

GWP India Monthly Report for March, 2012
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This report is divided into two sections. Details of activities undertaken by GWP-India during March, 2012 are given in **Section-A** and the forthcoming events/activities which would take place in April, 2012 have been given in **Section-B**.

SECTION-A

Details of Activities undertaken by GWP-India during March, 2012

A.1 Stakeholder Consultation for Promotion of an Area Water Partnership for Prevention of Pollution to River Ganges in Zazmau Area (Municipal Zone-2) of Kanpur City (Uttar Pradesh)

The GWP-India is supporting Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development (SPWD), New Delhi to promote an Area Water Partnership in the Zazmau area of Kanpur City, Uttar Pradesh to prevent the river Ganga from urban and industrial pollution.

This initiative is to facilitate development of a model of citizen participation and partnership with Urban Local government, local industries, Universities and State government institutions at the Municipal ward level and Zonal level (Area) to demonstrate an effective strategy to address the Ganga pollution issue under the overall framework of National Ganga River Basin Area Plan (NGRBAP). The South Eastern Region of the city lying along the South bank of river Ganges has been selected for this work (Zone 2, ward 10 of the Kanpur Nagar Nigam (KNN)) called Zazmau area, which is famous for being home to the tannery and leather industry in Kanpur. The overall objectives of this Area Water Partnership is to develop a joint stakeholder forum in the Zazmau area to discuss the pollution issues and possible strategies and actions to find solutions.

During March, 2012 the GWP-India has undertaken following activities with support of SPWD and its strategic partners; Shramik Bharti and Sach Sach Society.

Interaction meetings with the residents of the rural Municipal ward in this zone (Ward 10 of the Zone 2 of Kanpur Nagar Nigam) were held. In addition, meetings were also held in one of the urban ward of this zone (Ward No 86 of Zone 2). These wards lie in the South Eastern periphery of the City along the river Ganges where the rural community is subjected to inundation with treated and untreated sewerage of the city while the urban areas suffer from lack of cleanliness and sanitation.

A study has been carried out with the participation of men, women and children of the communities to understand the following:

- Status of access to water, sanitation and health environment;
- Prevalence of water borne and water related diseases in the population;
- Perceptions of the respective role of residents and Kanpur Nagar Nigam for improving the access to water and sanitation in the area; and,
- Perceptions on the role of residents in preserving the purity of River Ganges.

The results of these studies are being analyzed and will be presented in ward level consultation meetings in the month of April 2012.

The residents of these wards have agreed to form ward level citizen's committees. The process will be given a formal shape next month. The ward level committees will prepare ward level sanitation plans and then make advocacy with Kanpur Nagar Nigam to include these into the City Sanitation Plan and then implement.

A2. Celebration of World Water Day-2012 by GWP-India

A 2.1 World Water Day Celebration at Kholan village of Titlagada bloc, Bolangir district (Orissa)

GWP-India with the support of partner NGO Udyama, Bhubaneshwar **celebrated World Water Day on 22nd March, 2012** and conducted a workshop on **community livelihood Resilience on climate change**. Both the events were organized at Kholan G.P Head Quarter of Kholan of Titlagada block, Bolangir district (Orissa). Women SHG members, Anganwadi, ASHA workers, youths, children government officials and the PRI members participated in the World Water Day Celebration. Titlagad is one of the hottest places and drought prone area with severe drinking water problem.

A rally with the participants with play cards and banner depicting the message of World Water Day started from the Kholan. The main objective of the rally was to educate the community how to get and conserve the fresh water and save water by every individual in the community leading to availability of water at every household.

The rally thereafter assembled at Panchayat meeting hall for discussion regarding the need of celebrating the World Water Day. The workshop started in the presence of Block Development Officer of Titilagarh Block and Executive Officer. At the outset Mr. Narayan Barik, Coordinator of UDYAMA welcomed all the distinguished delegates followed by discussions on the goal and objective of the World Water Day and later the workshop objectives were given by Cluster coordinator of UDYAMA Mr. Manohar Sunani.



World Water Day celebration at Kholan G.P Head Quarter of Kholan of Titlagada block, Bolangir district (Orissa)

Chief Guest Mr. Mahendra Pradhan, Block Development Officer of Titilagarh Block addressed the gathering about the water situation at present and in future, and encourages the participants to save and protect water in their locality. He also informed about the Govt. scheme and programme, basically water related programmes like MNREGS, KBK funds, Western Orissa Development Council fund, Soil Conservation and Watershed development schemes, how to recharge the ground water, etc. how these programmes are helping for ground water recharge and addressing climate change vulnerabilities through the plantation of tree, environment protection and road connectivity for communication.

He also encouraged all the participants to create new ponds in the land for the storage of water, ground water recharge and irrigation facility. He also informed the participants that the State Govt. is giving Rs. 50000/- (Fifty thousand rupees) to every BPL card holder family to create a new pond on their own land.

During discussions, the SHG members raised issues on the Tube wells and water problem in the Kholan G.P. Most of the tubes well are not working and some of are in damaged stage, community reservoirs have silted up, dried up and wells are drying up. There is serious drinking water shortage and these issues will become very acute in coming days if this trend continues.

The community raised very rights based issues regarding installation of tube wells and demanded more as population has increased substantially. Most of them are collecting polluted water from river and ponds causing serious health problems. Hearing from community, the B.D.O assured to fulfill and resolve the water problems. He further assured, in case of any delay, the water tank will provide and distribute the fresh drinking water in every village of the Titilagarh block as this block has gross shortage of drinking water.

The Executive Officer also said about the World Water Day, he described about the water and food security and agricultural situation in the locality due to impact on climate change, how to protect the environment and save the water and earth.

Mr. Dharmendra Bhoi, the Sarpanch of Kholan said about the sanitation and water problem of the Kholan Gram Panchayat. He encouraged SHG members for saving the money through the Bank to undertake some profitable activities for their group and individual growth.

A2.2 World Water Day Celebration at Dhenkanal District, Orissa

GWP-India organized the World Water Day or Vishwa Jala Divas with the support of partner NGO; Arun Institute of Rural Affairs, Dhenkanal District, Orissa with School Children from Kadua and Bhagirathipur villages of Dhenkanal district, Orissa. More than 250 students both boys & girls marched the village streets with placards depicting 'save water', 'save our planet' in their attempt to educate & aware the community members.



Rally by School children on World Water Day at Kadua and Bhagirathipur villages of Dhenkanal district, Orissa

Apart from the school teachers, school committee members, Director Arun Institute of Rural Affairs, Parimal Area Water Partnership Convener and volunteers laid supportive hands in observing & reminding the Day's importance.

A2.3 Celebration of World Water Day at Greater NOIDA and Meerut City, Uttar Pradesh

On the occasion of World Water Day, GWP-India with the support of its network partner Janhit Foundation, Meerut, organized an Inter college debate competition at Greater NOIDA March 21, 2012 at Radha Govind College and on 22nd April, 2012, the World Water Day was celebrated at Deewan VS Institute of Engineering, Meerut. Both the events were participated by 16 teams of different colleges. The topic of the debate was **'Water should be considered a National Property'** and the students shared their views on ownership and non-ownership of water resources as a National property of any kind (national or private). The guests at Radha Govind College were Mr. Sanjay Rana (Director, Aqua Foundation) and Dr. Veena Khanduri (Executive Secretary, IWP).

Similarly, the Chief Guest at the Meerut function were Ms. Madhu Gujjar (Mayor – Meerut) and the other honored guests were Dr. Veena Khanduri (Executive Secretary, IWP), Mr. Prabhat Roy (Retd. PCS Officer) and Ms. Anvita Aggarwal (Professor – R G College, Meerut). Dr. Sanjeev Kaushik (Director – Deewan College), Dr. Vineet Kumar (Deen – Deewan College) and Dr. P. K. Aggarwal (Director – Deewan Management College) were also present at the event as special guests.

Eco-club of Deewan College also showed an active participation in the competition. MIET, Meerut ranked first; IIMT ranked second and Deewan institute came third in the debate. The winners were awarded with a trophy and all the participants were given a certificate by India Water Partnership and Janhit Foundation.

A2.4 Celebration of World Water Day at Meerut, Uttar Pradesh

GWP-India with the support of partner NGO; Neer Foundation (Meerut) organized one more event on the occasion of World Water Day at Meerut from 22nd March, 2012 to 24th March, 2012.

On March 22nd, a walk for water was organized in which 200 school children, social workers and community members participated. The walk started from Chaudhary Charan Singh Park situated in the heart of the city, crossed District Magistrate office and ended back at Chaudhary Charan Singh park. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, GWP-India showed green flag to the march.



Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, GWP-India showing green flag for the water walk



Water walk by school children at Meerut



School children of BDS School, Meerut receiving Certificate for their participation in Inter-school poster competition

Mr. Gajendra Singh, BSA Meerut told the children how water conservation should be done at each level. He gave a message to all the participants that we should all become **'Water Savors'** and conserve each drop. Dr. Veena Khanduri, informed the children that this year's theme of World Water Day is **'Water and Food Security'** because we all know the fact that food availability is linked with water.

During the walk, all students carried banners and posters with water conservation and water quality related slogans written on it. The students while marching shouted messages on different ways to conserve water and distributed informative pamphlets. About 10 schools participated in the event.

An inter-school poster competition was also organized at BDS Institute wherein students painted drawings on the topics related to **'Water Conservation and Pollution'**. About 80 students of class 6th to 8th of different schools participated in the competition.

A2.5 Celebration of World Water Day at Indore, Madhya Pradesh

India Water Partnership (GWP India) Central Zonal Water Partnership Coordinating Agency Navdeep, organized World Water Day 2012, in Indore city, Madhya Pradesh, to integrate school education with water saving, health, hygiene and sanitation awareness. The programme which was first of its kind has not only generated forward thinking of school children on water conservation, hygiene and sanitation but also motivated school teachers to provide information to students as to how habits of using safe water can be improved among children living in Slum areas.



Celebration of World Water Day at Indore, Madhya Pradesh

The World Water Day planning started around three months ago and several informal meetings with Education department, Sociologists and environmentalists were conducted by Central Zonal Coordinator. Mrs. Rajani Jadon, District Education Officer, Indore, was particularly keen on organizing such a programme in a girls' school as, she opined, "burden of collecting water for family lies on womenfolk and impure water adds their woes in the form of diseases among family members. Hence she identified Govt. Malav Girls' High School, M.O.G. Lines, Indore- *Shala Sankul Kendra* i.e. school complex centre, an administrative unit for as many as 16 Middle and Primary schools- to be the centre for initiating the programme "Awareness on Water in School Education".

During the week prior to World Water Day, a number of activities, as directed by **Mr. Shashi Kant Guberele Principal and head of the Shala Sankul Kendra**, were organized by Head Masters and teachers in schools. Students were asked to write essays and poems etc. on importance of water. The finale came on 22 March,

when a two hour programme was organized at Shala Sankul Kendra- Govt . Malav Kanya High School . The theme of the programme was “ Paani ki Bachat : Bachchon ki Sehat” (Save Water : save health of children).

Mr. Uday Shankar Vyas, Head Master, Govt. Malav Kanya (Girls’) Middle School No. -1 (In-charge of the activity) presented the brief of one week activities with the guest and children. The selected students read their writings on water and related issues. An oath to save water was taken by all attending the function. **Chief Guest** of the function, **renowned environmentalist Padmshri Mr. M.G.K.Menon** , in his address called students “ *Jal- Sevak and Jal Sevikayen*” (Volunteers to save water). He gave many practical tips to save water in routine life. **City corporator Mr. Sudhir Dedge**, presiding over the function, requested teachers and students to play an important role in conserving water . **Mr. Ravindra Shukla , Chairman of Nava deep Voluntary Organisation**, as main speaker, described how curriculum refinement is being done in Kerala to make students aware on water crisis. He also said according to the Hague declaration “**Water is everybody’s business**”. Teachers have to play roles at par with water resources engineers or economists. Health, hygiene and sanitation issues are related with water.

Mrs . Vandana Vyas, teacher in a primary school located in Bara Mattha, a slum area in Indore; was honored by the chief guest for her devoted work to make children and their parents on use of safe water, health, hygiene and sanitation. She has been doing work despite many difficulties and odds in the area. She narrated her experiences in the slum area and how could she get the cooperation of local residents. Best students were awarded for their creative writings and speeches. An exhibition with display material and good publications on importance of safe water use and children’s health was also organized in the school. The programme was conducted by **Ms. Pratibha Raghuwanshi**.

A3. Consultation Workshop on Water and Livelihood Promotion in Kamakhya Nagar Region, Dhenkanal District, Orissa

With a view to strengthen Parimal Area Water Partnership (PAWP), GWP-India with the support of its partner NGO, Arun Institute of Rural Affairs organized a Consultation Workshop on Water and Livelihood Promotion at Public Works Department, Inspection Bungalow, Khatuahata, Dhenkanal district, Orissa on 29th March, 2012. This consultation workshop was attended by PAWP members, Local Area Water Partnership (LAWP) members, farmers, social workers, senior citizens, PRI members, Pani Panchayat members, Women Self Help Groups and community leaders of Kamakhya Nagar region, Dhenkanal district, Orissa.



Consultation Workshop on Water and Livelihood Promotion in Kamakhya Nagar Region, Dhenkanal District, Orissa

In the workshop, Mr. G. P. Nayak, Ex-Banker & Social Activist, Mr. P. K. Sahoo, Ex-Public Prosecutor & a senior farmer and VDC President and Mr. A. Rath, Development Researcher & PAWP Trustee were also present. Mr.

A Rath explained the participants about strengthening of PAWP to enable it to systematically work on water, livelihood and allied activities in the villages of Kamakhya Nagar region. The major issues discussed in the workshop were:

- Formation of village-wise Livelihood and Natural Resource Promotion Committee;
- Re-structuring of Pani Panchayats; and,
- Collaboration of PAWP with other local level/district level Livelihood and Natural Resource Promotion Groups

The experience of canal renovation works on Indrajit Micro Irrigation Project was shared with the participants, wherein LAWP interventions forced the concerned Engineers to sit with the PAWP members and plan for alternative but useful renovation components of the project. After giving Memorandum to the Executive Engineer (Minor Irrigation), Indrajit Project, the District Head of the Minor Irrigation System re-planned the works with the villagers of 3 LAWPs (Khuntabati, Khatuahata and Salpada) for executing the same.

The efforts of LAWP and PAWP has shown that the real concern and lobbying with the State Govt. officials produced a real action with corrective measures for promotion of livelihood options in the villages.

Now the LAWP and PAWP area planning to take up the issue of defunct state of water harvesting structures on the Indrajit Nallah due to which the villagers of Kotagara and Kamagara are facing loss of crop and their livelihood options.

During next few months the PAWP would undertake the following tasks:

- Water crisis of Kamagara village that still lies unresolved even after public agitation a year back ;
- Facilitating formation of Livelihood and Environment Committees village-wise as micro level bodies;
- Leading a delegation for dialogue with the District irrigation and administration depts.; and
- Carrying out a quasi-technical physical survey of the entire area of Indrajit nalla.

A4. Networking with NGOs working on water issues in Madhya Pradesh and conducting a meeting of NGOs and Government Agencies in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh for a discussion on 'Water Regulation Authority', its roles and functions in planning and management of river basins, and the need for a 'River Basin Agency' Act in Madhya Pradesh

The workshop proposed by West Zone Water Partnership (WZWP) to be organized during March, 2012 for the NGOs and Government agencies in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh had been postponed and the same will now take place during April, 2012 since the Secretary Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (MWRRA) and the Coordinator of WZWP were busy in attending World Water Forum (WWF).

The Coordinator of WZWP, Professor Vijay Paranjpye participated in a special session organized by Both Ends (Netherlands) at WWF to present the citizens and civil societies contribution to IWRM. The objective of the citizens' forum was to demonstrate the relevance of participation and equitable management of water resources based on knowledge and initiative of local actors and to discuss the concrete steps taken in selected 15 river basins across the World. Prof. Paranjpye presented the work done by WZWP Coordinating agency (Gumukh Trust for Environment and Sustainable Development, Pune) in the Bhima and Wainganga river basins and emphasized on the process through which inter-sectoral plans were integrated.

Prof. Vijay Paranjpye spoke in detail about the rivers in India and the work done by Gomukh Trust and the West Zone Water Partnership in the Bhima and Wainganga river basins. The Wainganga river basin planning and the outcomes so far were discussed in detail. Both Ends had invited Mr. Suresh Sodal, Secretary MWRRA and Dr. D.M.More (Technical Advisor, Godavari River Basin Corporation) to give an official response to the presentation made by Prof. Vijay Paranjpye. Mr. Sodal spoke about the close interrelationship between the MWRRA, Gomukh Trust and members of the WZWP, which had made it possible to establish a participatory decision making process while determining the water rates, bulk water entitlements to water users' associations and that now the processes were firmly embedded in the civil society domain. He emphasized that the decisions taken by MWRRA during the last five years have demonstrated the participatory process.

A5. Participation in Workshops/Meetings/Seminar

GWP-India network partner Development Alternatives (DA), New Delhi organized a consultation meeting on **"Household Treatment System and Safe Storage: Promotion and Scale-up"** on 16th March, 2012 at its Headquarter at New Delhi. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary participated in the workshop from GWP-India side.

During the workshop, participants were briefed about the project details. The pilot project is being executed in 15 slums of Delhi covering around 10,000 households with a vision to enable access to safe drinking water for all through Solar Disinfection (SODIS) technology. During the workshop, Dr. K Vijyalakshmi of DA, Ms. Kavneet Kaur of DA, Samuel Luzi of Eawag Aquatic Research Institute, Dr. Amit Nair, WSP-SA (World Bank) consultant, Ms. Megha Das, DA, Mr. Raktim Ray, DA participated.

As part of feed-back, Dr. Veena Khanduri suggested to include revised communication and advocacy strategy as per the evaluation findings of SODIS programme in Delhi. GWP-India will support DA to take up the awareness campaign for promoting point of use water treatment methods at household level.

SECTION- B

Forthcoming Events in April, 2012

B.1 Workshop on 'Water Governance in Assam, India: from status quo to change'

A workshop on **'Water Governance in Assam, India: from status quo to change'** will be organized by our network partner; Aaranyak, Guwati (Assam) in the month of April, 2012.

A panel of Resource persons who can be invited in the workshop have been identified. A committee has been constituted by Aaranyak for conducting the workshop to be executed with financial and technical support from the GWP-India. The Committee comprises of (i) Ranjan K. Bhuyan (President, Aaranyak), Bibhab K. Talukdar (Secretary General, Aaranyak), Partha J Das (Water Climate & Hazard Programme, Aaranyak), Shyamal Dutta (Director-Operations, Aaranyak), Madhumita Barthakur (Manager, Operations), Er. A.K. Mitra (Former, Secretary, Water Resources, Government of Assam), Adviser, Prof. D.C. Goswami (Former Head, Department of Environmental Science, Gauhati University), Adviser.

B.2 Panel Discussion on “Approach of Draft National Water Policy (DNWP), 2012 in Context of Climate Change” on 13th April, 2012 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi during India Water Week

GWP-India will be conducting a side event during India Water Week (10th-14th April, 2012) being organized by Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India. The topic of the side event is: **Panel Discussion on “Approach of Draft National Water Policy (DNWP), 2012 in Context of Climate Change”**.

The objective of this side event is to examine how the Draft National Water Policy (2012) reflects on the issue of climate change to address water and food security. India Water Partnership (GWP-India) intends to bring together academia, policy makers, State Govts, NGOs and other stakeholders together and ponder on this important issue.

Section 4 of DWNP explicitly covers adaptation to climate change and recognizes certain aspects such as importance of storage of water, agricultural system that maximizes use of water and stakeholders’ participation and institutional arrangements. During the panel discussion some of the invited panelists would also share the experience of Global Water Partnership supported Integrated Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Program which helped in National Development Planning in South Africa. This event would be organized into three Technical Sessions as under:

Session-1 : Importance of Storages of Water in different forms at different locations

Session-2 : Evolving an Agricultural System that Economizes Use of Water and Maximize Value from its Use

Session-3 : Stakeholders’ Participation and Institutional Arrangements

B.3 Ward Committee Meeting for Initiation of Area Water Partnership at Zazmau, Kanpur

GWP-India partner; Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development (SPWD), New Delhi is going to organize a meeting of Ward Committee along with the stakeholders on 7th & 8th April, 2012 for initiation of Area Water Partnership at Zazmau, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.