

The State Animal Husbandry Department (AHD) channeled the funds from the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) to promote backyard poultry (BYP).

Household  
Seetampeta ITDA,  
Srikakulam District, Andhra Pradesh

## Desi Poultry Earnings Add Up To Savings For Gold Purchase

*Birds feeding on Supplementary Feed*

**K**urangi Arudramma (44 years), w/o Appanna (55 years) lives in Peddaram hamlet of Chinarama village in Seetampeta block of Srikakulam district in Andhra Pradesh. She is an agricultural labourer with 2.5 acres of land and belongs to the Jatapu caste. She cultivates ragi using the guli ragi method on about 50 cents. She earns about ₹ 15,000 from selling the produce leftover, after domestic consumption. She also cultivates paddy, from which she earns about ₹ 30,000. But she has a large family that includes husband, 2 sons (studying in the government high school), 2 daughters (one of whom finished her degree and works as a village volunteer, another is studying second year degree) and 2 grandchildren who attend the anganwadi.

Around October 2017, she became a member of the poultry CIG (Common Interest Group) at the behest of ARTS, the local NGO. She was also nominated to be its president. She and other members of the CIG received 3 chicks at ₹ 50 each. They also received mesh, cement and asbestos sheets for the construction of night shelter.



*Kurangi Arudramma, who is also President of the Poultry CIG*



GIRIKODI, TRICOR,  
Directorate of Animal Husbandry, GoAP



Jowar, bajra are cultivated in her field to meet the supplementary feed requirement of the birds. She buys a bag of broken rice and bran every three months to supplement the bird's foraging. She now has about 40 birds. She sold a few during the just concluded Dushhera festival (2019), where she earned ₹ 1800 for three birds. She also cooks a few birds when there are local festivals or relatives come visiting. She has earned around ₹ 40,000 till date from the sale of birds. She proudly wears the gold earrings that she bought with her savings that includes money earned from selling desi birds.

Previous to this program, we used to sell our birds for ₹150-200. Now our birds look healthy and robust, so we are able to bargain for anywhere between ₹500-700 per bird.

*"ee program raka mundara, memu ₹150-200 ki ammay valammu. Ippudu ma kollu balam ga posti ga undadam valla, memu ₹500-700 madyalo ammagalugutunnamu," says Kurangi.*



*Kurangi Arudramma at her night shelter*

