

## SRI (Sustainable Rice Intensification)



Agriculture is playing vital role in India economy. Although its contribution to GDP is in sixth place. Agriculture provides employment to 56% of the total population. Agriculture is the base for increase the income of non agriculture sector in forward and backward linkage process. Agriculture not only contributes growth of the economy but also provide employment and food to the majority of the population. Indian agriculture sector is dominated by small and marginal farmers and facing lot of problems like lack of irrigation, lower productivity, lack of technology and non accessibility of good quality seeds and fertilizers. The need of our nation is to support small farmers to overcome the challenges to provide improve their contribution in employment generation, food security and livelihood development of the nation.



MANUVIKASA an NGO working in the field of agriculture sector since 10 years and providing irrigation facilities through small tanks and helping them to proper utilization of water. Paddy is the major crop in this area and very water intensive crop. This organization came to know that, SRI (Sustainable Rice Intensification) method is suitable for this area to get more yield with less input and water.

The **System of Rice Intensification (SRI)** is a methodology aimed at increasing the yield of rice produced in farming. It is a low water, labor intensive, organic method that uses younger seedlings singly spaced and typically hand weeded with special tools.



Basic principles of SRI is

- Rice field soils should be kept moist rather than continuously saturated, minimizing anaerobic conditions, as this improves root growth and supports the growth and diversity of aerobic soil organisms.
- Rice plants should be planted singly and spaced optimally widely to permit more growth of roots and canopy and to keep all leaves photosynthetically active.
- Rice seedlings should be transplanted when young, less than 15 days old with just two leaves, quickly, shallow and carefully, to avoid trauma to roots and to minimize transplant shock



MANUVIKASA is helping farmers with providing them technical support to adopt this SRI method through sending trained staff members to the field. This organization is also providing cono weeder to the small farmers. (One in 5 farmers)

The cost of the SRI promotion to the organization is INR 4000 for 5 farmers.