

## Nayara Energy has empowered over 5,000 farmer community with climate smart agriculture & water resource management in Devbhumi Dwarka and Jamnagar Districts

- *Aims to increase farmers' income through integrated water resource management and climate-smart agriculture*
- *Endeavours to revamp 11,000 hectares of land in 15 villages of Devbhoomi Dwarka district by making it water neutral*

**August 25, 2020, Vadinar:** Nayara Energy, a new-age downstream energy company of international scale is committed towards sustainable growth and development of the communities surrounding its refinery in Vadinar, Gujarat. The Company has engaged with the communities across 15 villages of Jamnagar and Devbhumi Dwarka districts through its livelihood Project Gram Samruddhi. The project is a public-private partnership with the Government of Gujarat, that endeavours to make 11,000 hectares in the region water neutral over the next few years. Apart from using technological interventions, the project involves the deployment of climate-smart agriculture practices, water resource development and management, and other allied activities like animal husbandry that have been successful in increasing farmers income. Through these interventions, farmers have been undertaking water sustenance measures like extensive surface water storage, groundwater recharge, and introduction of micro and drip irrigation, seismic studies, and crop diversification methods including organic farming and horticulture.

The project has benefitted the farming communities in the region with additional water storage and recharge of about 11.44 MCM, construction and renovation of 484 water-harvesting structures, increased water use efficiency in 400 hectares of land, increased area under irrigation, increased agricultural production and reduced cultivation costs.

Additionally, Nayara Energy is also providing hands-on training to women in farming practices (Krishi Sakhis) on seed treatment, sowing methods, insect pest management, judicious use of farm inputs, and other extended services. Through these efforts, Nayara Energy has been collaborating with the local populace to build a self-reliant farming community.

Ajuben Gagiya, a marginal farmer from Motamandha village in Khambhaliya taluka of Devbhumi Dwarka district reported having harvested 2100 kg/acre of groundnut after installation of micro-irrigation system on her 1-hectare of land. She witnessed diminishing labor costs and an increase in profit by approximately Rs. 36,000/-per acre through yield enhancement. Ajuben believes that the system has helped her crops in overcoming the wilt diseases that are generally observed 45 days after sowing. Her crops were healthy during the flowering and pegging stages. MIS also simplified the post-care cultivation of groundnut farming.

Agriculture and animal husbandry continue to be the major source of livelihood for majority of the population. Nayara Energy has introduced a robust animal husbandry programme which provides end-to-end cattle management services including cattle health and nutrition management, best practices training on milking, rearing and breed improvement, which has resulted in over 1,250 female calves and increased milk yield of over 10%. The company has also made healthcare facilities for farm animals more accessible by setting up animal health camps, mobile veterinary clinic, deworming and vaccination, community fodder development, promotion of mineral feed supplement. Nayara Energy has formed women Self Help Groups (SHGs) and built community cadre of women (Pashu Sakhis) to provide them with regular training programs and linking them to income generation activities.

Speaking on the company's initiative **Lakhu Chavda, a farmer from Bhanara village said,** " For many years, we have been *battling the issues of seawater ingress affecting crop quality and our fields. For*

*the last three years, I have been implementing the solutions recommended by Nayara Energy and my farmland has drastically improved with better soil quality as well as increased water efficiency owing to drip irrigation. My net profit has increased by approximately Rs.20,000-30,000 per hectare, which I utilized to level and mechanize my farm. I am thankful for Nayara Energy's efforts and commitment towards the betterment of the farming community."*

Speaking on the company water-related efforts, **Amarsinh, a farmer from Jhakhar village** said, *"Nayara Energy's integrated watershed management initiatives has benefitted the Vadinar region, its communities and hundreds of families significantly. Due to increased productivity and water assurance, the value of my farmland has appreciated from Rs. 4 lac/bigha to Rs. 8 lac/bigha. Till a few years back, this was unthinkable. The company has also been hosting varied training programs around smart agriculture and water management which have been very beneficial."*

### **About Nayara Energy**

Nayara Energy is a new-age downstream company of international scale with strong presence across the hydrocarbon value chain from refining to retail. In August 2017, the company was acquired by international investors, Rosneft and an investment consortium comprising of global commodity trading firm, Trafigura and UCP Investment Group. The company owns and operates India's second largest single-site refinery at Vadinar, Gujarat with a current capacity of 20MMTPA. The refinery is one of the world's most modern and complex refineries with a complexity of 11.8, which is amongst the highest globally.

More information about Nayara Energy is available at [www.nayaraenergy.com](http://www.nayaraenergy.com)

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