



IMPACT STORY

LEADING TO SUCCESS

The support provided by SRFSI project implemented by CIMMYT is helping farmers to produce more at lower cost. Atul's experience has changed local perception that crops will not grow without tilling land and to some extent his own belief that farming is not profitable occupation. Now they see farming without tillage is full of possibilities and opportunities to make profitable farming livelihoods.

Life took a turn for Halima and her family when she observed SRFSI field activities and realized the potential of no-till maize cultivation. She boldly decided to switch from growing paddy to maize and put all her effort to it. She also hired a Zero-Till multi-crop planter to plant maize on her land, and there has been no looking back.

In 2017-18 crop season, Halima Bibi produced 168 quintals of maize through zero-till cultivation from her 10 bigha land with her investment of INR 20,000 per acre which led to net profit of INR 150,000 in total.

A quick lesson-learned, right and timely decisions and a lot of zeal led Halima Bibi to win West Bengal's most progressive farmers award, which is given to the best performer for raising country's food grain production.



Photo: Uttar Bangla Krishi Vishwavidyalaya

Halima Bibi, a female progressive farmer of West Bengal, India



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The intervention by CIMMYT led SRFSI project has led farmers to harvest more at low cost but reaping maximum benefits and profits from their farm. This project has left a deep impact on farmers like Halima Bibi leading them to a new road towards self-sufficiency and sustainability.

In appreciation, taking to Twitter, the Chief Minister of West Bengal- Mamata Banerjee said: *"I am happy to share that West Bengal has been selected once again for Krishi Karman Award by Govt. of India for the year 2017-18, primarily for maize production."*

