

Deborah: Welcome to Small Farm Income – Podcast Series in each episode we will be covering specific theme in relation to sustainability, livelihood, and civic action issues in India. Today we are in conversation with Swati Renduchintala to understand her experience of anchoring agro-ecological initiatives as part of Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming Programme.

Deborah: Welcome Swati

Swati: Hello, glad to be here. Thank you.

Deborah: Great. Here is brief introduction of Swati before we dive in. Swati has been working as development professional for more than seven years. An engineering graduate, she did her master's from IRMA and joined as a young professional in National Rural Livelihood Mission. She joined Uttar Pradesh State Rural Livelihood Mission after rigorous induction, and worked with rural communities in Sanshabad block of Agra district in Western Uttar Pradesh. There she learnt, lived and grew with the community for 2 years, as she initiated self-help group federation of women. She then worked with Grameen Foundation of India, she was part of climate impact and social performance team, for the past 4 years she has been working with Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming Programme. Her role has been that of an interpreter working directly with the Executive vice chairman of the Programme. She has anchored Natural Farming Fellowship programme, unique project that has engaged 300+ young agri graduates across Andhra Pradesh. She anchors communications in the programme along with supporting the fund-raising team. Swati as we start can you give me a bird's eye view of Andhra Pradesh Natural Farming Initiative in terms of its vision, and mission, when did it start and so on.

2:10

Swati: Yea hello everyone. So Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming Programme is an erstwhile Andhra Pradesh zero budget natural farming programme as it was called, which was initiated in 2015 – 16. Initially it started as just small subsidiary organic cell of Andhra Pradesh Government. It was inculcated as Rythu Swadhikara Samstha which is a section 8 company. In 2016 the actual work began. When this programme began it was basically to ensure farmer's welfare through sustainable livelihood, because today the problems farming and agriculture in broader sense is facing about climate change which is bringing drastic changes in farm level production system. It is also the rural migration that is happening, the eco system devastation that is happening, the desertification that is happening in Andhra Pradesh, specially the Rayalaseema region which is arid, one of the most arid region in the country, so what was realised that Natural Farming holds the potential it was like two birds with one arrow, multiple "nishanas" of sorts.

3:35

Swati: So the vision of the programme is to convert and its an ambitious vision, it is to convert 60 lakh farmers in the state into natural farming, and its 80 lakh hectares

of land into natural farming by 2030, which is an ambitious project but not impossible. If you look at it from system thinking, if you look at it from convergence point of view it is achievable.

Deborah: Yea, yea as you said it is ambitious programme, lots of thoughts seems to have gone into it. As I understand one of the innovative practices that have been used has been this optic of recruiting and mentoring of these natural farming fellows, to encourage the optic of natural farming practices in villages. So can you tell me bit about this approach and what was the motivation to design this.

Swati: When we started in 2017 it was quite an interesting journey, so when we started, we had three natural farming fellows when we designed the programme. We did not know the potential then the designers, right. We had three natural farming fellows listed for every district, so we had 45 budgeted. But the day we had called, first day when we called for people there 900 people turn up.

5:05

Swati: That is when we realised that just writing a test may not be the correct way, 45 was not the number that we should be looking at, it was like a mass of agriculture graduates accumulating in a place, really, I am telling you, it culminated into something different, how to select these people, how could I tick 45 out of 900, just by one hour test. So what we decided to filter these 900 people and send them to live with the community for one month, let them stay and understand, immerse themselves, that will be the immersion process. we are not selecting them right away, we thought let them immerse themselves into natural farming into rural lives then after one month, live with the community, whoever remains will be the sample of natural farming fellows that I would like look at that after one month of immersion they came back we did a behavioural analysis and personal interview and that is how we got going. So the first batch we had 30+ people who joined us, we realised the potential of it as we went along. Rather than having a vision in the first go. So, we have till now 5 batches of natural farming fellows, this has been a learning journey, with every batch we understood, okay immersion is done then we had interview and then induction process, they were not offered fellowship right away. You work for one season become a role model farmer. Let the community give you a tag of natural farmer because if you don't do natural farming with the community you are of no use. So, you have to practice one season and your induction completes and then you are offered the fellowship. This is a unique point and what happens is , this eventually became part of our extension process also somebody from outside coming and living with the community. And showing them "See I have done natural farming, it worked for me, you also do it, it will work for you." So that is a different level of conviction people get. It really took, really of great proportion what we really achieved.

Deborah : So after..

Deborah: Sorry yes go on.

Prof Shambu: So Swati couple of questions one is to understand the induction process itself. You had people finding themselves coming from college they were expecting different kind of job, induction was it too tough for them. Were there any drop outs from the process. Typically the induction was for three months or how long was it?

7:53

Swati: Six months long, we had induction process go till 9 months also. It is a rigorous process.

Prof Shambu: So in a sense what we are seeing here is not very different from what was there in NRLM design for young professionals, so can you try and compare the experience because you yourself were young professional, you have seen the process, so what did you learn from that how NRLM design while working this out.

Swati: Basically first we were looking for agriculture and horticulture graduates from Andhra Pradesh and Telegu speaking per se, so we realised that if you see the journey if you trace the majority of agriculture graduates right now they have joined some marketing companies, selling seeds and fertilisers, or chicken feed or poultry feed and women agri graduates have lesser job tracks. We realised that after learning chemical farming for 4 years also nobody goes for farming, they are joining some bank as agricultural officers specially boys find higher remuneration in marketing jobs and girls either they do some clerical jobs in some firms or do entirely non sector job. The individual plans were very screwed in that regard what we realised that agriculture graduate not doing agriculture, even after studying chemical based agriculture for 4 years majority of them. This fellowship actually offered them to do that, first thing. Secondly, bringing such cadre on board also sent a message to the university directly or indirectly, your student who actually studied green revolution based agriculture system for 4 years actually going back and doing natural farming.

10:04

Swati: So whatever you proposed to the World, because we have seen the scientific community and Universities on board are not into natural farming or sustainable agriculture or organic farming, students themselves are doing and demonstrating to the world Natural farming. Coming back to the comparisons and similarities between Natural Farming fellows and young professionals, because our orientation is not just to build just give them the information of technology and natural farming, it is basically to develop natural farming leaders for future, which was also the aim of YP programme of NRLM. So the similarities are immense. The only dissimilarity which is because of the sector, these people had to, natural farming fellows had to lease a land, of their own money by the way, lease a land, do natural farming, and from that

whatever the revenue is, so they are paid X amount, and another X they have to earn from their own field, so that was the challenge given to them where as the YP programme was more about staying with the community , learning from the community but doing, practicing natural farming itself was missing, the element of practice was missing in the YP programme.

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Swati: Otherwise the entire over all development sector is given to Natural farming fellows just as YPs.

Prof Shambu: So just to understand this, what we are seeing in agricultural universities Andhra Pradesh in particular and elsewhere too, the numbers of girls are outnumbering the boys in the programmes. So did you have major challenges in getting the girls to stick to 6 months did they run away after that or how did you find the situation?

Swati: Interestingly the demography of these people agriculture graduates were from semi-rural areas only, not urban areas, they don't come, but interestingly they don't want to work in villages they come from rural setups but they don't want to work in rural areas stay in villages. So facilitation was required to actually convince them we had equal, 48% of natural farming fellows who were women, and men 52%. So it was always almost equal proportion of women. Girls came back saying "we don't get respectable jobs in agricultural sector, B.Sc. agriculture, B.Sc Horticulture, we don't get respectable jobs and because of their semi-rural set ups in 2 to 3 years they are married off. So this provided, the socio economic factor also along with this challenging work, actually gave them that confidence of going to a village and working. So it is a challenge. For example we are still struggling with placing women and boys also in tribal areas, in rural tribal areas. So that has been a challenge, still it is. Very interior something like **Paderu**, where there is no network connectivity, safety issues, that we all still face. But majority of time, and obviously because our programme villages have been near the roads, near highways, but more interior we have founded challenging for sure.

13:31

Prof Shambu: Did you have to change the programme in last 2, 3 years after the first roll out that you had? What kinds of changes and adaptations you had to make ?

Swati: So first batch what had happened, we gave children the opportunity to stay and work in their own districts also, which from batch 2 the next what the natural farming fellows we realised, nobody should be working in the same district. Of course the temptation, for example I am in west Godavari and my home is somewhere in town in west Godavari the temptation of going to home remains which is a major problem with **Anganvadi** people who would be working would do up and down teachers in schools which is a major problem. Nobody wants to stay in the village and work with the community so from 2nd batch we decided, which is a rule for

every cadre in the programme. You will not be given your native district, you will work in a district which is not your native district. So that we ensure the person, is there in the village, work with the community. So the travel time to go to your home and all should be reduced. You need to stay with the community and work with them. This was a major change and this really helped.

Prof Shambu: Just to understand the process of you have these people who have to go to villages and spend so much time and you mentioned that one is the learning something new technically which was not taught to them in the University but they also having to stay in a village which was not their natural aspiration of their batchmates etc. You mentioned the role of facilitation, so what happens in the process of facilitation to make them convinced and enthusiastic enough to make them stay and to do what is the objective of the programme.

Swati: Yes actually when they joined this programme, it is case of majority it is not agriculture graduates or horticulture graduates, their intention is just for a job. So they are just looking at this that after 2 years of fellowship what happens, we want permanent job status. From there, pulling these children from that mind set of having permanent job, pushing them to do exciting job not settling down for lesser work, that is a challenge, which the unlearning process of condition of permanent job has been really put up that is what we focus on. That you have to develop a individual plan. Learning is a difficult process, unlearning these people, not just these people in the sense all unlearning is a very difficult process of really pulling ourselves out of the vicious cycle of job, money and settlement. So yea, the focus is on, making a wholistic development process. Grass root what we use for them is Grass Root Development Professional for these people, where you become a model, that is the role and responsibility to become model, role model of natural farmer and then you become a trainer, so the escalation of your job profile goes like this. More we they want to become entrepreneurs rather than seek for a job.

Prof Shambu : When you start the programme this is in your mind, they have not seen a physical example of any such person. So how do you communicate this to them, that this is the opportunity.

Swati: First batch 30 people was a difficult task, the word of mouth, because the same their juniors or peers came for 2nd batch and even actually it was more of word of mouth, because these children became flag bearers in their universities. So the first batch yes we found was there, but I would, I am still proud to say that the attrition level from the first batch is the minimum till now as compared to the 3rd batch or 4th batch. So we had 5 batches till now. The problem with these children have been or majorly like “ I don’t want this district, I want this district” or it might be the salary processing or these are all hygiene issues, there were no fundamental issues per se, because we were very clear that these are 3 line or 4 lines job profile, and eventually we learnt. It was more hygiene issues or process issues that could be solve. There were no fundamental, conceptual issues per se.

Prof Shambu: If you were to take all 5 batches together, how many 150 or...

Swati: 296, plus we have health and nutrition, so around 320 we had. Sadly, we had great attrition when Govt of Andhra Pradesh brought **Rythu Bharosa Kendram**. So we let go off lot of our resource. But now it is emerging as flag bearers of Natural farming groups in RKB programmes, so in that yes.

18:55

Prof Shambu: So Rythu Bharosa Kendra, we did speak to Srinivas who ended up quitting.

Swati: No now he wants to come back. He is not happy doing what he is doing so..

Prof Shambu: So that's like a permanent job right.

Swati: It's not a political answer. They have not been offered yet. It is more of an aspiration, if you work so there is, there might be.

Prof Shambu: But remuneration wise you get more or less.

Swati: Less. Half.

Prof Shambu: Okay.

Swati: Half what they get in the programme but as I said the temptation of a permanent job is something different. Because majority of these children are driven by families also, because they come from semi-rural set up so mind set is more , very family centric. So it is very difficult to give a larger exposure to the perspective many break free, many give in.

Deborah: One part I think which Prof covered, may be you can talk about it more is you know what like this the unlearning process that is involved where they are coming from agricultural universities, they little worked or probably they have contradictory exposure to the natural farming method, they have not really experienced what happens as part of natural farming, it was just part of their formal studies. So do they face any tension, conflict, you know how it is resolved, what happens as part of the learning curve or unlearning curve.

Swati: So they have some subjects, there are tests and modules, there are some subjects like organic farming or natural farming, as they reply, as they themselves say that it is not really the syllabus is just designed in such a way that it does not cover the scientific aspect, the "whys" and "How's" of organic farming is superior. So that fundamental issue they face. So when they join the programme right from immersion, you have to dip your hand into cow dung that is the part of the check list which is offered. Until you don't put your hand you cannot just stand on side put a photograph and write a thesis. You have to put your hand, you have to make it with your own hand. That itself gives the feeling of hand holding of a different level, it is what you are practicing and doing it and you then question in the way. The check list

is such or whatever the design is such that every path you just , why you are doing it, the “Whys” are questioned and to be honest. No Deborah if you see the science the entire science gamet of the programme we know the left side and we know the right side. What is the left side, the practices. What is the right side we know that the yield is good, we know that income comes down. Why it happens, is a black box, which is the science, right. Black box as more research is happening, it will keep shrinking. So this black box is something which we all are figuring out together.

22:09

Swati: Because this is a science irrespective, we are, last 70 years we have not explored this black box. We have gone to a different paradigm talking about chemical. We are talking about industrial based agricultural system. So this black box is actually being reduced with the help of these people. So rather than they questioning the system they themselves becoming a part of it to prove that this works. The “Whys “of it. So that participation of them in answering the question itself helps in unlearning the what you said, the process of learning. So rather than becoming a side lined and seeing it, you become part of it, so you are yourself a stake holder of the question and answer. That is what.

Deborah: That is a very interesting way in which they are probably also participating and becoming I mean creating new knowledge. And I guess that sort of gives ownership and stake in the process, probably brings about the changes. So in that sense like does any of **this go back** to the universities, do they go back and have discussion let’s say with their faculty members or has there been channels of dialogue between **APC** and state Universities. (Not Audible)

Swati: So basically we have received from agriculture colleges, we have received invitation for getting people on board, now that this batch is going to pass out, please come and recruit us. So that is the kind of dialogue with Natural farming fellows have happened. But obviously when they talked to the Professors at individual level, they have spoken to them they are happy that their children are actually doing agriculture. This itself for a agriculture Professor or teacher is such a great thing. Because that has not been the norm. Somebody like me, who is an engineer it is nowhere near to my field so that applies to agriculture graduate as well. So they are very happy that agriculture they are doing and answering the questions in the process. Apart from that NFF level it is more of avid, on a very principle level when we speak to **Aykar**, when we speak to agriculture universities these become a demonstrative population, whom we can tell, your own children are doing and proving it. That level it is helping. Yes.

Deborah: Okay. So I mean it could be that few years there could be some contribution to even curriculum changes, in the universities.

Swati: Yes it has to . We have limited time in fact we tried to have a natural farming apprenticeship where we invited agriculture graduates from across the country, to

come and do apprenticeship for your, basically you do apprenticeship then you become fellow. To be honest it is a learning process, we didn't get much. Because it was too ahead of it's time. We did it 2 and half years back. That time we didn't get. But now after Covid as the thought process is food system has become centre. Immunity , health and nutrition, we feel that now we are getting interests from Civil society , from state Governments, who needs that kind of potential resource who can really learn from AP and then go back support the programmes in their states. That we think we will go ahead, in coming days.

26:10

Deborah: Okay. So in terms of impact what do you think, these natural farming have they been able to achieve in terms of converting or enabling farmers to practice these methods, I mean what kind of, how do you describe the success or let's say your modes for improvement in this.

Swati: Yea so one , first thing the impact I will talk about in all the three levels. The farm level, then the village level and then we will talk about the district programme level. In the farm level we actually learnt a lot to be honest. Because we trial error , it's journey of learning, let us start from there. So then we really want to demonstrate five layer model in a village in some place like Ananthpur where the farmer may not be willing. Because it's a land which is stuck because it will for your sake of experimentation, you cannot ask a small marginal land holder to do it. So when you have a natural farming fellow then that demonstration is done at a very low risk if that is the right way of saying. That the low risk is you demonstrate a model, you will learn from that model, you invest in that model, and it becomes a part of your policy, it becomes part of your practices. So that really helped. For example 5 layer model, we are talking about ___ now been propagated we feel this is one of the break through solution for drought proofing. So this was started by 11 natural farming fellows in Andhra Pradesh which really rocketed, air rocketed in such a way that today more than a lakh of farmers in Andhra Pradesh have taken up. It is still in experimentation phase. But to do that , the risk taking factor at the farm level we felt that the natural farming fellows are the ones, because they are getting the fellowship amount. So the risk is minimal. Then you are taking up some innovation, you are taking up some work and these are not done in isolation. They do it with campaign farming education. So the learning , cross learning, process is there, it is for the village to demonstrate. At the farm level that impact we saw.

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Swati: Secondly at village level, I have told previously also these are basically shows some demonstration, when an outside is coming and doing it, because what happens they don't know Deborah, what works for transformation. For the change we will tell you what the theory of change is. But how the theory of change happens they don't know how farmer gets convinced. It may be because of one video, it can be because he goes and see something happening to some other farmer in some

other village or he may read or he or she may read it or he or she may see it in wall painting, how he sees we don't know. Actually this demonstrative plot by natural farming fellow is also one aspect. May be he will convince the farmer to take up natural farming. This is one way of extension and much convincing because it becomes part of narrative that this person who came from outside, lease the land by the way it is also the proof of leasing, natural farming is productive and leasing of land also. He leased the land and showed result. Why can't you do it. So that is the way of convincing, transforming mission that happens. At village level it proved beneficial, also as I said the programme, learn. At the programme level, the impact have been maximum. Because then as the programme scale grew up from 740 villages in initial years to day we are in 3000+ villages, gram panchayats across Andhra Pradesh. You require human resource at the end of the day, right. So these natural farming fellows are working for 3 seasons 4 seasons, when the programme requirement is a good trainer or a good science research person, or good farmer field food facilitators, there were various thematic that were emerged. These natural farming fellows escalated to the roles. And they are doing incredible job. Because they themselves come from grass root levels, they themselves are natural farming fellows, natural farming fellows are entry points for the profession. Today these fellows are graduated to natural farming associates. And they are leading thematics in the district and at the state level.

Deborah: So when you say thematics, can you elaborate on that.

Swati: Yea. So, basically the programme has theme, there are various parallels where the programme is working, one is the core, when you say the line support function, right. The line function is basically the agriculture part the natural farming part. But then they alone cannot survive, because it has to be fed, the support system has to feed this line function. So the changing of farmer to farmer dissemination is a line function. The feed is lot of things needs to be provided. For example we have training thematic, but farmers feed school and participates the farmer feed school, it's a great innovation by itself, it's been facilitated by FAO, where we realised that the science aspect, the beading is not in some laboratory, it is done in the field of the farmer, with farming community. For example if my natural farming fellow just facilitates the farmers in the village in a very structured manner every week, this is the soil, this is a from chemical field, this the soil from natural farming. They did themselves by touch, by smell, by eyes. This itself is of different level of conviction. Then looking at a video, that really helps the transmission, the change in the mind set, behavioural change. Then there is for example science, research, while we believe that farmers are doing it, we need to prove, evidence is required.

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Swati: The entire World works on evidence. Scientists are there, though they do not belong to, need to convince the Government, the policies. There is such a **proactive**

World today. So natural farming fellow is a focal point. As he or she understands the science aspect, reading, writing skills are there, that is done in natural farming also. We bring that skills which is required for scientific rigor. So that is thematic. Then say some body for admin, that is for somebody who is not interested for natural farming. Now they have management level skills. I have some people, whom we have put in technical support team, where they see from department point of view, admin point of view, so that is thematic support.

Deborah: So basically building on strength and need of the organisation.

Swati: And the interest of the candidate also.

Deborah : Correct, yea yea. That's a very strong partnership there. So this seems to be a quite a journey. What has been most challenging for you personally, through out your 4 years here.

Swati: So the most challenging part has been, to design, how to design, something so unique where the entire programme is sandwiched. So there is field, then you come back class room training then field then class room training, then field. Because there is not one boss. So the reporting is done to district manager, then there is somebody at state level. Okay, so how do you keep monitoring this person, whether he or she is in the village or not. He or she is doing or not. So how do you work with multiple bosses. They are also confused, whom they had to tell, or not. Tell it to Swati or tell it somebody at state level or district manager level. So this is what real life is all about. There is not one boss, there is no hierarchy exists. Corporates have that kind of set up, we don't have it. We are working with communities. You have to answer to community. You have districts. That is something difficult to navigate. How do you really understand yourself, and then come out discuss, mutual discussion, that we really too time to figure out.

Deborah: What for you has been most satisfactory outcome for you till now, one of high point in all of these.

Swati: This interview itself. That we did something, and now people are talking about it. To be honest we have now transcended and that gives me such a great satisfaction, seeing why agriculture or horticulture graduates why not empower our own graduate farmers, into natural farming fellows. It still gives me goose bumps. That has transcended, they said why not empower our communities. The world right now is crumbling because of no jobs, people are returning to their villages. There are farmers who have done engineering, if you really see our natural farming farmers who have enrolled in our programme, Phd, PGs, you will see engineering graduates you will see, they are graduates, but they are doing farming, why not empower them. So this transition, in the thought process of the programme, in thought process of the district, and the World in general.

Swati: This has been really satisfying, and also we now want to bring it at national level, this kind of fellowship. We are looking at national level as a Natural Farming fellows as future leaders in Natural Farming. Because Deborah and Swati will not be there after 5 years, but we want this work of natural farming to keep going and we really need multiple leaders in multiple thematic and domains. Because agriculture is so complicated. This championship and leadership thoughts have emerged which is beyond fellowship. It is something which has immense potential. We now looking at not just national level we are looking at global level. We want the learnings of Andhra Pradesh or India to go to Africa or to Mexico. Because this living with the community, learning with the community, which is something very unique. And it is something which irreplaceable.

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Deborah: So in a way we talk about sustainable transitions, you used the term transition in a way that sort of all these grass root practices, basically enabling people to not just change but also become leaders and you know sort of upscaling the movement. So it is not just about Andhra but this is something much bigger and scope and aims.

Swati: Deborah, we are in the middle of a huge crisis. Nobody has, we are still trying to figure out how to sail through this pandemic and then post pandemic, among the major thing is how do we build our local food system. When that happens there are immense job losses, agriculture will be the forefront, we will be the major source of employment in the future. Because we have lot of people coming back to the country, we have to rehabilitate. There is lot of reverse migration happening. Agriculture, all these returnees to agriculture, and not just chemical based agriculture, it has to be chemical free, agro-ecological based agricultural system. That is why we require more and more people with keen sense of person who understands from the management point of view, from a professional point of view and look at the technology point of view. It is very crucial.

Deborah: Right. In that sense the professional you are developing through Natural farming programme, Fellowship programme is really very unique. Because a very important term is interface between science and society and those are the dialogues, which I guess need to happen at a much more fundamental way rather than these superficial way of coming together. I think the series of dialogues that have been happening, through the programme for a way in which this can be really nurtured. So that really opens up lot of possibilities for...

Swati: In fact I will tell you, the natural farming fellows are not agriculture or horticulture, who are post graduate in Microbiology, we are not just working for agriculture in a alit space. We got botany students, we got microbiology and we got health and nutrition in home science. There in 52 villages health and nutrition natural farming fellow, who is working and these 52 villages are tribal belts, low nutrition indicator belt. There they are working with respect to kitchen gardens, some farm

nutrition foods. So when I talked about thematic previously, we are not just looking at, and we have agriculture engineering graduates, so they are into mechanisation, so these are the resources, bringing them on board, was a resource which will give the answers also. The question posed by larger public, about labour, so mechanisation, who will do that mechanisation. Agriculture university is not on board with that thought only, who will do the work on mechanisation, agriculture graduate, engineering graduates who know mechanisation, we are looking at veterinary sciences, which are yet to work on. We would really like to have fellows, who come from veterinary sciences to look at the livestock. So what we have done is very less, compared to what needs to be done with the potential it holds.

Deborah: So what kind of support do you think you need from the Government to really start working along these larger aims that you are thinking. If this would be the free thing, what would you ask the Government, what do you want, what we can give, then what it would be.

41:33

Swati: So what we want is , for example if other state Governments wants to send then we think we want them to take up. See we take up the training cost and all will be taken up from the programme, so you just pay them, what the word they use is , living expenditures. This has to be taken care off. Their living expenditure is taken care then the training aspect, the learning aspect, is on the programme. So that is the kind of support we are looking from Civic Societies, or donors or philanthropists give push to this momentum to greater height, because we have seen now, whoever from this 300, potential resource the programme got, if I would have got somebody from outside then in that capacity would not have made that effectiveness, that efficacy that would have happened. Some state like Bihar, Jivika wanting to take up , so you want to, that resources given available, you stay one season, two season, you do then your living expenditure is taken care off. Nothing like it..

Deborah: Hopefully this is something that is easily done. It will happen. Is there anything else that you would like to add, overall anything that I might have missed it, in terms of asking you about the programme, or any other thoughts that you would like to leave us with.

43:07

Swati: So we actually covered a major ground, I am looking forward to interaction with natural farming fellows. I am just mouth piece of work, they will be talking about their experiences and I might have romanticised quite a bit, because that is the story we propose to the World, I have no qualms in saying that there happened difficulties in stream lining this viewed. Want to have a natural farming fellowship cell. We would have worked out more stream lined version after 5 batches, we are not able to get 6th batch. There are lot of change in Govt. we are stuck in bureaucracy and change in policy. So there lot of factors which really hold us back also. That will something

which will become history and will be part of learning. On farm level the problems they face, I am looking forward to that.

Deborah: Yea definitely. I think that would really add weight to whatever you have said in different ways, but even without that I think the learning from, the take away from this interaction is the enthusiasm and passion, that exists in this programme. So communicating that itself is really great thing. I have really enjoyed the discussion.

44:29

Swati: You just need some passionate people to listen and will go on. (Laughing)

Deborah: (Laughing) Yes we will get in touch soon, to do more interaction with natural farming fellows.