



*Promotion and Formation of Women Centric Producer Organizations". To that effect, AFARM has initiated various interventions in select 10 villages of Ralegaon block of Yavatmal district from this year.*

*The major commodities grown in the project villages are Cotton, Soyabean and Tur. The crops grown are under rainfed condition facing adverse climatic conditions over last four years in the forms of uneven rainfall, dry spells adversely affecting crop production leading to financial crisis of small and marginal farmers.*

*With this backdrop, AFARM has used Women Farmer Field School as an extension tool for Sustainable agriculture promotion focusing on reduction in cost of production of small rainfed farmers in these villages. Further, the lead women farmers from these 10 villages were taken to the exposure visit to Chandur Railway block of Amravati District, where these women farmers gained knowledge about Tur Processing in a Dal mill operated by Baliraja Farmers Producer Company Ltd., Nimla.*

*Then the lead women farmers decided to procure the Tur from SHG members through VOs from respective villages. Subsequently, VOs collected 79 quintals of Tur from 105 SHG members from 10 Villages for processing. As neither SHGs nor their VOs own Dal mills, they processed the Tur Dal on job work basis at the Dal mill available in the nearby village and decided to sell Tur Dal by brand "Umed Samrudhhi" after packaging. Nav Nirman Gram Sangh from village Eklara came forward for packaging of processed Tur, visited Ashtavinayak Packaging at Nagpur, for developing packaging material and also obtained FSSAI License for the sale of packaged Tur Dal.*

*Thereby, Nav Nirman Gram Sangh, Eklara did packaging and marketing of processed unpolished Tur. Out of 79 quintal of collected Tur, the SHG members have kept 26 quintals of processed unpolished tur for their home consumption and remaining sold @ Rs. 140 per Kg in exhibitions, Zilla and Block Panchayat offices and in local markets.*