee keeping farming.

Methodology

The pilot survey of the area around Kosbad Hill village was made to identify tribal youth entrepreneur in Bee keeping who had already trained. One of young farmer i.e. Shri. Kallu wangad could be identified who had running bee unit efficiently. Thus it was decided to take up a case study on his bee activities. The study used an open-ended interview schedule as well as observation method as a tool to conduct case study.

Process documentation

Shri. Kallu Wangad, a young enthusiastic hard working farmer resides at Kosbad Hill village in Dahanu tehsil of Thane district in Maharashtra. After completion of 10th standard education, he had undergone training for Bee keeping course at KVK, Kosbad Hill. After completion of one-month duration of training course, he started bee keeping unit from 05 Bee colonies.

Shri. Kallu Wangad started his beekeeping vocation by initially capturing bee colonies of local bee species *Apis cerana indica* available in his locality and then setting them up in his own apiary at his native village of Kosbad Hill and nearby areas. By that time, he also took training in beekeeping from the KVK Thane and the Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB) for learning scientific beekeeping and better bee management practices.

3.1 Information about Bee keeping activities

3.1.1 Location –The Bee keeping unit is located in Kosbad Hill village, Taluka – Dahanu, Thane District, Maharashtra. The residence surrounded with agriculture fields, few shrubs owned by the family.

3.1.2 Bee keeping activities:

Mr. Kallu Wangad took interest in beekeeping after he completed his S.S.C when he was working as a 2arpenter. His interest in beekeeping was triggered by a beekeeper, Mr. Rajesh Wangad, his nephew who approached him to make beehives and who also gave him practical knowledge about the subject. There is a Bee keeping unit having size about 10 colonies, the entire activities managed by him.

Basically he is from carpenter family, took initiative for the preparation of bee boxes along with capturing bee colonies. He started this work. He provides the bee boxes along with bee colonies of *Apis cerana indica* for the farmers of Thane as well as other districts of Maharashtra state.

He is also engaged in maintaining and consulted to 165 farmers towards the bee hives of surrounding Palghar, Dahanu and Talasari tehsils of Thane district.

3.1.3 Employment pattern:

Shri. Kallu Wangad and his family working in Bee keeping regularly. He did not require hiring labour. Preparation of bee boxes, collection of bee colonies, and maintenance of bee boxes of surrounding areas, etc work doing by him. Administration of as when required are doing by him and his wife.

3.1.3. Out puts and Outcome:

After successful running the various activities of bee keeping gives on average income of Rs. 20000/- per month. So that he produced the amount of Rs. 2,24,000/- during the year 2012 and got net benefit of Rs. 1,30,000/-.

3.1.4. Impact:

Today he is maintaining 1250 bee colonies and has been identified as a bee-breeder by the Khadi Village Industries Commission and works as a Master trainer of KVK for its mission for bee colonies multiplication and supply to beekeepers. He also helps over 165 beekeepers in Palghar, Dahanu and Talasari tehsil of Thane and other districts. His tiny bee-box manufacturing unit supplies 5,000 bee-boxes and other accessories every year to the beekeepers and other agencies.

3.1.5. Future prospects:

It is the fact that tribal youth can manage bee keeping enterprise. 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 bee keeping. There is need to conduct vocational training to the tribal youth in the traditional bee keeping as well as organized exposure visits in commercial bee entrepreneurs so that planners could be direct their programmer towards the neglected tribal youth for getting self employment.



