



## SRT's Journey in Marathwada of Maharashtra

Namaskar,

In this edition of our newsletter, we're excited to share the inspiring journey of Team SRT (Saguna Regenerative Technique) in the Chatrapati Sambhaji Nagar & Jalana district of Maharashtra, a region embracing the transformative power of SRT no-till regenerative agriculture.

### A Collaborative Effort Under PoCRA:

Our team, including the Chandrashekhar Dada, Parshuram, and Anil, embarked on a two-day visit to meet with farmers who have adopted the SRT method under the PoCRA (Project on Climate Resilient Agriculture) scheme, funded by the World Bank. This initiative has seen a remarkable uptake in crops like cotton, maize, soybean, and chickpea.

### Day 1: Engaging Visits and Insightful Interactions

The first day began with the company of Dr. Tukaram Mote, Joint Director of Agriculture of Marathawada division, and Mr. Suresh Bedwal, Technical Coordinator of PoCRA. Our first stop was Anvi village, where we met Mr. Kailas Bhavar, a proud SRT farmer. His chickpea crop, grown on SRT raised beds, was a sight to behold – healthy, vigorous, and remarkably free from pests.



Next, we visited Bodhavad in Sillod taluka, where Mr. Ganesh Gavhane, a third-year SRT farmer, showcased his thriving chickpea crop. His success story is a testament to SRT's effectiveness, with his land transforming from degraded to fertile, yielding impressive harvests.



In the afternoon, we traveled to Khamgaon in Phulambri taluka, meeting Mr. Gulabrao Khandagale, a dedicated Technical Coordinator of PoCRA, and visiting Mr. Suresh Sonawane's farm. The day concluded with a visit to the National Agricultural Research Project (NARP), where scientists are conducting trials on weedicides for chickpea using the SRT method.



### Day 2: Further Discoveries and Celebrating Success

The second day started with Mr. Pradeep Bhalage from WALMI institute joining us. We visited Mr. Vitthal Vaidya in Jalana district, an enthusiastic SRT farmer whose cotton crop was in the harvesting stage. His field was a hub of learning for 30 visiting farmers.



In the afternoon, we visited Mr. Uddhav Khedekar, a renowned onion seed producer and national award recipient. He is the 1st farmer to have tried SRT in controlled environment (shade net house); a farmer leader who is connected to SRT movement since 2014. Jalana SDAO, Mrs. Shital Chavhan actively participated in the visit.



These two days were not just about visits; they were about witnessing a revolution in agriculture. The success stories of these farmers are a beacon of hope and inspiration, showcasing how sustainable practices like SRT can lead to healthier crops, improved soil, and a better future for our farming communities.

