



## Autonomy in paddy seed through seed village programme

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### ABSTRACT

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vyara is located in the Tapi district, the southeastern part and the tribal belt of Gujarat. Small and marginal farmers are often at an inconvenient position in capturing the agricultural technology related to genetic enhancement of production potential of agricultural crops. Though the organized sector is able to produce a large quantity of seeds, the supply chain is unable to cope with the huge demand for seeds across the length and breadth of the country. Thus, the farming community depends to a large degree on external sources for important inputs such as seeds. Seed village programme provides an alternative to this problem and help farmers to become self reliant. Efforts towards up scaling seed village programme under Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vyara in the Tapi district resulted in encouraging learning outcomes and demonstrated the viability of seed village with suitable technical backstopping by KVK scientists and empowerment of the community members. The seed village concept not only ensures good quality seeds for enhancing productivity but also in generating income for the community members resulting in improved livelihood. The self sufficiency in the seed is a great impact in the area like Tribal dominated district of Tapi. The consciousness of the farmers regarding quality seed materials have been increased drastically. The seed village concept of the farmers have been cultivated in the mind of orthodox tribal farmers to shift their age old seed through recently released high yielding paddy varieties. It was really a big achievement in the field of agriculture to run on sustainability and profitability super high way.

### INTRODUCTION

Krishi Vigyan Kendra Vyara is located in the Tapi district – the southeastern part and the tribal belt of Gujarat. The district shares its borders with Surat, Navsari and Dang district in North-west, South and East, respectively with Maharashtra state in East. The geographical area of the district is 7.79 lac ha. The noticeable features of the district are undulating topography with steep slopes and heavy rainfall. The average annual Rainfall of the district is about 80 –100 inches per annum. The distribution is erratic and thus, causing damage to the crops like Pulses, Paddy and other cereals. The district is composed largely of tribal communities. This, communities depend primarily on agriculture for their livelihood supplemented by income from seasonal employment in nearest industrial town. Soils of the district in general can be classified as medium black to heavy black, Red murrum and rocky with low innate

fertility. Agriculturally, about 60 per cent of the cultivated area is undersigned crop during monsoon. The main crops of the district are – Paddy, Sorghum, Groundnut, Pulses, Sugarcane, Gram and vegetables-Brinjal, Okra. Paddy is the staple food of the tribal communities of the district. Among Vegetable crops Okra is main crop for export quality. To mitigate the problems of good quality paddy seed, KVK, Tapi has started the seed village programmes in the adopted villages. To find out the impact of the programme said study was undertaken.

### Genesis of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vyara :

KVK, Vyara is working under the auspices of Navsari Agricultural University. It has started its activities since September, 2000. Kendra has undertaken Seed multiplication programme of paddy since 2000-01.