

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

I. Wainganga Integrated River Basin Management Master Planning

For preparing a sound and manageable Integrated River Basin Management Master Plan for Wainganga river basin, data on hydrology, rainfall, water quality, environment, socio-economic conditions, meteorology, etc. would be one of the most integral part of the project. Wainganga river basin is spread in 160 watersheds and has 61 Monitoring Stations. Collection of data by our West Zone Water Partnership Coordinating agency; Gomukh Trust, Pune which started in February, 2011 from regional Government Departments including the Water Resources Department, Forest Survey of India, Agriculture Department, Fisheries Department, Department of Soil and Land use Survey, Geological Survey of India is still continuing. As far as collection of data from Monitoring Stations (MSs) is concerned, it has been collected from 24 MSs. Prior to the work of data collection, a meeting of stakeholders of Wainganga River Basin was held during February, 2011 to discuss the approach and modalities for collection of data and thereafter a provisional list of sub basins along with their watersheds was prepared and Maharashtra Groundwater Survey and Development Board was first approached for providing the data related to the Board. It is expected that the work of data collection would be completed by March end and the same would be analyzed in April, 2011 before the actual work of planning and preparing the Integrated River Basin Management Master Plan for Wainganga river basin begins. Few difficulties are being faced by the staff of our West Zone Water Partnership Coordinating agency; Gomukh Trust, Pune in collecting the data.

II. Workshop on Status of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) and its effective implementation in Rajasthan(India) on World Water Day (22nd March, 2011)

A one day Seminar-cum-Workshop on Status of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in the State of Rajasthan and for effective implementation of New State Water Policy was organized on World Water Day i.e. 22nd March, 2011. This one day workshop was the continuation of India Water Partnership (IWP) efforts during year 2010 for promoting IWRM in the State of Rajasthan. In the second phase during 2011, IWP supported Jheel Sanrakshan Samiti, Udaipur to further work on strengthening the Water User Groups (WUGs), NGOs, PRI members, Engineers and Administrative officers in Rajasthan by building their capacities for proper and effective implementation of new State Water Policy and promoting IWRM.

Towards this endeavour, the JSS organized the above Workshop-cum-Seminar on World Water Day (22nd March, 2011) along with its other strategic partner organizations; Dr M S Mehta Memorial Trust and Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic College. Former Foreign Secretary, Govt of India, Mr. Jagat S Mehta, Padam Bhushan Award Winner inaugurated the workshop.



Participants at the Workshop-cum-Seminar

The workshop was attended by State government representatives and other stakeholders. Dr R C Purohit, Dean, College of Technology and Engineering, MPUAT, Mr B R Khaturia, Water Resources Deptt, Govt of Rajasthan, Mr G P Soni, Former Supdtt Engineer, Water Resources, Deptt, Govt. of Rajasthan, Mr O P Mathur, Former Director, Central Ground Water Board, Govt of India, Mr A S Jodha , KVK Udaipur were the eminent officials present in the workshop. Mr. Jagat S Mehta emphasized the need of synergic and continued efforts of government, civil

society and PRIs for effective implementation of Rajasthan New Water Policy. The proposed water regulatory authority shall have representation of the civil society, he appealed to the Government. Mr. Anil Mehta explained the concept of IWRM tree. He said that in order to grow and establish the IWRM, four essential nutrients/inputs are required viz.(1) Stakeholder Participation, (2)Enabling Environment, (3)Eco-technology and 4) Good Governance. Mr Mehta also conveyed the message of Prof. S R Hashim, President, IWP and Dr Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP who has taken initiative to take up first review of State Water Policy of Rajasthan, status of IWRM in Rajasthan and effective implementation of the new water policy as a part of India Water Partnership



Strategic Plan to focus on how IWRM can be translated effectively by empowering and capacity building of all stakeholders.

During seminar, the participants in different groups reviewed various provisions of the new State Water Policy and expressed gratitude towards the Rajasthan State government for including the IWRM as guiding approach for the water resource development in the state. The seminar concluded with the recommendation that to get the policy implemented at grass root level, and get reflected in all development plans, the capacity building of all stakeholders is a pre-requisite. The participants unanimously recommended that JSS with the support of IWP should organize capacity development workshops for stakeholder groups in the coming three months.

III. Sensitization workshop on water conservation and affordable water technologies and best practices on the occasion of World Water Day from 22nd to 26th March, 2011 at Meerut, Uttar Pradesh

The water availability in the World is diminishing with faster rate with growth of the population and industrialization. The water availability is further hampered due to the ongoing contamination of the water bodies, some caused by the callous anthropogenic activities while the others due to natural reasons. The limited freshwater resources are gradually diminishing. The groundwater levels in many places throughout the world have exhausted and the ones which remain are taken for granted and are being dirtied every passing day.

The increasing water contamination in Western Uttar Pradesh, especially Meerut has always been the concern for NEER Foundation. In this line, **the NEER Foundation with the support of India Water Partnership (IWP) organized Sensitization workshop on water conservation and affordable water technologies and best practices on the occasion of World Water Day from 22nd to 26th March, 2011 at Meerut, Uttar Pradesh through different activities spanning over a period of five days from 22nd to 26th March, 2011.** The main focus of the events was to draw everybody's attention on water conservation and water quality protection and its impact on human health.

All the activities chosen were planned in an innovative matter so that it involves a greater and active participation of the community and more importantly creates a larger impact. In the coming days, the efforts will certainly bear fruits in terms of action to protect the water of Meerut from further contamination. The details of various activities organized on this occasion are as under:

A) Water Audit in Ten Schools of Meerut

Ten schools of Meerut were provided with an audit form to document the current water use and management practices of their school. Vidya Global Public School, Meerut was recognized as the best school, making best of every drop of the falling rain through a rainwater harvesting structure and a waste water treatment plant installed in their school campus. The harvested rainwater is used for various purposes and is sent down to aquifers, contributing to the increase in water level of the area. The treated waste water is used in the

gardens. Second was Godwin Public School and Army Public School came third. All these schools were provided with a certificate, poster and an appreciation letter for their noble cause.



B) Awareness Meeting with the Good Morning Club of Meerut

Good Morning Club of Meerut is a group of around eighteen people who meet every morning to discuss about the nature and environment. A meeting was organized by NEER Foundation with the club members on the issue of 'Water Quality of Meerut and its implications on the residents of Meerut'. It is a fact that the water quality of Meerut is decreasing rapidly and that studies conducted by NEER Foundation have confirmed presence of heavy metals and pesticides in the drinking water sources. These findings were discussed in the meeting and strategy was planned to discuss the increasing water contamination in Meerut, with the district administration.

C) Drawing Competition and Sensitization of students at BDS Institute

A drawing competition was organised at BDS Institute, Jagriti Vihar, Meerut where about 50 schools of Meerut participated. The topic for the competition was 'Status of Water Quality of Meerut in your eyes'. Students came up with impressive drawings and showed realistic pictures of Meerut's water quality in their illustrations.

The best drawings were awarded with a certificate and appreciation letter. Best 20 drawings will be compiled in the form of a report entitled 'Water Quality Status of Meerut through Children's Eyes' which will be disseminated to all IWP partners. The drawing competition was followed by a presentation and documentary screening to educate and sensitize 200 students of the institute on 'Clean Water for a Healthy World'.

D) PGMT International School students to decide if Kali is a river once worshipped or just a drain

Students of the school were taken to the Kali River in a group accompanied by their teachers. They were educated on the historical importance, present pollution existing in the river, reasons behind the pollution and NEER Foundation's future strategy to revive this dead river through community participation. 'Seeing is more than believing', such is the saying. So, the students were also made to test water through water testing kits provided by the organisation. They tested a few parameter and found the harmful levels of the pollution.



E) Who's better at the cost of water! Awareness generation through hair saloons and the vehicle service centres

Three prominent hair saloons namely Hair Apeel at Samrat Shopping Mall, Meerut; The Head Master and Sunrise Hair Saloon at Shastri Nagar, Meerut were visited and educated on water education. The organisation then discussed their water usage in their daily activities. It was shocking to learn that these saloons waste a large quantity of water. They were motivated to change their habits to use water and become 'water savers'. The details are as follow –

Hair Apeel Saloon	The Head Master	Sunrise Hair Saloon
Present Water Usage		
On Per Shampoo – 4 to 5 litres 8-10 shampoos done everyday. On Shampoo per day – 40 to 50 litres On hair cutting and shaving – 9 to 10 litres everyday.	On Per Shampoo – 4 to 5 litres 25 to 30 shampoos done everyday. On Shampoo per day – 125 litres On hair cutting and shaving – 5 to 7 litres everyday.	Hair Cutting – 7 to 8 litres

On the other hand, an ordinary barber shop was visited and discussed about their water usage in daily activities. Similar exercise was done with three prominent vehicle service centres namely Vikrant Service Centre, Rajsneh Automobile Service Centre and Fairdeal Service Centre located at Meerut. During discussion, it was learn that the water usage per day of Vikrant is about 605 litres of water per day and that of Rajsneh and Fairdeal is about 1130 litres.

The heads of these centres and the workers were educated about the depleting water levels and the need to conserve fresh water as and where possible. They were urged to

- Avoid cleaning their centres with running water through pipes.
- Install water treatment plant and recycle water as much possible, using it for some purpose.

- Use pressure pump while washing the cars which saves about 30 percent of water to what is being used presently.
- Adopt rainwater harvesting.

F) 'Water Walk' by students of CCS University, Meerut

A 'Water Walk' was organised with the participation of the students of CCS University, Meerut. Informative quotes and messages were delivered through placards. During the walk, local residents were motivated to conserve water through filling of Water saving pledge forms and they were informed about the simple ways of keeping water quality healthy which they can practice at home like boiling of water, proper storage source etc.

G) Meeting with the residents of Jalalpur village

Jalalpur village is located on the banks of highly polluted Kali River in Meerut district. This village is in the clutches of pollution and is witnessing continuously increase diseases and deaths.

On the occasion of World Water Day, a meeting was organised at the village to plan out some plan of action to be followed by NEER Foundation towards restoring Jalalpur.

IV. Sustainable Water Resources Management Approaches to effectively address Adaptation to Climate Change in villages of Jharkhand

To use IWRM approaches for effectively address adaptation to climate change and other emerging changes at national level, India Water Partnership has supported Action for Food Production (AFPRO), New Delhi to undertake a study on **Sustainable Water Resources Management Approaches to effectively address Adaptation to Climate Change in villages of Jharkhand**". Under this study, networking with local agencies/organizations/institutions, research organizations will be done to understand the practices of using low cost saving technologies promoted by these organizations/institutions to address adaptation to climate change as the Jharkhand state is most vulnerable because of the heavy reliance on rainfed agriculture poor level of water control and poor replenishment of reservoirs. Drought and floods are particular threats to food security and are expected to become more frequent, more intense and less predictable as a consequence of climate change.

As economy of the state is rooted in agriculture and majority of population to the extent of 80 % is engaged in agricultural sector, the climate change poses serious implications on food security. Keeping in view this background IWP with the support of AFPRO is working on identifying and promoting various methods used by the community for water saving.

The study findings reveal the following:

- Dry land farming is being adopted in upland regions. Crops like maize, goda paddy, arhar, gram etc. are being taken all over the state.
- Off late, the SRI System of Paddy cultivation is gradually being adopted by the farmers across the state. First hand information obtained from the farmers is that the growth of paddy is much superior in case of SRI method than the traditional method. In the drought or water scarce condition, SRI is much better than the traditional methods.
- The community is having the practice of constructing channels for irrigation. With these channels, water is conveyed to fields. But due to shortage of funds, the channels are not lined. This results in loss of water during conveyance.
- Discussions with community and actual field conditions revealed that the Drip Irrigation system is effective. However, due to higher initial cost and maintenance is the constraint for poor and marginal farmers.
- Central upland rice research institute, Hazaribagh has developed improved variety of paddy seed called as “Sehbhagi”. This is suitable for upland and its duration is 70-80 days.

Future strategy: Further consultations will be held with other organizations in different parts of the State to identify the indigenous low cost water saving technologies adopted and used by the communities in different areas. Based upon the information received, field visits will be conducted and accordingly case studies will be tried to be prepared.

V. Meeting to review the proposed Road Map on Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) prepared by Odisha Government with the Technical Assistance of ADB, and to prepare a new Road Map for Future

On the occasion of World Water Day, with the support of India Water Partnership, the Eastern Zonal Water Partnership (EZWP) and Odisha Water Forum (OWF) organized a preparatory meeting on 22nd March, 2011 in Agramee premises to discuss the Road Map prepared by Odisha State Govt with the technical assistance of ADB and to prepare a new Road Map for Future with people’s participation. The meeting was also aimed to discuss about the present status of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in Odisha and future strategy.

Convener of OWF Achyut Das of Agramee presided over the meeting and set the agenda by raising questions as to whether the present developments in the water sector in the state of Odisha needs to be thought upon very carefully, whether they are good for the citizens of Odisha or in the long run they will marginalize the already marginalized ones. The guest of honor, Er. Sridhar Behera, Retired Engineer-In Chief said that Odisha is one of the states where the Water Policy provides first priority to drinking water and the second priority is accorded to environmental flows. Though Odisha is still a surplus state in case of most of the river basins, it is not far that we may become a deficit state if we not much priority is accorded to water conservation in the state. He opined that the water conservation should be taught to the school students. At least the future generation should be aware of the options before us. Er. Behera discussed on the different aspects of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and opined that flood management and prevention of pollution of water especially by the urban wastes should be a part of the IWRM strategy.

Chief Speaker & Convenor of Eastern Zonal Water Partnership (EZWP, India) Mr. Tapan Padhi (National Institute for Development) informed the house about the limitations of the IWRM Road Map already prepared by Odisha Government. He said that without deciding the framework for the effective participation of people in the implementation of IWRM it will prove to be a futile effort for the realization of the goal of IWRM. The proposed road map has stressed only of the economic sustainability and given only a leap service for the people's participation. In the proposed framework for the River Basin Organisations, without effective capacity building of the farmers and the commoners, the corporate houses and the powerful will be calling the shots with respect to water allocation as well as management of the river basins and the farmers and other marginalized unorganized groups will be only mute spectators. The present road map needs substantial changes to be implementable in Odisha. Mr. Padhi stressed that there is a need for the Civil Societies to engage with the IWRM implementation process rather than outrightly rejecting that and becoming mute spectators. He declared that in the last week of April, Odisha Water Forum (OWF) and Eastern Zonal Water Partnership (EZWP-India) will organize a meeting to discuss the opportunities and challenges thrown up by IWRM and to come out with a Road Map for the civil society organizations with respect to grounding of IWRM in the context of Eastern Zone.

Mr. Aurobindo Behera, IAS, Chief Secretary of Forest and Environment Department of Government of Odisha was the chief guest for the meeting. In his remarks he stressed on the coordinated efforts by the different departments, and common man for effective water resources management in the context of climate change. He opined that it is very important to critically analyze long term impact of different changes being proposed now.

Members of different civil society organizations, retired and serving government officials as well as media persons attended this meeting and opined on the water issues confronting the state of Odisha. At the end Natya Chetana, a Theatre Action Group presented a street theatre on Water.

On the occasion of World Water Day, Tapan Kumar Padhi, Director of National Institute for Development (NID) and Convenor of Eastern Zonal Water Partnership featured in three news reports by three local television channels namely Odisha Television, MBC and KANAK TV. Apart from this he also was one of the panelists in the live discussion on Water Challenges of Odisha in KANAK TV on 22nd March 2011.

(VI) Strengthening of Parimal Area Water Partnership (PAWP), Dhenkanal District, Odisha by Arun Institute of Rural Affairs (AIRA) supported by India Water Partnership (IWP)

In the past two rounds of action spanning over a period of two years i.e. 2008-10, AIRA-IWP joint action on water in the Dhenkanal district of Odisha has certainly gained some ground. By the end of the previous term (ending October 2010), there have been formed 16 Micro Water Partnerships, 02 small area water partnerships and 01 Area Water Partnership (with the above constituents) named "Parimal Area Water Partnership." A number of activities were undertaken to educate and build the capacity of stakeholders including farmer, WUGs, PRI members, Govt. officials, NGOs, CBOs to promote IWRM in and around PAWP through workshops (at village, block & district level), field visits, organizing meetings, networking, water campaigns, wall writing, Liaison/Linkages with other departments such as Agriculture & horticulture, Forest & Environment, Soil conservation & institutions like Krishi Vigyan Kendra etc.

During 2011 AIRA would focus to strengthen and broaden the scope of PAWP with the envisaged activities such as ; Strengthening / consolidating the MWPs & LWPs and also the PAWP constituents as a whole ; Mapping of industries and water sources for reference (with water sources already visibly polluted and also likely to be polluted); Organising all stakeholders affected or likely to be affected by the growing water pollution/shortage/misuse; Capacity Building trainings on Irrigation Management System & Campaigns (additional rounds); Attempting at holding negotiations with local public bodies, govt. administration for needful action; Involvement of local media and anti-pollution action groups on water as well as right to life; documentation, monitoring & follow-up.

On 30th March, 2011, PAWP volunteers and AIRA staff were involved in a district level convention of peasants on water and farm sector issues under the title of Krishak Kranti Samabesh. This mega event required elaborate contact and mobilization of peasants, farm-sector workers and community leaders where more than 2000 people were present at the Dhenkanal stadium.



**(Farmers Convention at Dhenkanal stadium on water & farm sector issues)
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VII. Participation of Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP in Conclave on Business and Climate Change

Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP participated in a Conclave on Business and Climate Change organized by CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development on 15 March 2011 at Le Meridien, New Delhi. Mr. Suresh Prabhu, GWP Ambassador gave the keynote address at the session on **“Investing in Climate Change Solutions”** at the Conclave.