

Silpajanni Sanyasi Rao and his wife Silpanni Lakshmi are residents of Sathabi, a hill top village in Pachipenta mandal (a tribal mandal) of Vizianagaram district in Andhra Pradesh. They have a family of 5 - Sanyasi Rao's mother and their two school-going children.

Sanyasi Rao happened to attend the gram sabha organised by AASHRA partner NGO to WASSAN (the lead technical agency) in October 2017 where they spoke about the BYP program. As he was already rearing a few desi birds (hens-15, cocks-4, growers-5, chicks-50), he thought it would be a good opportunity to become a breed farm entrepreneur. He readily came forward to start the breed farm. Sanyasi Rao also earned ₹ 40000 (500 chicks @ ₹ 80/chick) from sale of chicks to HHs.

The construction of the breed farm was completed in May 2018, complete with forage development and fencing of his half-acre land. He currently has a flock of 112 birds (Hens-60, Cocks-10, Growers -12, Chicks- 30). Apart from foraging he supplements the birds with broken rice, rice bran, and millets (gantelu,ragulu, samalu). He feeds the birds thrice a day − one and half kilograms in the morning, one kilogram in the afternoon and evening- total of three and half kilograms a day (735 kgs monthly and 2820 kgs annually). Of this he only purchases rice bran @ ₹10 per kilogram, of which he requires 100kgs annually.





Sanyasi Rao is also the vaccinator in the cluster. Vaccination against fowl pox and ranikhet disease were done thrice along with regular deworming. He also uses locally available garlic, turmeric, nelavemu and tulasi from time to time, to keep the birds healthy.

During the year 2018-19, he consumed about 25 birds during festivals including harvest festivals. In 2018 he sold (during Dussehra – 12, Pongal-14, local festivals -11) a total of 37 birds and earned ₹29000/-. In 2019 he sold 18 birds @ ₹900 per bird during Dussehra and earned ₹16200.

Apart from poultry he earns an income of ₹ 15000/- seasonally from the sale of tamarind, and custard apple. He cultivates different crop varieties like paddy and millets, which he uses for domestic as well as poultry purposes.

Sanyasi Rao's mother who lives with them met with an accident, when she went to work in June 2019. She was hurt badly with bruises all over her body. She had to be rushed to Salur local government hospital where she was given first aid. She was moved to the Vizianagaram government hospital, where she was admitted for 2 days. Sanyasi rao was able to meet the expenses of the emergency as he had saved the money earned from selling birds in January 2019 during the Sankaranthi festival. He also sold about 5 birds immediately to meet the expenses. He spent a total of ₹ 15000 to meet the expenses.

Silpajanni Lakshmi and Sanyasi Rao are happy that they could meet the emergency expenses from the money earned from sale of birds, without having to take out a hand loan at high rate of interest.

