

DAIRY FARMING BRINGING RURAL PROSPERITY: A SUCCESS STORY OF PREM KHATRI, SAMPHELLING, CHUKHA

**SUCCESS
STORY**



Prem Khatri, a farmer of Sonamthang, Samphelling, Chukha started his dairy farm about 15 years ago with a cow and a calf inherited from father. He then sold about 5-10 litre milk a day or dairy products processed from the milk obtained. He earned about Nu. 5,000-10,000 per month. Later he availed Community Artificial Insemination Training (CAIT) and could improve his own herd through application of AI technology. He also started providing uninterrupted AI services that helped to improve the dairy herds in the community. Members of Community from far and near including farmers from Wangdigatshel, Phuntsholing gewog appreciate and avail his AI service. He earns Nu. 700 per AI at Samphelling and Nu. 1,000 per AI in Phuntsholing including transport.

Later he added few heads of Holstein Friesian (HF) cows procured from outside to his improved herd. His farm herd strength is of 20 animals including calves and heifers. He has good quality milking cows milking year-round and harvest more than 85 liters of milk daily for sale. He spends about Nu. 42,000 per month for feeding and management of herd. He gains a gross income of Nu. 102,000 in a month [@ Nu. 40/litre of milk] and a net income of Nu. 60,000 per month.

*With the annual income of Nu. 720,000 he privately finances education of two adult children for graduate studies at Chandigarh, India which roughly cost Nu. 300,000/year/child. Remaining amount including the top-up income from AI service is sufficient to earn a decent living for his family. Therefore, **improved dairy farming is undoubtedly bringing rural prosperity.***

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