## Modern Problems: Traditional Solutions Climate Change/ Water & Food Security

# **FLOW:** AN EXPERIENCE OF TBS Community Actions can Save India Rivers



By: Rajendra Singh,TBS 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 CSE, New Delhi

#### Processes for flow revival

Defunct river/system Communication and decision to revive flow build interventions Flow begins Community ownership and protection River Parliament

## Water interventions and bodies revived & built by the Villagers – over 10,000 such structures to date



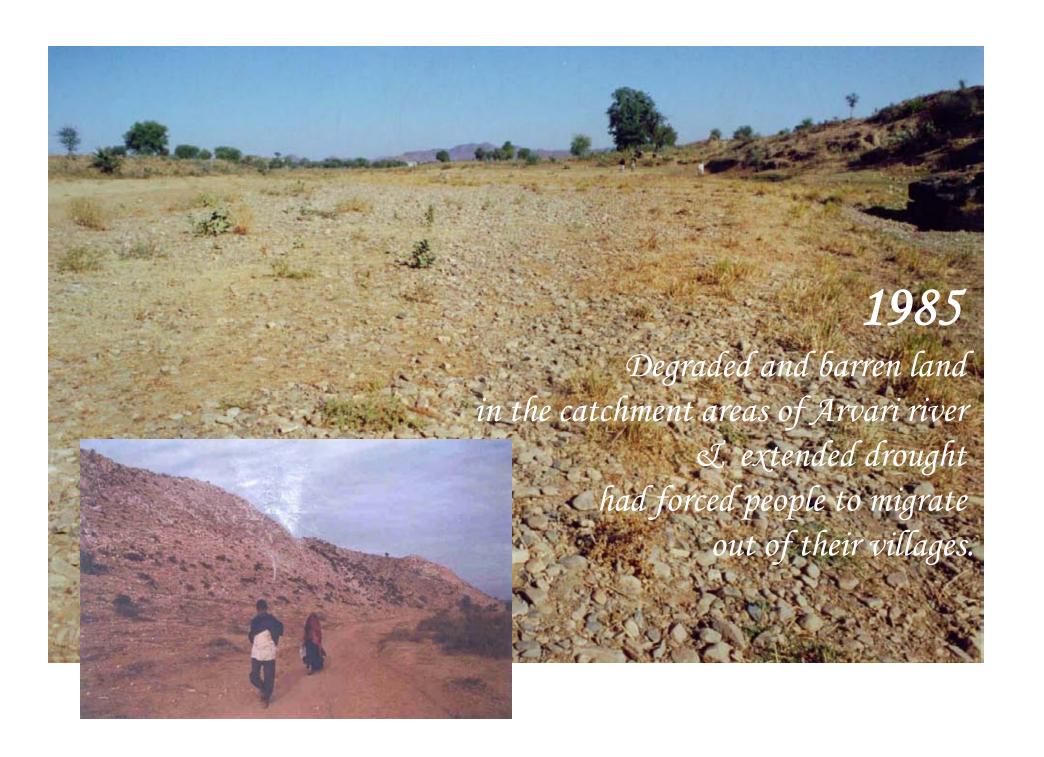
In these civil water harvesting movements, there is the creation of a deeper understanding that restoration of flow is required for all life to maintain the balance between man and nature. Without this flow and balance, all life will eventually die.

#### Project area of TBS

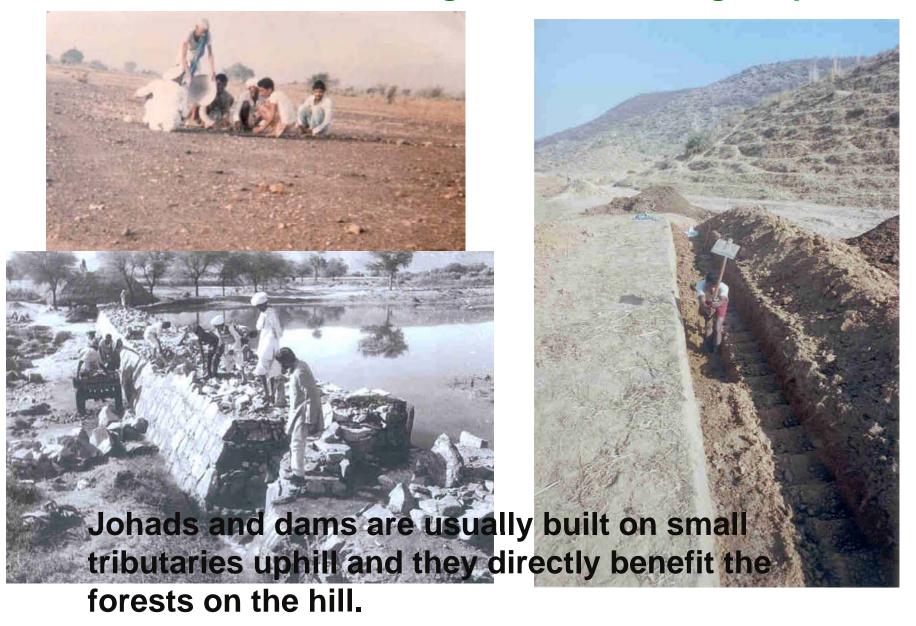
1200 villages of 19 districts of Rajasthan state of



The major part of TBS's work is concentrated in 600villages of district Alwar of Rajasthan.



#### **WATER** harvesting structures taking shape



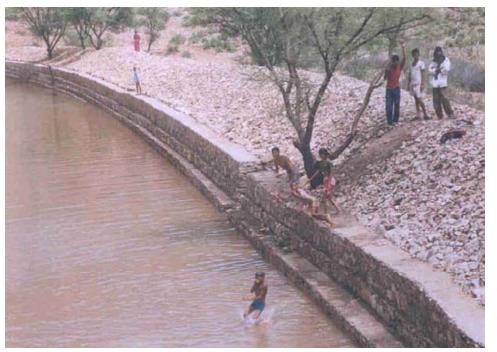


Success of the first Johad inspired people to take up the building of more such structures – the connection between water and forests was made and this also led to the revival of traditional rules.

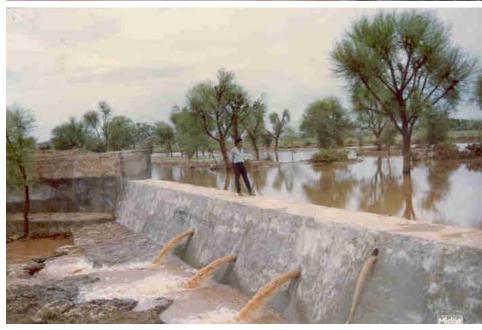
In the past, forest ownership had been taken over by the Forest Department, leading to alienation of the people and loss of traditions of conservation – making it difficult to bring people together again.



.....Ideas into reality



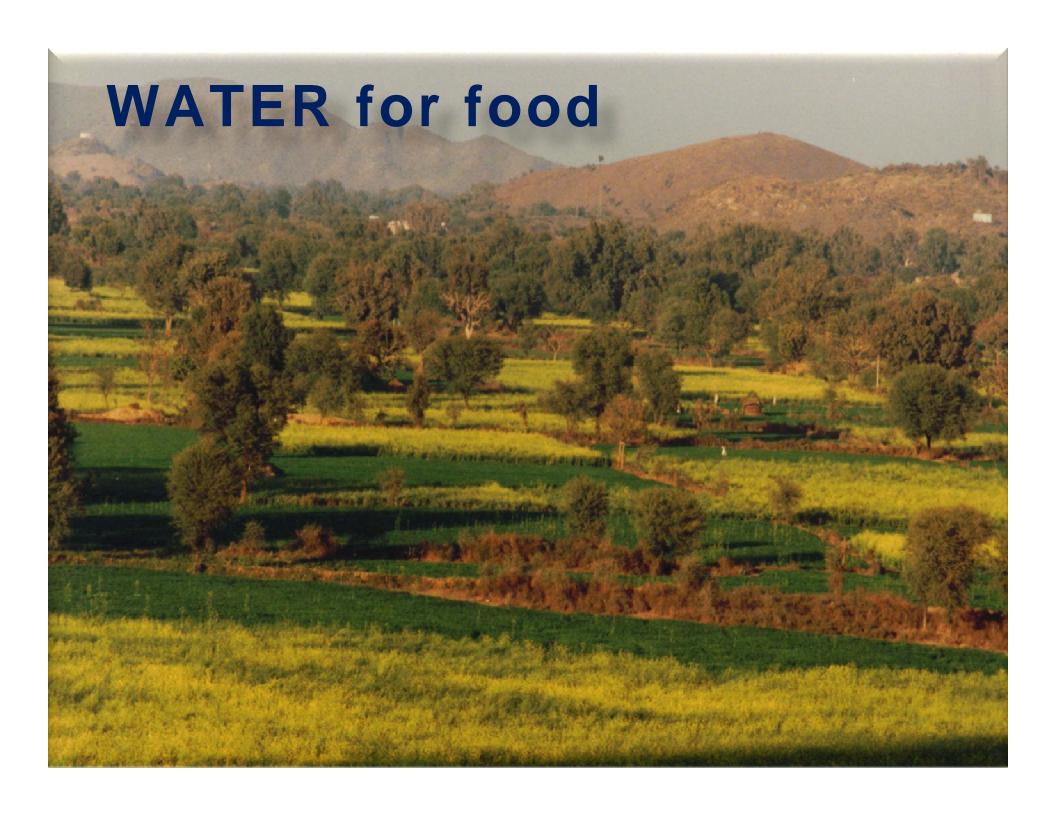
# COMPLETED STRUCTURES ON Bhagani BASIN

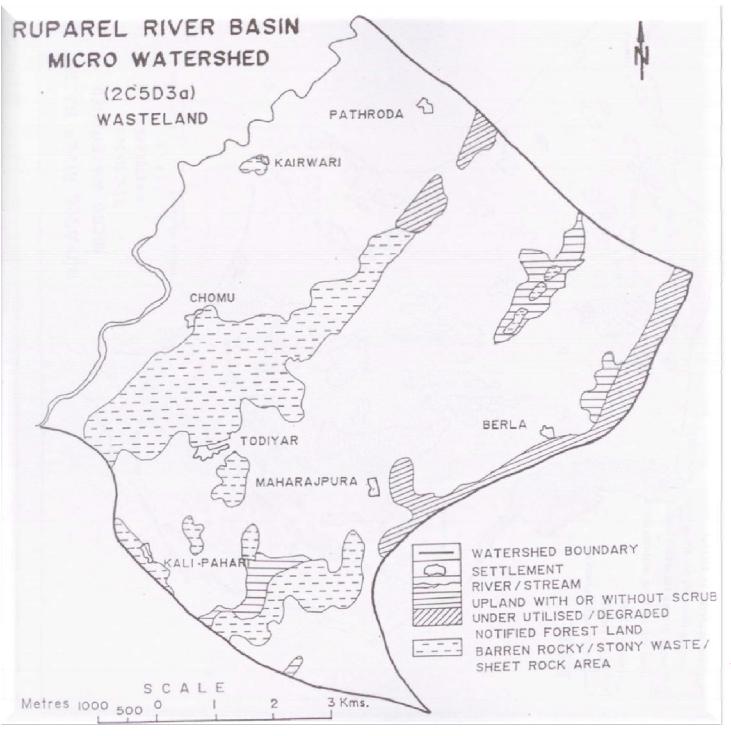






Increased water-level in a well

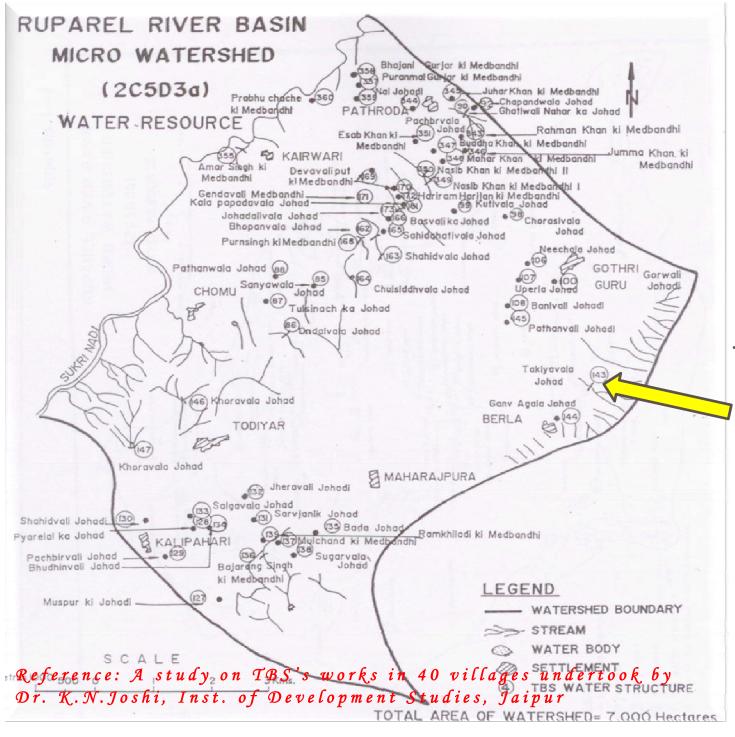




Waste land in Ruparel River Basin Micro-watershed: 2C 5D 3a

In 1993 Total wasteland: 1057.5 ha

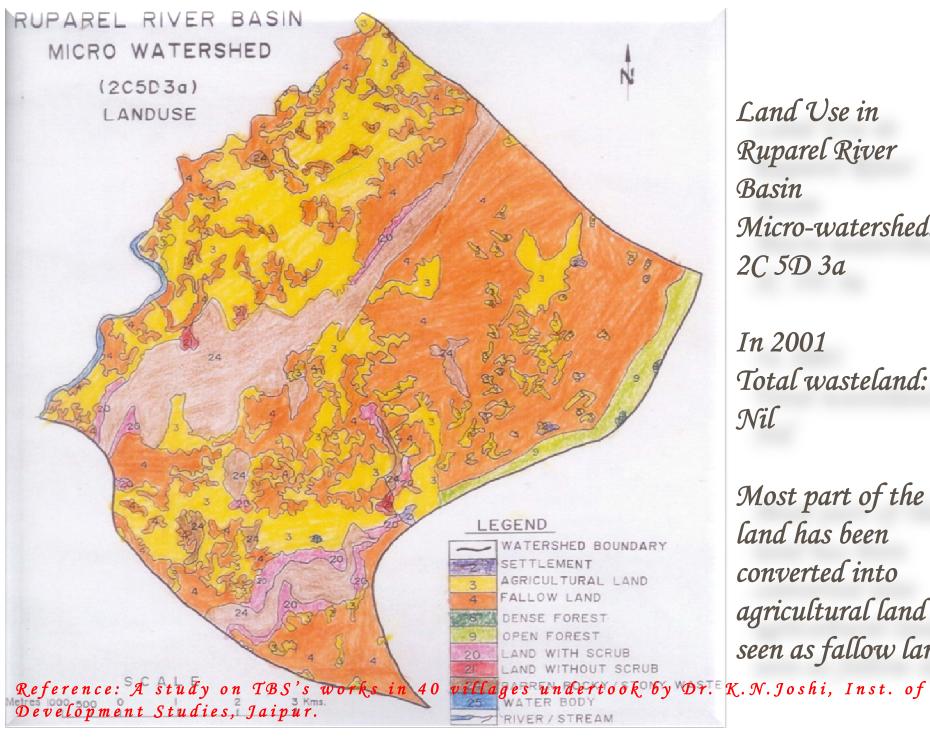
Reference: A study on TBS's works in 40 villages undertook by Dr. K.N.Joshi, Inst. of Development Studies, Jaipur



Water Resource in Ruparel River Basin Micro-watershed: 2C5D3a

After 1993
55 RWH
structures have
been built by TBS
in the microwatershed:
2C5D3a

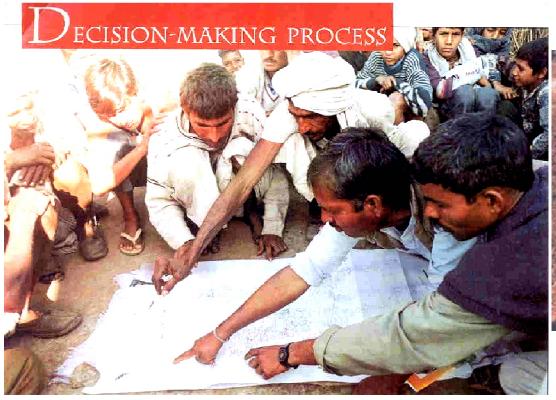
RWH marked in the Picture.



Land Use in Ruparel River Basin Micro-watershed: 2C 5D 3a

In 2001 Total wasteland: Nil

Most part of the land has been converted into agricultural land or seen as fallow land

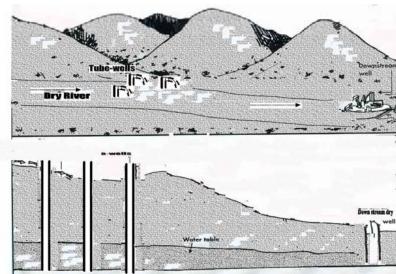




Maximum possible use was made of people's traditional technology and wisdom with the help and advice from engineers if needed.

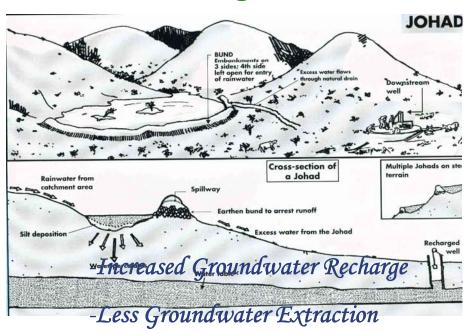
Minimum 30% of total cost was to be contributed by community for each project – the rest was to come from financial support agencies through TBS

#### **River Goes Dry:**



Excess withdrawal of Groundwater

#### River is flowing:

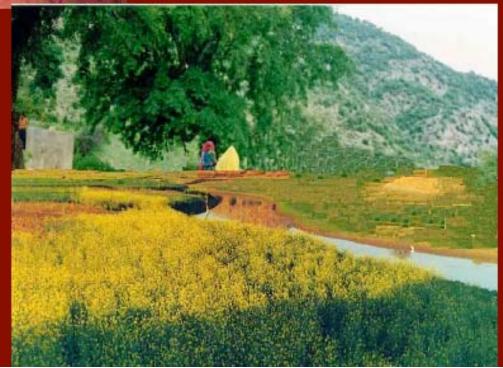






The river in 1985

The river in 2000

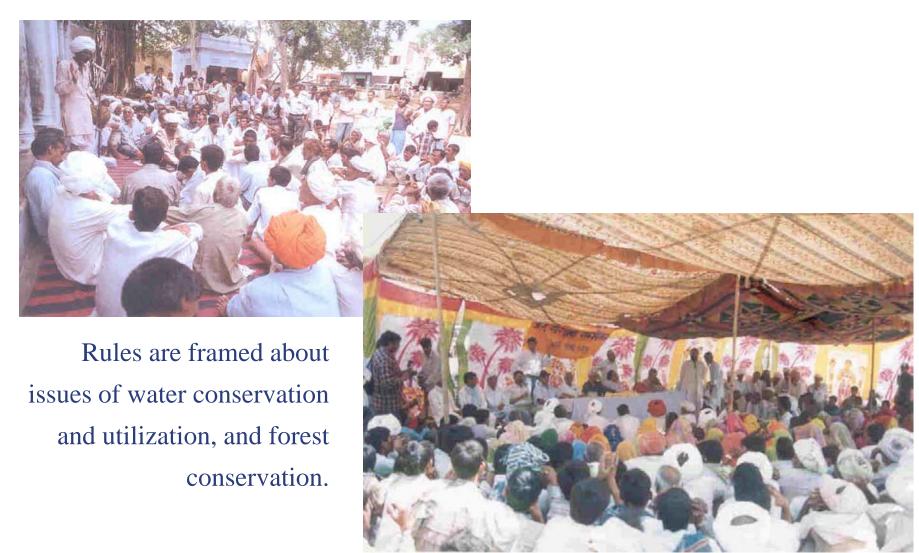




#### THE SITUATION IN



## The River Basin Organization Water Demand side management



#### 11 ASPECTS OF The River Basin Org.

- 1. Framing of rules regarding direct irrigation from the Bhagani river and the wells.
- 2. Framing of rules regarding crops and cattle feed.
- 3. Rules to first fulfill local needs with crop production.
- 4. No sale of water and conservation of fishes in the river.
- 5. Restriction on the sale of land and the efforts to reduce the need to sell land.
- 6. Making the whole river area green, ban mining and restrict extended grazing by nomadic grazers.
- 7. Restrictions on hunting of animals and illegal cutting of trees.
- 8. Revive traditional methods of water and forest conservation.
- 9. Prevent over exploitation of water and promote water conservation work.
- 10. Establish an active system of the management of the river.
- 11. Define and redefine the role of the village communities.

#### BLUE brought HAPPINESS



# ....That is how

BLUE brought CHANGE

# Thank you...