

## 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY NURSERY

### INTRODUCTION

Most of the horticultural crops are first grown in nursery and are transplanted to the field/kitchen garden once the seedlings attained maturity stage. As we all know, the newly germinated seedlings require proper care and optimum conditions for their growth. Direct sowing of vegetable seeds results in poor germination percentage. The seeds requirement is also less as compared to direct sowing. Since nursery beds are prepared under green house/low cost polyhouse pest and disease incidence at the initial growth stages can be well maintained as compared to open field condition.

### KVK INTERVENTION

Farmers do not have the technical knowledge on nursery management practices. In order to overcome their problems KVK, Kolasib take this opportunity to establish community nursery for the farmers within our district. This was taken up every year where only certified seeds were procured from the dealers and distributed to the farmers. Every year more than 400 farmers benefitted from our Community Nursery. Some of the farmers are from the adjacent villages of Kolasib town. These seedlings distribution meet the need of the farmers for their farming - as second crops in paddy fields during *Rabi* season; some for nutri-garden; some as an additional income for the farming families due to crop diversification, higher yield and adoption of larger area under vegetable crops etc.

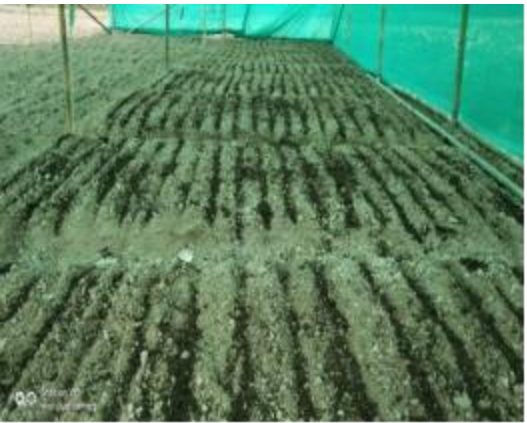
### OUTPUT & OUTCOME

During 2020, KVK Kolasib established Community Nursery in Buhchangphai for the farmers of Buhchang village and it was reported by the farmer leader of their self suffice in vegetable crops that they did not procure any others from outside neighboring states or villages. This was the first time that a community nursery was established in their village. Another milestone in the making was on 2022, with natural farming farmers of Serlui Zau, Kawnpui, where all the seedlings were provided by KVK Kolasib and it was for the first time that they grow successfully different vegetable crops in their field.

### IMPACT

Establishment of community nursery has proved to be beneficial for the farmers within our district. Hybrid seeds with disease tolerant varieties were raised in the nursery beds which was distributed among the farmers. This leads to drastic change in their production with minimum investment in farm inputs.







*Certified seeds; Land Preparation; Establishment of Community Nursery and Seedlings distribution to farmers*