Jal Saheli and Pani Panchayat

A Women led based based institutions for Drought Mitigation

Parmarth Samaj Sevi Sansthan
Background

- The concept of Water Cadre (Jal Mitra) through Jal Saheli (Women Water Worrier) and PANI PANCHAYAT (Water Panchayat) was initiated by ‘Parmarth Samaj Sevi Sansthan’ under the project titled “Establishing Women’s First Right to Water Resources” in 03 districts (Lalitpur, Hameerpur and Jalaun) of Bundelkhand region in India.
Pani Panchayat:
Scarcity of drinking water had been steadily increasing in the region due to scanty rainfall. The Pani Panchayats have been formed to facilitate water security of the village and for managing and protecting water resources in the village. The paani panchayats offer a way out for women who have to fetch water from a distance.

Jal Saheli:
By provided them range of training programme for their capacity building Jal Saheli are silently weaving the water magic to change the scenario by conserving water ponds, helping build network of check dams, and undertaking rainwater harvesting to recharge wells. These Jal Sahelis also force the authorities to install water pumps where needed.
पानी पंचायत नियमावली

पानी पंचायत एक ग्राम स्तरीय संगठन हैं जिसकी स्थापना गांव में पानी लथा आजीविका संसाधनों के संरक्षण, सम्बद्ध एवं प्रबन्धन का सामुदायिक सहभागिता के साथ प्रोत्साहित करना जिससे गांव में दीर्घकालिक जल युक्ति एवं आजीविका की उपलब्धता चुनिन्दित हो सके।

पानी पंचायत के उद्देश्य— पानी पंचायत के उद्देश्य निम्न प्रकार हैं।

- गांव में पानी, विशेष रूप से वर्षा जल का संचयन एवं सम्बद्ध करना।
- पानी के समुचित एवं विनियमी उपयोग हेतु समुदाय के साथ मिलकर कार्य करना।
- गांव में पानी के समान उपयोग एवं वितरण हेतु व्यवस्था निर्माण करना।
- सामुदायिक स्तर पर स्रोतों के रखरखाव को बढ़ावा।
- समाज में ऐतिहासिक रूप से कमजोर वर्गों, महिलाओं, दलित आदि के पानी पर प्रजातात्त्विक अधिकारों को स्थापित करना।
- दीर्घकालिक जल युक्ति हेतु समुदाय एवं अन्य हितग्राहियों के साथ मिलकर पहल करना।
- संस्था द्वारा संचालित परियोजना की गतिविधियों/हस्तलक्षेपों के नियोजन किया जान तथा मूल्यांकन में भागीदारी करना।
- पंचायत द्वारा संचालित राजकीय कार्यक्रमों की सामुदायिक निगरानी कर समाज के कमजोर वर्ग को योजनाओं के लाभ से जोड़ना।
- पानी के उपयोग, रखरखाव एवं नियाम्नृण में महिलाओं की समान भागीदारी को सुनिश्चित करना।
Objective

- To promote women’s role in water-livelihood linkages through decentralization and community water management.

- To engage and strengthen the participatory and decision-making processes in PRIs through women advocacy groups and by promoting women’s leadership.

- Ensures drinking water and food security and strengthening their socio-economic and political status.
### Outreach of Jal Saheli

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>No of Gram Panchayats</th>
<th>No of Pani Panchayats</th>
<th>No. of Jal Saheli</th>
<th>Category wise classification</th>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jalaun</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>45</td>
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Jal Saheli and Pani Panchayat Principles

It covered equity, demand management, rights of landless, community participation and sustainability of the resource. Its structure comprised of -

- Water user group for each water body (reservoir/pond/check dam/well etc) which in turn had a representation in the village level Pani Panchayat;
- Election of the representatives of the village level Committee;
- Decentralized decision making with public participation;
- Monthly meeting of the committee to review, plan work and resolve conflicts;
- Ensuring equitable water distribution;
- Maintenance of the scheme.
- Advocacy with government department
Addressing Drought Mitigation

The Pani Panchayat, and Jal Sahelis, have been consistently addressing issues of drought, water scarcity, water conservation, reviving traditional water bodies and overall water management of village.
Jal Sahelis doing excellent work in repairing & maintenance of hand Pumps to mitigate the problem of drinking water in water scares villages
They are also involve in repairing & maintenance of existing wells in the respective villages & also advice villagers regarding effective water management through pond renovation, check dams etc.
Pani Panchayat & Jal Sahelis operating community kitchen in twenty villages of Lalitpur, Hamirpur & Jalaun district of Bundelkhand region to provide two times meal to deprived, marginalized & poorer section of societies.
Renovation & Repair of Chandela Tanks

Kanti – Chandela Tank Revival

Bangayan – Chandela Tank Revival
Jal Saheli Operating Kitchen Garden
They are involved in the planning, management, and distribution of water through water tankers in different villages.
Some snaps of Jal Saheli & Pani Panchayat
Contd....
WATER WOMAN

First runner up of HT Woman 2015 Award Anuja Devi’s efforts make her ‘dry’ village in Bundelkhand water rich

Parul Jaiswal

T oday, Anuja Devi, 28, is the first runner up of HT Woman 2015 Award. She is a farmer from Ghauda, a village in Bundelkhand, where she has been trying to make her village water-rich.

Anuja’s village, Ghauda, is located in the Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh. It is a small village with around 300 families. The village has no access to piped water, and the women have to walk long distances to fetch water from a nearby pond.

Anuja decided to take matters into her own hands. She started by digging a well in her own field, which she later used to supply water to her village. She also started a community garden, which helped to improve the livelihood of the villagers.

Anuja’s efforts have not gone unnoticed. She has been awarded the HT Woman 2015 Award for her outstanding contributions to her village.

Rajesh Kumar Singh

Jal Sahelis show the way out of water crisis in Lalitpur

Jal Sahelis Parvati Devi standing before a revised pond in Karakri village in Lalitpur in Bundelkhand.

Mujeeb, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, 01/06/2015. PR

Jal Sahelis Parvati Devi standing before the revised pond in Karakri village in Lalitpur in Bundelkhand. The pond was revised by Jal Sahelis, a nongovernmental organization.

Jal Sahelis, a nongovernmental organization, has been working to improve the water situation in various parts of Uttar Pradesh. They have revised ponds in several villages and have helped to improve the livelihood of the villagers.

Rajesh Kumar Singh

莲子：The community pond at Karkarli village in the drought-hit Lalitpur district is being termed ‘neighbours’ every corner of pride.

The Karkarli villagers have been struggling for water for several years. They have been using water from a nearby pond, which is not enough to meet their needs.

Jal Sahelis has helped to revise the pond and has provided a sustainable solution to the villagers.

Sanjay Singh of Parmarth Sewa Sansthan says, “The women of this village have formed the Jal Sahelis group to promote water conservation in the rural areas of Bundelkhand.”

Jal Sahelis has set an example of community-based water conservation. The group has been working to promote water conservation in the rural areas of Bundelkhand.

Rajesh Kumar Singh

Indeed, the pond has become a symbol of freedom from drudgery for the 16 families in the village. They easily collect water for domestic use from the pond. The villagers are planning to use the water for irrigation on a communal basis.

After Karkarli’s success, the women of Chandpur, Bhangarh, Udgir, Vijapur, and Bamboura have also started forming Jal Sahelis groups to conserve water in their respective villages.

Pushpa Devi of Chandpur village says the women repaired a pond to conserve water. The ground water level has also improved. There is abundant water in the wells and hand pumps, she adds.

“We have exploited the women of nearby villages to collect water from the pond for their domestic use,” she says.

Villagers have constructed drains to divert rain water to the pond.

Oblivious of the political situations of the central and state governments over supply of drinking water, the villagers are busy clearing fish from the pond to increase its water-holding capacity.

Sanjay Singh of Parmarth Sewa Sansthan says, “The women have formed the Jal Sahelis group to promote water conservation in the rural areas of Bundelkhand.”

This achievement of Jal Sahelis is motivating others to join the water conservation movement. It will also check migration and promote agriculture, he says.

Waterman Ramesh Singh says, “There is a need to revive the ancient ponds for conservation of water. The state government should protect the ponds from encroachment, exploitation and pollution.”
Results/outcomes

- Livelihood and food security enhanced
- Water table increased in the areas
- Water source sustainability reported in the areas even in this drought condition many ponds have water
- Income level enhanced
- Reduction in rate of distress migration in the areas
- Coping mechanism and resilience power increased
Way forward

• Promotion of PV Solar Irrigation System
• Interdepartmental coordination
• Convergence approach
**Web links**

http://punjabupdate.com/2015/06/11/wont-allow-encroachment-of-water-bodies-up-govt


http://www.taazinews.com/2015/06/10/ganga-cleaning-possible-unless-cleaning-rivers-carried/


Thanks

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