



Popular Kheti

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Preface

In most parts of the India, different kinds of activities are begun at the auspicious moment of time which is decided by Jyotishi using chokdia, day, tithi, paksh or maha as described in Hindi varsh (year) under consideration. The farming community believes that starting of a particular operation at a particular auspicious time according to Hindi varsh will be prosperous and give better results as compared to other time. The different activities of agriculture like ploughing, sowing, irrigation, pest management, harvesting, threshing etc. are generally started by Indian farmers in most of cases only after looking an auspicious tithi. The Indian farmers also predict the behaviour of monsoon and rainfall or other natural calamities well in advance by the behaviour of animals, birds or by playing some games on religious occasion like 'Dara' in Mewar region of Rajasthan and adjust cropping pattern or investment in agriculture accordingly. The Jyotishi and different state agricultural universities prepare agriculture calendars or Krishi Panchangs in advance and are too much popular among the farmers to follow. In different parts of the country, different festivals have their own recognition in relation to agriculture like Pongal in South India, Lohri in Punjab, Goverdhan Puja in whole part, roasting of whole wheat plant in flames of Holika Dahan (fire of Holi) and pray for prosperity to human beings.

The slogans (in Hindi or Sanskrit languages) used by different agriculture and related state and centre level departments, organization, universities, NGO's reflect the importance of agriculture expressing agriculture as the best source of livelihood.

As an Agronomist and my wide experience on agriculture and resource management forced me to show realistic importance of agriculture in context to Hindi Varshaphal (annual forecasting). The migration of farming communities towards urban areas, leaving agriculture and based occupation in hope of earning more and more benefit but their hope will not be long lasting because the any job other than agriculture cannot be a source of livelihood for long term, the job of agriculture only can be a sustainable source fulfilling fundamental needs of men.

We started online magazine last year to popularise the technologies of agriculture among all concerned of farming community. In this series, valuable contributions of esteemed authors and huge response from the farming community enthused us to move one more step forward and today on auspicious occasion of Hindi Nava Varsha or Vikram Samvata 2071 (Chaitra Shukhla Pratipada), we are beginning 2nd volume of "Popular Kheti", after successful completion of first volume.

We hope the first issue of second volume will prove knowledgeable for farming community. We are highly thankful to authors whose contribution made it possible to release the current issue in time and whose efforts in future too would make the mission successful. We look forward to receiving your invaluable submissions and feedbacks.

Hindi Nav varsh ki shubhkamnaye (Best wishes on Hindi New Year).

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