

## RAINDROPS IN DROUGHT

The month of May is one of the hottest months in Kerala- Gods own country. And at this time we celebrate our vacation. One day my trainer Mr. Syam Bhadran send me an email from National Skill Networks, which said about the contest “Vocation in Vacation”. The idea itself was a new thing that made me think that why don’t we visit a section of society which thrives on skilling. So I decided to visit an organic farm nearby which I have never been into because I believe farming is one of the noblest vocations in earth.

The farm is located in Adoor, Pathnamthitta district Kerala. I went to ask for permission to have an appointment with the Managing Director. To my surprise the man inside the farm informed me that there is no MD kind of thing here; “ITS ALL A ONE MAN SHOW” and he himself is the framer, marketing manager, sales person, administrator and what else. He added that he was so happy meeting me and told me that kids of my age are never interested in agriculture or farming. My answer made him happier, as I told him I need to know what skills one should possess to have a career or vocation in agriculture.



Before I started to air my questionnaire; he invited me for a short stride through his farm. It looked wonderful. I heard a number of ducks making themselves merry in a pond he told me that ducks are used for their meat and eggs. There were flocks of hen also. There was another pond where fish was grazed. All of these were sold there and the sales man was none other than the Managing Director of Farm. He told me that he has got the service of a veterinarian for the birds and fish.



While we were walking to the greenery; I scanned him, he was a small man but well built. His eyes were sharp and keen which showcased his confidence in attitude. His dress was all muddy, thanks to the mighty earth which supports all of us. He had an umbrella on his head as I pointed out earlier, May is one of the hottest month's in Kerala. On our walks to fields, I asked him what the most important skills you have as farmer. His reply literally astonished me, he told me that Physical and mental fitness are one of the most important skill a farmer should possess. Physical fitness is necessary to work tirelessly and ups and downs are part of agriculture, one should have strong will power to rise from ashes. The knowledge of new technology is another important skill a farmer should have. All the domestic animals are grazed in scientifically made cages. They are vaccinated in regular intervals so the mortality rate is low.





Then he stepped into the vegetable farm, where brinjals/egg plants, salad cucumber, snake guard, peas, spinach etc. were cultivated in large numbers. All the vegetables were grown organically no chemical fertilisers were used. As we continued our walk he explained me about the need of planning skills and importance of planning starts with sowing the seed. The way a seed is nurtured to a tree until it's reaped and the processed outcome hits the market. We do learn about planning skills in our Skill acquisition classes. But practically understanding it was an awesome experience.







**Myself in the farm**





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**Name of the School : ASAP**

**Location : Adoor**

**Age : 16**