

## Percolation tank: Recharging ground water while increasing productivity

**Sri Rabindra Lenka**

At- Gajapitha PO- RK Patna PS- Patkura PIN-754244

**Mobile:** 8895753657

**Age:** 65 years

**Education:** Matriculation

**Resources owned:** 3.5 acre irrigated land, 1 cow, 1hp pump set



**Description of innovation:** River dries out during summer bringing down the depth of water table. Water is not available for practising cultivation of any crop. Sri Lenka dug out a pit of dimension (LxBxH) 10 ft x 8ft x 12ft in the river bed. This pit becomes a pond filled with water collected from lateral seepage flow. Water is lifted by using a pump and used for cultivation of vegetable crops. The water level in the pit goes down with continuous lifting, however, the pit gets recharged after few hours with seepage of water.

**Process of innovation:** The Bhaguni, a subsidiary river of the Chitroptala, passes through the village Gajapitha, becomes completely dry during summer. There is absolutely no irrigation source other than this river as boring for tube well is restricted in the region. Looking at this serious issue, the innovative idea of digging a recharge pit on river bed triggered the mind of Sri Lenka. He discussed about this idea with KVK scientists who supported and guided him to realise his dream. He engaged JCB machine to dig the pit. He successfully cultivated vegetable crops during summer and earned good profit. Other farmers are encouraged and inspired to adopt this practice.

**Adoption of Technology:** The recharge pit provided irrigation including life saving irrigation to cultivate crops during dry seasons. The pit naturally recharged after lifting of water for irrigation with no additional cost. Due to the availability of irrigation during summer the summer fallow area could be utilised for cultivation summer vegetables like cucurbitaceous crops. With a single pit he has converted 3 acres fallow land to vegetable cropping. An additional profit of Rs.2,00,000 Per season is earned due to this innovation.

**Impact:** Horizontal spread of the technology involving 6 more farmers of the same village.

**Recognition:** Awarded as Best farmer by KVK, Kendrapara.

