

## India Water Partnership Monthly Report for July-August, 2011 (Prepared by : Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP)

### 1. Consolidating & Broadening Water-Action of Parimal Area Water Partnership in Dhenkanal (Odisha- India)

- 1.1 In July, 2011, Jana Sunani (Public hearing) and Palli Sabha were convened wherein land acquisition by RSB Metals Ltd. was opposed by the members of PAWP. This was the approach by the PAWP against industrialization which comes in main command area of Rengali irrigation project. This action was initiated in anticipation of drawing water in huge quantity by such industries, especially metal or coal based industries, heavy pollution of water, air and soil causing disaster to life and livelihoods of the people falling under the PAWP operational area.

As a second activity, the Local Youth Forums in PAWP villages namely; Bhagirathipur, Rekula, Khuntabati, Kusumajodi, Khatuahota and Kamangara took up water & sanitation awareness in their respective villages with the support of Village Health Workers.



Paper cutting from Statesman news service, 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2011, Dhenkanal

- 1.2 In August, 2011, the monsoon failed to deliver the sufficient rainfall in the Dhenkanal district of Odisha where PAWP operates. Due to which the first & second sowing of paddy could not take place. To counter the problem of non-sowing of paddy in time, the PAWP prepared a short glossary on the problems of crop farming which was presented for the discussions in the formal and informal meetings of Local Area Water Partnerships (LWPs).

The PAWP played an active role in the awareness campaign organized by Zilla Swasthya Samiti against the dreaded Dengu disease in the district. A mobile four wheeler vehicle was used for showing messages and posters depicting care and counter measures to be taken against Dengue.

**Pursuing the Right to Information (RTI) Applications and its Outcome:** As it was reported in our report for the period of January -June, 2011 that PAWP convener had asked information from the Irrigation Department about the development plans, status and actions on Indrajit nallah. The Executive Engineer Minor Irrigation Division, Dhenkanal has now sent by post part information on the development plans and actions on Indrajit & Chadeichhada nallah. However, the complete and exhaustive information are yet to be received from him. Mr A. Rath (volunteer), AIRA & Mr P.K.Sahu, Convener PAWP would follow up with the department about the complete information and thereafter for actions.

**2. Interactive Seminar organized by GWP- India (India Water Partnership) partner organization Jheel Sanrakshan Samiti (JSS) with Engineers, members of Yamuna Pollution Control Unit and NGO representatives working on Yamuna Pollution Control Unit**

2.1 The Jheel Sanrakshan Samiti (JSS), a partner organization of GWP-India (India Water Partnership) is regularly conducting seminars and workshops with different stakeholders on various components of IWRM keeping in mind the New Water Policy of Rajasthan. In last three months (June to August 2011), JSS along with their strategic partners like V B Polytechnic and M S Mehta Memorial Trust had organized many consultations on IWRM.

On 24<sup>th</sup> June 2011, a workshop was organized for Senior Engineers of Water Resources Department, Govt. of Rajasthan, Urban local bodies and other agencies. The prominent participants were Additional Chief Engineer of Water Resources Department (WRD), Mr A B Mathur, Superintending Engineer, WRD, Mr D L Dangi, Executive Engineer, Urban Improvement Trust, and Prominent Engineers from Institution of Engineers (India) Ltd.

Dr Kapil Gupta, Professor at IIT Mumbai and Member on National Committee on Disaster Management and convener (drafting committee) of Revised Drainage Manual of Government of India, delivered expert lecture on "Urban Drainage in the context of IWRM". The participating engineers discussed in detail how to address drainage aspect while developing IWRM plans.

2.2 On 27<sup>th</sup> July 2011, an interactive seminar was held on behalf of IWP with members of Yamuna Pollution Control Unit (YPCU); and NGO representatives working on Yamuna river. Mr Anil Mehta gave a presentation on Banas river and Chambal river which flows into Yamuna. Mr Anil also placed his views on river basin management approach and explained eco-remediation techniques to treat and improve polluted river basins. It was agreed that in order to work on Integrated Lake Basin Management (ILBM) approach and IWRM, the active and dynamic participation of civil society and citizen groups is first and foremost requirement. And for that, capacity development of stakeholders is necessary.

- 2.3 On 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2011, Dr Tej Razdan, Secretary, JSS participated in Lake Management Workshop held at DHAKA, Bangladesh, organized by Center of Science and Environment, New Delhi and Bangladesh Institute of Planners. Dr Razdan gave presentation on Policy and Legal framework needed for lake management in the context of IWRM and ILBM. Dr Razdan also shared experiences of lake conservation in Rajasthan with the fellow participants.

### **3. Preparation for Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on IWRM in Context of Odisha- An Initiative by Eastern Zonal Water Partnership**

Water Resources Department (WRD), Government of Odisha has been working towards implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). For the purpose, Asian Development Bank (ADB) has extended few Technical Assistants to WRD. In due course of time, the ADB consultants presented different frameworks for the implementation of the IWRM in the state. Recently the IWRM road map for the state of Odisha has been presented to the civil societies of Odisha. A part of the civil society has outrightly rejected this document while another section of the civil society has demanded for incorporating substantial changes in this document. The Water Planning Organization has assured the civil society led by Odisha Water Forum and Eastern Zonal Water Partnership that the state government is not at all in a hurry to act on the road map without going for more detailed consultations.

Accordingly, it has been planned to organize a multi-stakeholders' consultation to identify and discuss the challenges for implementation of IWRM in Indian context in general, and Eastern India in particular. During August 2011, preparatory work for the multi-stakeholders' Dialogue on IWRM has been completed. For this, key players like the Odisha Water Planning Organisation, ADB Officials, and member organizations of Odisha Water Forum were contacted and the purpose and modalities of the workshop was discussed. The date for the Workshop has been fixed for **15<sup>th</sup> of September, 2011.**

### **4. Sensitization Workshop on Best Practices on Water Conservation and affordable Water Saving Technologies at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Godda, Jharkhand**

- 4.1 Action for Food Production (AFPRO) with the support of India Water Partnership (IWP) made an effort to find out community practiced water saving technologies from the selected villages of Jharkhand State. The project, initiated in February 2011, is designed to document best practices and sensitize communities/NGOs/CBOs on affordable water technologies and water conservation. Till July 2011, AFPRO collected 11 cases from the field, practiced by rural communities of Jharkhand, and documented these cases for wider dissemination. These low-cost techniques are efficient and having great potential for wider replication in the semi-arid areas where farming communities mainly depends on monsoon for agriculture operations.
- 4.2 On August 24, AFPRO organized a workshop on "**Best Practices on Water Conservation and Affordable Water Saving Technologies**". The workshop was supported by India Water Partnership(GWP- India)and held at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) of Godda District in Jharkhand. The objective of the workshop was to inform, make aware and sensitize the Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) Members, Government & NGO officials, and community members on use of low cost water harvesting and water saving technologies for sustainable water resource management.



**Participants at the Workshop**



**Resource Persons**

*(From Left to Right) Ms. Neelam Kumari (Jr. Agriculture Specialist, AFPRO), Dr. H.K.Chaurasia(SMS (Hort.), GVT, KVK Godda), Mr. David Philip (Manager, WVI Godda), Mr. Rajpal Singh (SMS (Agronomy) GVT, KVK Godda), Dr. Ravi Shankar (Programme Coordinator, KVK Godda), and Mr. A.P.Thakur (Programme Assistant, KVK Godda)*

The workshop was attended by 35 participants, including Water User Groups and PRI members from different villages of Godda District who were actively engaged in the discussion. Scientists from Krishi Vigyan Kendra were also present. The technologies discussed and shared in the workshop were ; Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting; System of Rice Intensification (SRI); Earthen Check Dams; Drip Irrigation System; Gravity Flow Irrigation System; Well Irrigation; and Photovoltaic Water Pumps (PVP).

The key/resource persons in the workshop were Dr. Ravi Shankar, Programme Coordinator, KVK Godda, David Philip, Manager of World Vision India, Ms. Neelam Kumari, Junior Agriculture Specialist of AFPRO, Mr. A.P. Thakur, Programme Assistant, KVK Godda, Ms. Neelam Kumari, Junior Agriculture Specialist of AFPRO, Mr. Rajpal Singh and Dr. H.K.Chaurasia, Scientist and Resource Person of KVK. The topics discussed during two technical sessions were mainly on; Different water saving varieties of wheat and rice; Drought tolerant crops which can be grown in Godda; Water requirements of different crops; Rainwater harvesting systems which can be followed in Jharkhand. Both these sessions were followed up with Mr. Philip screening a movie on 'Costless Costfree Irrigation'. In the post lunch session, the participants were exposed to the fields where SRI and different water saving varieties of rice were being cultivated within the KVK campus.

- 4.3 As a part of the feedbacks session (on the relevance and success of the workshop) participants expressed their hesitation to implement water harvesting techniques like drip and sprinkler irrigation as they felt these technologies are too difficult to practice in the local conditions. However, they felt that rainwater harvesting is an important aspect and easier technology to implement. Thus, more efforts are required to convince people regarding alternate water harvesting and water saving technologies.

**5. Preparation of Integrated Water Resources Development and Management Plan (IWRD&MP) for Wainganga river sub-basin by Western Zonal Water Partnership (WZWP) coordinating agency of IWP**

- 5.1 Preparation of IWRD&MP for Wainganga river sub-basin is a gigantic task for which a lot of data/information is required. At the same time, it is also essential to hold periodical meetings/workshops to have the opinion of the community and stakeholders so that a good plan can be prepared. This process is still continuing and the works undertaken from January-June, 2011 by WZWP Coordinating Agency have already been reported. In this report, the details of activities undertaken by the Agency during July & August, 2011 are given below.
- 5.2 Topographic Sheets of the scale for 1:2,50,000 and 1:50,000 have been collected from the Survey of India. Now the process of digitization of these toposheets on AutoCad for use in analysis and detailed planning for the Wainganga Basin has started. A map is being prepared which highlights the contours, rivers, streams, rain gauge and river gauging stations and will aid in the process of determining the total water availability within the Wainganga Project Area.
- 5.3 The Hydrology data received from Hydrology Project, Nashik has been sorted-out and the relevant parameters have been analyzed to obtain annual rainfall in the project area from the period 1987 to 2007. Besides this, discussions took place on several issues such as the need to consider and assess surface and groundwater in an integrated manner, views on supply-based vs. demand-based planning.
- 5.4 The existing agricultural data provided by Agriculture Census 2001 and District Statistical Abstracts was analyzed By Shri Anant Gogte, Agriculture expert of the Gomukh team and a list of projects will be prepared in terms of investment to augment and improve the agricultural productivity to sustain livelihoods in the Wainganga Basin.
- 5.5 Date-wise details of meeting held are given below:

**3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2011**

A meeting of Riverine fishermen was held at Gram Panchayat office, Mundhari on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2011. Twenty two people attended this meeting. In the meeting information about spots of fishing (lakes or Dohas) in Wainganga was received, and the documentation formats were filled.



**Meeting with Fishermen**

In the village Rengepar, twenty three people participated in the meeting. Apart from data collection, the discussion focused on the urgent issue of erosion. This village is situated on the bank of river Wainganga. The river takes turn near their village and houses are situated on the curved bank. Year after year, the land is being washed out and eroded. Till now 80 houses have been relocated. Many more houses are situated on the bank of river and face a huge threat. The government is trying to relocate them but the problem of high rate of erosion is not addressed by either the government or the villagers.

### **19th July 2011**

A meeting was conducted with Mr. Panke and Mr. Paithankar of Pauni group. Mr. Manish Rajankar discussed in detail, the points to be covered for documentation of temples, traditional drainage, present drainage and all other cultural and spiritual aspects of the Wainganga River Basin.

### **20th July 2011**

Dr. Malgave, Dr. Phadke and Mr. Manish Rajankar conducted a visit to downstream villages of Gosikhurd dam. A visit to Itan and Moharna in Lakhandur Tahsil of Bhandara and Awalgaon, Tahsil Bramhapuri, Dist Chandrapur was conducted. A meeting of fishermen was organized in village Itan and was attended by twenty two people. Apart from regular documentation work, the discussions revealed that, unplanned water releasing from Gosikhurd dam is affecting the livelihood of fishermen in these villages. All their regular fishing spots, watermelon plots are washed out when the water is released. They stated that there should be some schedule for releasing water and that schedule should be announced publicly through news papers or otherwise.

### **21st August 2011**

A meeting of teachers of Bhandara district was organized by the Water Literacy Group. Nine teachers were from urban area and four from rural area. Discussions on mode of water literacy were held. The group tried to figure out the definition and aspects of water literacy. This group has now decided to hold regular interaction sessions. Next meeting has been decided on 11th September, 2011.

## **6. Participation in Annual Consulting Partners' Meet (18-19<sup>th</sup> August, 2011)**

Prof. S R Hashim, President, IWP and Prof. Alakh N Sharma, Vice-President, IWP participated in the Annual Consulting Partners' Meet held on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2011 at Stockholm, Sweden and made a presentation on "Water and Food Security in India".

## **7. Screening of a documentary film produced by IWP (GWP-India) in 6<sup>th</sup> International Film Festival on Water**

A documentary film produced by Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary on behalf of IWP in collaboration with Institute for Development Initiatives (IDI) and directed by Ashish and Alok Maurya entitled "**Water on the Moon... And What about the Earth**" was selected and screened during the 6<sup>th</sup> International Film Festival on Water, which

was organized at Bangalore from August 25th to the 29th 2011. Earlier this film was also shown during Round Table Conference on Water, Livelihood and Adaptation to Climate Change in South Asia organized by IWP and GWP-South Asia on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 at New Delhi. The film is about the restoration of a natural water body that exists in the premises of the holy Dargah Ajmer Sherief, Rajasthan.

The film demonstrates the sincere efforts of State Government of Rajasthan, the Dargah Committee to restore the natural source of water with the support of peoples' participation.