8. NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY MISSION: A BOON FOR FARMERS

Shri Ayub Hussain a farmer of Fershakandi Village, Salsella Block, West Garo Hills District has 1 Ha of land for Paddy Cultivation. In the previous years the farmer was growing only local Varieties of Paddy (Kaneri and Ranga Kishore) during Sali and Boro season but in the year 2015-16 under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) he started cultivating Hybrid Varieties like Arize Gold and Tej during Sali and Boro season and there was an increased in production during Sali Season and a bumper harvest is also expected from Boro Paddy.

Shri N. Hajong a farmer of Rudu B Village, South West Khasi Hills has around 2 Ha of land for cultivating paddy. In the year 2014-15, he started growing Boro paddy only in 1 acre of land and
found that the harvest from this plot of land was sufficient for his family. During the year 2015-16, he increased the area upto 4 acre, with the hope that with sufficient water supply he will get a good harvest, which will go beyond making him self sufficient but will also give him surplus yield, which will help in uplifting his economic condition.

Other farmers who have found success under NFSM 2015-16, include Shri. Phubon Patho at Barigaon, Ri-Bhoi District, who has an area of 4 ha of land under paddy cultivation.

Smti. Albna Shangoi of Mawkynbad Village, West Khasi Hills District is another farmer who has seen success under the scheme, wherein her foray in planting paddy (MEG-II) variety has given her good dividends as this variety of paddy gives better yield and can withstand the environmental condition of the upper region.
Smti B. Lymphuid, Kyrdem Village, Ri-Bhoi District undertook lentil cultivation under Zero Tillage cultivation (Rice followed by Lentil). During the previous years, after harvesting of Sali Paddy her paddy field remained fallow but in the year 2015-16 an extra income of Rs. 30,000/- was generated from this same field.

With the hope of a bountiful harvest, Shri S. Basaiawmoit of Nongtraw Village, Ri- Bhoi District has adopted intercropping of Maize with Soybean for the first time in his field. With this initiative, not only has he benefited with extra income from his field and it also has helped in maintaining soil health.

(Courtesy: www.megagriculture.gov.in)